**Bangor Area Stormwater Group**

December 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom

9:00 am – 11:00 am

**Attendees:** Belle Ryder, Amanda Millay, Cara Belanger, John Rouleau, Chris Green, Rhonda Poirier, Kyle Drexler, Sara Coldwell, Brian Coltar, George Hanson, Sarah King, Jodi Muster, Megan Hess, Andrea Dickinson. Facilitator: Brenda Zollitsch.

**DEP Updates**

* Rhonda Poirier announced that she is retiring from her DEP position as stormwater coordinator for the state. Her last day is on December 30th. DEP plans to fill the position as soon as possible. The position has been advertised and they will begin interviewing soon. DEP does not expect a large gap with having the position unfilled. In the meantime, Gregg Wood is the stormwater contact for the state. Rhonda encourages people to contact her with questions prior to the end of the year.
* MS4 permits have been sent to Bangor, Brewer, Old Town, Orono, Milford and Veazie. These MS4s have been authorized to discharge. Next, Bangor and Hampden.
* The state permit was released last week with modifications on 1-2 pages.
* Timeline: NOIs need to be submitted by March 31st. July 1st is the start of the new permit.
* Transportation permits are out now for Maine DOT and Maine Turnpike Authority.
* DEP has been working on a standardized reporting form for the new permit, but it is not ready yet and she does not know if it will be approved before she leaves. It may not be ready in time for the PY1 reports.

**New Stormwater Management Contact in Town of Orono**

* Megan Hess has been hired as new staff in the Town of Orono. She is going to start being the primary point person for stormwater and the town’s primary representative on the BASWG.

**LID Ordinance Development**

* Development of a new ordinance is still underway, led by Kristie Rabasca. There is a white paper ready, including a plan laying out the process and a matrix of resources used. Writing of the draft ordinance is beginning.
* Participation is encouraged from all MS4s, as only participating MS4s get to vote

**Education and Outreach**

* BASWG’s Winter Outreach has started – display ads, videos and infographics
* BASWG has put in an application to have a booth at the Science Festival in Spring 2022
* Pulse has been working on the salt reduction outreach images and messages
* Chris G. will send an email with the revised concepts. Decision: Rich M. has been given the approval to greenlight once done.
* Pulse is going to be making some short winter videos to support the outreach campaign this year and into the new permit cycle.
* After group discussion at the meeting, the following filming ideas were provided to Pulse for consideration:
  + Old Town filming – snow plows, pre-salting, pet-friendly approaches (John R.)
  + Bangor – Maintaining the steps at City Hall (Rich M.)
  + Orono – Driveways and walkways, access to dog for pet footage (Belle R.)
  + May want to show temperature sensors
* BASWG wants to get the messages out about pre-salting before storms, most effective to do mechanical removal as primary, you can often use less salt, save money and environment.
* Pulse is working to develop infographics for BASWG

**Organizational Business**

* **BASWG minutes** – Belle R. made the motion to approve the October BASWG minutes. George H. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (quorum present).
* **Treasurer’s Report** – Kyle D. reports that we BASWG has had around $4k in expenses. Additional invoices need to be paid for Haley-Ward and Zollitsch. ***Action:*** Kyle will send out annual dues invoices prior to the next meeting.
* **Executive Committee Elections** – ***Action:*** Brenda will develop a ballot for the February Annual Meeting for the ExComm election.
  + **Chair**: Rich M. is willing to serve one more 2-year term, but plans to step down after that period.
  + **Vice Chair**: John R. is stepping down so that Megan H. can move into the Vice Chair position, with the idea that she may move into the Chair position after Rich’s 2-year term is complete. Her position is being elected for 2 years.
  + **Secretary:** George H. is retiring. Rob Howard from Brewer is willing to take on the BASWG Secretary position. His position is being elected for 2 years.
  + **Treasurer:** Kyle D. will serve his second year of his term in 2022.
* **BASWG 2022-2023 Budget** – Brenda Z. provided a budget planning spreadsheet showing budget figures and breakdowns for 2014-2022 and draft budget numbers for the upcoming 2022-2023 budget. ***Decision:*** BASWG members propose flat funding for the ’22-23 budget year at $38,400. This will be the 6th year at this flat-funded rate. ***Action:*** The proposed budget will be presented for a vote at the February 2022 BASWG Annual Meeting.

**Next Meetings**

* The group decided that, unless something changes, the BASWG does not need to hold an Executive Committee or Education Committee meeting in January.
* The February 2022 BASWG Annual Meeting will be held as a virtual event via Zoom arranged by Brenda Z. Meeting will include: Year in Review, ExComm Election, Budget Approval, E&O Work and other business.