**Bangor Area Stormwater Group**

August 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes

In Person at Orono Town Office and Via Zoom for those who were not able to attend in person

9:00 am – 11:00 am

**Attendees:** John Rouleau, Brian Bernosky, Belle Ryder, Rich May, Chris B., Kyle Drexler, Brian Cotlar, Megan Hess, Damon Yakovlev, Cara Belanger, Chris Green, Sarah King, David Reynolds (for Rob). Facilitator: Brenda Zollitsch.

**Welcome**

Rich M. welcomed everyone and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

**DEP Updates**

No DEP Staff present at this meeting. BASWG members have experienced minimal communication from DEP staff.

**Trainings**

BASWG will host an erosion and sedimentation control (ESC) training for public works and facility maintenance staff on October 27th for up to 30 people. This will be an eight-hour, classroom-based training. Heat was an issue for the outdoor element last summer, but heat should not be an issue in October. Registration will be open to MS4 staff first. Possible pricing of free for municipal staff and $25 for contractors. Certification will be good for three years.

ACTIONS:

* ESC Training will be held on October 27th, potentially at Bangor Public Works
* Megan H. and Phil R. will work on providing a stormwater 101 to new BASWG members at date TBD

**MS4 Sharing Session:**

BASWG will hold a monthly sharing session for MS4s; this is also being built into MWEA sessions.

* Bangor had an ID investigation related to outside washing. The violation was for an outside paint stripping at Target. The polluted water went into catch basin; the chemical element was not removed prior to entering the catch basin. Ended with formal enforcement. This was hard to do with a large, national, corporate entity. The City of Bangor copied Holliday at DEP but did not get any feedback or support for the action.
* Orono had an illicit discharge incident at a Pine Street restaurant. A dumpster with grease overflowed and went across the parking lot. Grease was tracked up to Main Street. Concerns about a slick with rain. The grease had been picked up late and overflowed. The Town issued the restaurant a Notice of Violation (NOV) and provided them with training about what to do with chemicals, how to clean up. Also talked to other restaurants that dispose of grease in Orono. They are required to set up a record keeping system and there is a new law about how much can be stored before it has to be picked up. The restaurant was very receptive. This is an example of how necessary and effective information and training can be. Have not had an issue since.

**Next Meetings:**

The next full meeting of the BASWG membership will be on Thursday, October 13th from 9-11 am. The meeting will provide a hybrid option, including an in-person meeting at the Orono Town Hall and a Zoom link for call-in for those who cannot make it in person.

**MDOT Presentation**

Peter Newkirk joined BASWG to share about recent MDOT work. DOT is in the process of hiring someone to fill the position that was held by Karem G. Peter is covering temporarily and will be on staff at DOT until Spring 2023. DOT is doing BMPs, so there is an opportunity for coordination/partnership with BASWG towns as these are being created. Have done dry weather inspections. A lot of outfalls are dry. Began in Hampden. GZA Environmental is doing inspections. North Main Street had an outfall with fecal coliform. Doing reinvestigation and will trace up the system. Includes a link to map with outfalls and three information columns – 1) when it is done, 2) yes/no flow, and 3) any lab results if there was a documented flow.

ACTION:

* Peter N. encourages MS4s to check the map. Pater N. will send a link to the ARC GIS Map via email.

**Model Ordinance**

The model ordinance is now available.

* Bangor (Rich M.) is going through their ordinances. Keeping all that are not optional but including caveats. Chapter 10 guidance is not as thorough.
* Orono (Kyle D.) talked with Town Council about the ordinance. Shared the existing language. Utilizing most of the required standards but adding clarifying language.
* Hampden, Old Town and Veazie (Cara B.) are adopting most of the required elements. They are also adding caveats and adapting to meet their needs.
* Milford is taking the same approach.
* Hampden is updating its zoning. Will not be incorporating more than the required.
* Brewer has removed all optional items (off table), adopting a “bare bones” approach.
* Damon Y. shared that some in the ISWG are creating a table on how existing ordinances are already meeting the requirements.
* Overall BASWG members think that the non-required elements may be good ideas but MS4s do not want to overcommit. There is a spectrum of approaches.
* Damon shared that In Yarmouth they are using standards and technical appendix.

