**Bangor Area Stormwater Group Meeting Minutes**

**December 8, 2022**

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Town of Orono Council Chambers with Hybrid Zoom Option

**Attendees:** Rich May, Cara belanger, Cindy Dione, Victor Smith, Brian Bernosky, Kyle Drexler, Chris Green, Brian Coltar, Andrea Dickinson, David Leaonard, Holliday Keene, Paul Brown (DOT) and Chris Thurston (new from Pulse). Special Guest: Onur Apul. Facilitator: Brenda Zollitsch.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Rich May welcomed everyone. Participants introduced themselves.

**Updates: DEP Permit, LID Ordinance, Annual Reports**

* Holliday Keen (MDEP) shared that they have reviewed the comments on the LID Ordinance. Possible extensions for applying LID ordinances.
* DEP will be proposing significant changes to Chapter 500, focusing on more specific and measurable requirements. Chapter 500 updates in 2024. Roll chapter 500 into land ordinance.
* Kerem G. will be holding stakeholder meetings with stormwater managers
* Written DEP letters are coming next week from Gregg.
* PY9 annual report reviews will be coming in January
* FOCB had comments that will be addressed through land bureau stormwater rules.

**Recent Training Activities**

* BASWG held Erosion Control training at Bangor Public Works in late October. John McClean was an excellent instructor. Great training on the mechanisms of erosion. Participants thought it was a great venue with access to the yard for helpful demonstrations. Had good winter maintenance examples. Buy-in is tough though.

**Microplastics**

* Brenda Z. and Onur Apul from University of Maine provided presentations about the microplastics research that they are conducting. Hard to get rid of all the plastics, instead working to reduce export. The project is ongoing and the team will engage BASWG for feedback. Onur provided a superb overview of the hard science elements of the project. Brenda is working on the social science elements and will continue to gather information from the BASWG throughout the project.

**Children’s Museum**

* The Children’s Museum in Bangor is currently redoing their “River Exhibit” and has asked BASWG to partner in the remodeled exhibit development. BASWG members (Megan, Rob H., Belle and Rich) have been meeting with Kate Dickinson from the museum.
* Will serve as a general awareness tool. Aim is to include the key messages and images BASWG has developed (emojis etc.) to reinforce ongoing brand/messaging.
* ACTION: Brenda Z. will craft proposed language and send to Rich for review.
* Disclosure: Andrea D. is on the Board of Directors for the Museum.
* $10k for sponsorship is being considered. BASWG has a prominent seat at the table. Proposal will be brought to the full membership at the February meeting.
* Will be providing a request to DEP to get credit for the work in the new permit. Rich M. will work with Brenda and the E&O Committee to craft new wording and request from DEP. Proposed language will be reviewed at February Annual Meeting.
* BASWG will seek an MOU with the Museum for the commitment, if approved as a permit item by DEP.

**Winter Maintenance Compliance Work**

* Brenda Z. provided a review of the data from the Winter Maintenance Survey of Managers. Megan will work to get the remaining respondents to complete the survey. ACTION: Once that data is in, Brenda Z. will complete the PY1 baseline report.

**Education and Outreach**

* The BASWG winter survey is ready to launch. Approved
* ACTIONS: Brenda Z. add Brian Cotlar to the BASWG mailing list
* Review of infographic
* Winter ads are being run. Will run December through February or March (3 months)
* Survey is ready to review. ACTION: BASWG members should provide feedback for edits by the end of this week if possible. Look at the length of questions. Can anything be pruned out to make it shorter?

**Sharing Session**

* City of Bangor had an illicit discharge. Signs of discharge on Hancock. Smelled like laundry. Cross connection was rerouted to the storm sewer when the house was moved. Situation corrected and illicit discharge eliminated.

**Organizational Business**

* The BASWG will hold an Executive Committee/E&O Committee meeting on the 2nd Thursday of January to discuss budget and E&O decisions. The meeting will be held at the Town of Orono with hybrid option via Zoom. All members are invited to attend if they want to.
* Kyle D. plans to send out invoices for BASWG dues next week.
* October BASWG Minutes were approved.
* Only about $8k of the PY1 budget has been spent (first half of the year is the slower time). Two outstanding invoices.
* Executive Committee election in February: Rich 2nd term as chair. Megan’s first term as vice chair. Rob H. as Secretary. Need a new treasurer. Will discuss at the Jan meeting.

**Annual Meeting Planning**