**Bangor Area Stormwater Group**

October 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom

9:00 am – 11:00 am

**Attendees:** Belle Ryder, Kyle Drexler, Sarah King, Rich May, Chris Green, Tiffany Wilson, Patrick Decker, Brian Cotlar, Jodi Munster, Kerem Gungar. Facilitator: Brenda Zollitsch.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Rich M. welcomed everyone.

**DEP and Stormwater Management Plan Updates**

* Revised BASWG SWMP was submitted to DEP.
* The new permit continues to be discussed. The most recent change is concerning, as it refer to “at least as stringent as guidance in Appendix F. This creates too much vagueness. What will that look like? It’s not a clear-cut guidance for MS4s. Want the permit to be clear, specific, measurable and easy to understand. LID can be seen as a somewhat creative measure. If you implement LID< these things should be considered. What is maximum extent practicable in this instance. Revise Appendix F and put in measurable items.
* BASWG will consider whether or not to write a letter to DEP commenting on these concerns. Rich M. will coordinate.
* A new model ordinance committee being led by Kristie Rabasca has been formed. Rich May and Sarah King are on the committee as representatives of their own MS4s. Others are encouraged to participate as well.

**Education and Outreach**

* Maine Science Festival is still in BASWG’s plans. Rich will continue to connect.
* An anytime-anywhere stream clean-up took place on Penjajawoc stream, collecting 10 bags of trash. However, it was a reminder that springtime is the preferable time, as vegetation got in the way of some of the clean-up activities.
* Rich M. outlined the list of services that BASWG E&O Committee reviewed at the committee’s last meeting, from the Pulse list of services provided to BASWG.
* BASWG seeks to further enhance its social media presence, looking for inspiration to some of the examples of strong social media in other places like the Northeast Ohio Sewer District, which has a successful mix of serious content, explanations of stormwater infrastructure, jokes, puns and other amusements and has attracted a strong following.
* Chris G. showed the series of videos around the use of the watershed model. Cara did a great job. The video has been broken down into smaller, more useable video clips
* Seeking to enhance education content on the BASWG page. Action: Brenda Z. will compile some of her existing notes on SW educational links and materials (1-2 hours)
* Pulse will continue to promote key themes in social media activities, including tying in salting practices with the chloride reduction online ad campaign, spring lawncare messaging, information on common pollutant and introduce people to stormwater infrastructure and green infrastructure.
* BASWG will now add a few additional items to the educational materials on common pollutants – including nip bottles. Considering any discussion of the new double-thick reusable plastic bags and discarded vaping equipment.
* Pulse encourages the use of partnership photos. There was also discussion about hashtags and crowdsourcing.

**DOT Chloride Mitigation Project**

* Kerem G. shared that DOT is undertaking a new SMART system stream chloride mitigation effort. Action: Kerem will present this DOT work at the December meeting (10-15 minutes).

**Organizational Business**

* Brenda Z. will provide a draft budget for discussion at the December meeting.
* Kyle D. provided the budget report. BASWG current budget is $38,400. Currently $2,300+ in outstanding expenses to be processed.
* Last year, BASWG spent $33,617.64, leaving $4,500 left over. Funds that were allocated for some in-person activities could not be spent due to revised plans resulting from the pandemic. The management and allocation of these funds and the reserve fund will be included in the December budget discussion.

**Next Meetings**

* The group decided that, unless something changes, the BASWG does not need to hold an Executive Committee or Education Committee meeting in November. All items can be addressed at the December 9th meeting.
* The December 9th meeting will be held online via Zoom, as the pandemic continues to be a concern. The meeting will be hosted on Brenda’s account.
* The February 2020 Annual meeting is currently being planned as a hybrid event, hosted by the Town of Orono, with an online participation option.,