ACTION:

* Cara will send out Yarmouth’s ordinance and approach

**Contracted Pulse Work**

*Social Media:* Pulse is processing security and privacy updates on all platforms. This is to establish BASWG as a “reputable source”. Now see disclaimer: “This ad brought to you by BASWG” for all posts.

*Video Production:* There are now more videos than the winter shoots. Will be running later in the year. Included Brewer clean-up with three interviews.

*Website Updates:* Pulse will conduct up to 8 hours of work on the website.

*Infographics:* Pulse has developed: 1) Snow and ice infographic, 2) Follow the Flow Infographic and will be crafting one more. Ideas for 3) include one for new business owners. BASWG’s contract with Pulse includes the development and printing of 25 of the 11x27 infographic posters (which will cover the compliance needs of BASWG’s MS4s).

ACTIONS:

* Pulse will share draft material at the October meeting.
* Pulse will work with Orono around a possible post on grease management (the success story around training and addressing the illicit discharge).
* SEE will also work with Pulse to capture visuals on sediment checks in catch basins for social media posts.

**Winter Maintenance Compliance Work for PY1**

In PY1, the BASWG will need to do quite a lot of work on chloride. The BASWG has committed to developing a Chloride Tracking Tool (CTT) in PY1. This is something that Megan H. has agreed to take the lead creating. She will work with others between now and the October BASWG meeting to develop a tool and associated training materials.

ACTION:

* Brenda Z. will put the CTT and compliance planning on the October BASWG meeting agenda.

**PY9 Regional BASWG SWP Report**

Brenda Z. shared a draft of the BASWG PY9 report with the members and asked for input. Some additional information was added. The report is due on September 15th.

DECISION:

* The group approved the SWP Development Team to submit the report with the final edits.
* DEP had said that they would have an annual report template. It is not clear if there will be a new template. The group plans to revisit the report format for this coming year (PY1).

ACTIONS:

* Brenda Z. will incorporate forthcoming edits from Cara B., Sarah K. and Pulse when they are received.
* Brenda Z. will send the draft report ASAP to Rich M., Cara B., Pulse, Megan H. and Sarah K. for review.
* Rich M. will send the final draft document to the full BASWG for any last comments and then submit the report to DEP by the September 15th deadline.

**Comparison of BASWG Compliance Plans and Pulse Contracted Services**

At Rich M.’s request, Brenda Z. developed a comparison grid showing compliance requirements in the new PY1 BASWG SWMP and what is listed in the Pulse contract. The two plans overlap well, with almost all elements already included in the Pulse contract. However, the BASWG will need to determine how to distribute/make available the CTT (tool). There will need to be snow and ice messaging posters and flyers for display (which should be covered by the infographics printing already in the contract). There does need to be a baseline documentation of practices by MS4s in PY1 as a benchmark.

ACTION:

* Brenda Z. will add winter maintenance compliance work to the October Agenda.
* Megan H. will work with Rob Y. and John R. to finalize the pilot CTT and training

**Maine Stormwater Conference**

The Maine Stormwater Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay on November 1st and 2nd. There are steep discounts available to municipal officials. Attendees should reserve their rooms by the end of September. Municipal rate is $200 and non-municipal attendees will pay $250. They will be celebrating 50 years of the Clean Water Act and the new permit.

**Organizational Business:**

**Change of BASWG Membership:** Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center has been relieved of its MS4 status for the next permit cycle. This means that BASWG’s budget will be short the amount of money ($1,600) that DDix contributed to BASWG dues.

DECISION: Sarah K. made the motion to approve a reduction in the 2022-2023 budget by the amount paid annually by DDix. Kyle seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. The budget was reduced from $38,400 by $1,600 for a new PY1 budget of $36,800. If additional funds are needed to cover PY1 commitments, the group agreed that they can consider spending down reserve funds.

**Next Meeting:** The Next BASWG meeting will be held on October 13, 2022 from 9-11 am at the Orono Town Office. A Zoom alternative will be provided for those who cannot attend in person. In-person attendance is encouraged.