



Urban Stormwater Workgroup Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

10:00 AM to 11:15 AM

Summary of Actions and Decisions

Decision: USWG approved the July Meeting Minutes

Action: Peter Marx will update USWG at an upcoming meeting on new federal legislation and it's potential impacts for stormwater.

Action: USWG should submit nominees for at- large and local government members to Hilary Swartwood (Swartwood.hilary@epa.gov) by COB October 15, 2021.

Action: USWG signatory members should review their primary and secondary members and provide any updates to Hilary Swartwood (Swartwood.hilary@epa.gov)

Meeting Minutes

10:00 Welcome and Review of July Meeting Minutes.

Norm Goulet, Chair. Attach A.

Decision: USWG approved the July Meeting Minutes

10:05 Announcements and Updates

- BMP Verification Committee Update
 - *Trying to figure out alternative methods for verification*
 - *Partial credit: states are looking for possible ways to get partial credit for some BMPs*
 - *Urban sector has been unscathed.*
- Maintaining Forests in Stream Corridors Project Update
 - *GIT Funding project from last year*
 - *Looking at putting together a best practice guide for protecting trees in riparian buffers when stream corridor projects get implemented.*
- Climate Resilience Fact Sheets
 - *CSN has two factsheets available on their website and calendar page for today's meeting. One focuses on climate projections and anticipated vulnerabilities and the second outlines design principles.*
- STAC Rising Water Temperature Group:
 - *We are going to outline the preparation for the STAC Rising Water Temp workshop at our next meeting later this month.*
- Others

10:20 Federal Legislation and Stormwater. Peter Marx, Choose Clean Water Coalition

Peter will provide the workgroup with an overview of recently proposed federal legislation and its impacts on Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts, and stormwater in particular.

Discussion:

Olivia Devereux: Peter, what is the likelihood that any of this will pass the Senate? What is the likelihood that this budget bill and debt ceiling agreement will result in a government shutdown when it hits the Senate? Is it likely that BIF gets cut in exchange for passing the budget bill and increase in the debt ceiling?

Peter Marx: your guess is as good as mine.

Karl Berger: Are SRF funds always administered as loans or do states have discretion to use the funds as direct grants to localities?

Peter Marx: I believe that differs state to state depending on their laws.

Lew Linker: It seems to me that the kind of stormwater management looking forward would be well served with these upcoming bills.

Norm Goulet: One of the conversations we've had is about capacity. Do local government entities have the capacity to absorb this money?

Cecilia Lane: that's exactly one of the things we are concerned about. We are currently in negotiation with EPA to see if we can use some of it for staff.

Norm Goulet: unfortunately, our locals cannot use it for staff. DC is in a unique position where they can negotiate for that.

KC Filippino: we are trying to understand if locals have the staff and if they know how to get access to that money. I would say that we don't know yet.

Peter Marx: Of the things that I put up there, I don't know if anything specifically goes to local governments.

Norm Goulet: it won't do us much good if we have these billions sitting at the state level and there isn't capacity to do the applications and capacity to do the work.

Alana Hartman: maybe this could come back onto the agenda as an update once the votes are completed.

Action: Peter Marx will update USWG at an upcoming meeting on new federal legislation and it's potential impacts for stormwater.

10:40 Unified Stream Restoration Guidance Document. David Wood, CSN

David will introduce a new CSN guide that pulls together all the recently approved stream restoration memos into a single document for Bay Managers and Practitioners.

Discussion:

Norm Goulet: Lew, are you going to make us go through all of this during Phase 7?

Lew Linker: no, we will be smart about it and won't torture you unnecessarily.

Olivia Devereux: stream protocol 1 works for projects that are 90% design. There is a handy tool to calculate that in CAST. For phase 6 to Phase 7 the delivery factors will get updated between the two model versions. I don't think it will affect stream projects for most urban BMPS.

Martin Hurd: I would like to thank David. It's been useful to have those documents together.

10:50 USWG Governance Updates. Hilary Swartwood, CRC

Hilary will update the group on the current status of the workgroup's members and recently approved revisions to the [WQGIT Governance Protocols](#). USWG members will be asked to provide updated contacts for their official members (if there are changes). A call for At-large and local government member nominations will be issued.

Action: USWG should submit nominees for at-large and local government members to Hilary Swartwood (Swartwood.hilary@epa.gov) by COB October 15, 2021.

Action: USWG signatory members should review their primary and secondary members and provide any updates to Hilary Swartwood (Swartwood.hilary@epa.gov)

11:00 What's Next for the USWG. David Wood, CSN

David will introduce the upcoming joint workshop, between the USWG and CRWG, which will take the place of our regularly scheduled October meeting. David will also tee up a few questions for the workgroup to consider about priorities and processes for the workgroup moving forward.

Discussion:

Lew Linker: it sounds like there is going to be a recommendation going forward from USWG and CRWG? Is that the ask of the day and does it go to WQGIT?

David Wood: I hope we can get far enough along that we have recommendations of priorities. If we don't have those specifically, we will spend time working with individuals to get to that point. The goal is to eventually take something to the WQGIT.

11:15 Adjourn.

Call Participants

Hilary Swartwood, CRC
Norm Goulet, NOVA
David Wood, CSN
Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting
Tom Schueler, CSN
Christina Lyerly, MDE
Karl Berger, MWCOG
Jamie Eberl, PA DEP
Peter Marx, CCWC
Nathan Forand, Baltimore County
Shannon McKenrick, MDE
Lena Easton- Calabria
KC Filippino, HRPDC
Cecilia Lane, DOEE
Elaine Webb, DNREC
Jessica Rodriguez, DoD

Dave Montali, Tetra Tech (WV)
Alana Hartman, WV DEP
Lisa Ochsenhirt, AquaLaw
Martin Hurd, Fairfax County
Liz Feinberg, NFWF
Jordan Gochenaour, Alliance for the Bay
Jesse Maines, city of Alexandria
Doug Austin, SEE- EPA
Lew Linker, EPA
Qian Zhang, PSU
Ted Brown, Biohabitats
Allie Wagner, NOVA
Ginny Snead, AMT
Chris Swanson, VDOT
Scott Crafton, VDOT
Brenda Morgan, Ann Arundel County