



BASWG April Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 2026, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Rangeley Hall (Room 136), Eastern Maine Community College

268 Sylvan Rd, Bangor, ME

ZOOM: [LINK HERE](#)

MINUTES

Attendees: Megan Hess (Chair - Town of Orono), Abe Chase (Vice Chair - Eastern Maine Community College), Rob Howard (Secretary - Brewer), Victor Smith (Hampden), Cara Belanger (Stillwater Environmental Engineering, UMaine, Old Town, Veazie), Karoline Bass (Stillwater Environmental Engineering), Rich May (Bangor), Holliday Keen (MDEP), Cindy Dionne (MDOT), Matthew McCarthy (MEANG), Garry Scholze (MEANG)

9:00 am Winter Maintenance Managers Round Table Discussion (Notes in Report)

10:00 am Welcome, Agenda Review

10:05 am DEP + EPA Updates (Holliday)

- Updates
 - Holliday will be out in June for Family matters.
- New push for MELS - for industrial and MS4
 - MDEP will work out the bugs before asking the general public to test.
 - The same account for MELS account will be used for MS4 and MSGP.
 - Holliday will send out a survey for those who want to trial the MELS program.
 - BASWG will provide feedback on the MELS program once the trial is ready.
- Scheduled Audits
 - *Field Audits* - Brewer: June 29th, 2026 , Orono: July 27th, 2026
 - MDEP: TBD for Brewer
 - Only PY3 data should be available two weeks before audits are due.
 - Holliday wants to put every MS4 on a rotating inspection cycle and share that information with people when the spreadsheet is complete.
 - Brewer and MDEP were having email correspondence issues. Rob will touch base with Holliday to ensure they can get the email working again.
 - *Desk Audit - Old Town in PY5*
- *Action Item: MELS Reporting Feedback Letter*

10:15 am Organizational Business

- Approval of February Minutes (Cara) - Rich made a motion to accept with edits the minutes as amended with minor edits. Victor seconded for Hampden. Minutes were approved by consensus, with a quorum present.
 - Edits: Rob, as a point of order, to correct the record that his role as secretary is a 1-year position.

10:30 am Education and Outreach Update

- Street and Stream Clean Up (Cara)



- Only in need of gloves, Victor will reach out to get them.
- Scheduled Clean-Up dates organized by MS4 communities include:
 - Hampden (5/2 or rain date of 5/16), Brewer second Friday in May, Orono May 16, MEANG on Earth Day for an internal clean-up event.
- Maine Science Festival Recap
 - Over 3000 people attended the Festival, and the table was pretty busy.
 - MEANG feedback: plan a demonstration every 15 min to keep people at the table.
 - Shift Recommendations: Shifts could be 15 minutes shorter.
- 2026 Conferences - Mark your calendars!
 - Maine Stormwater Conference: Sept 3 & 4
 - Still looking for specific topics, most of the presentation slots are full
 - Outfall SignSearch and Stewardship Trail Presentation (Submitted)
 - Brenda is currently presenting at NEWIPC
 - Rich and Megan plan on attending the Stormwater Conference.
- Erosion and Sediment Control
 - Would BASWG be interested in hosting a 4 or 8hr Erosion and Sediment Control training?
 - Around 30 people in this area would be interested in a hands-on component.
 - Megan will reach out to John McClaine
 - Meeting Location Suggestions:
 - Bangor could host
 - Maine Career Works on Oak Street hosts events and is close to the river. If there is a state person, you can use it for free.
 - Matthew McCarthy started a motion for a BASWG-sponsored erosion and sediment control, and Victor Smith seconded.
- Shoreland Zone Training - Only offered in Southern Maine
 - The training center needs to be walking distance to the water.
 - Bangor, Old Town, Orono, etc., are interested in having a training.
- End of April Event
 - Community Partnership Grant Program. MEANG is looking at the program for the deicing collection systems and the stormwater program.
 - NPS grant through DEP has funds for 150k for stream and 150k for stormwater work. There is a 50% match through the clean water revolving fund. In order to receive more funding for this program applicants need to use up the full budget.
 - Orono: We could use the funding to set-up a utility fee, but we need some research on why we need it.
 - Holliday: SRF, specifically, Brandy King, is open to feedback on how to write the grant to make it more enticing for municipalities.
 - MEANG: uses a pie chart for the capacity report. Use the repetition

11:00 am Adjournment

Next meeting: June 11, 2026 @ Eastern Maine Community College - Eaton Peabody Conference Room in Katahdin Hall (Room 309)