



Meeting Minutes

Big Dry Creek Watershed Association Meeting

Date/Time: December 19, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Broomfield Water Treatment Facility
4395 W. 144th Ave., Broomfield, CO 80023

1. **Approval of September Meeting Minutes:** Following the September 2018 Board Meeting, Jane Clary electronically distributed draft meeting minutes to the Board for review. Additionally, an update to the membership dues structure was completed following the Board meeting based on five categories of membership with varying contribution levels. A copy of the dues structure was also provided at the December meeting. Shelley Stanley moved to approve the September 2018 meeting minutes, David Carter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
2. **Recognition of Service:** BDCWA recognized and thanked Craig Hoffman (City and County of Broomfield) for his service to BDCWA and wished him well in his retirement. Both Craig and Mary Fabisiak retired during 2018 and are recognized in BDCWA's 2018 newsletter.
3. **Watershed Plan:** Jane provided an overview of the Watershed Plan update, corresponding to a working draft of the plan that was provided by email prior to the meeting. Jane highlighted major changes to the plan and obtained input from the group on next steps regarding development of an implementation plan, particularly related to how the *E. coli* TMDL should be integrated. Juliana suggested development of an *E. coli* infographic during 2019 to provide public education about *E. coli* issues in the Big Dry Creek Watershed. The group also discussed anticipated multi-jurisdictional stormwater outfall mapping that Colorado State University is completing for the Colorado Stormwater Council, which is expected in the next six months or so. This mapping would help to support additional outfall screening in the watershed.
4. **Group Discussion and Goal Setting Exercise:** Jane facilitated a group exercise to obtain input on five key questions for BDCWA for 2019. Each participant answered the questions, with results summarized in an attachment to these meeting minutes. The five questions and common themes include:

- a. What do you see as the highest priorities for improving water quality/stream health for Big Dry Creek? Most Common Themes: *E. coli*, channel erosion (iron/sediment).
- b. What would you like to see BDCWA accomplish in 2019? Most Common Themes: public outreach/education and *E. coli* source identification.
- c. What are the biggest barriers for BDCWA moving water quality/stream health goals forward (if any)? Most Common Theme: funding levels, limited participation of private landowners, urbanization.
- d. Who should be at the table, but isn't? Most Common Themes: agricultural agencies and landowners, city stormwater staff.
- e. How can we better engage our stakeholders? Most Common Themes: outreach events (other than meetings), social media, work with NRCS/existing programs.

Miscellaneous Comments: Craig Hoffman provided a few comments related to stream sampling as part of open discussion. Craig noted: 1) difficulty measuring flows at bdc2.0 due to beaver activity, and 2) elevated turbidity at bdc4.5.

5. Updates

- a. **UDFCD's Flood Alert Gauge at Thorncreek Golf Course:** Jane provided an update from her discussion with Kevin Stewart, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, regarding discrepancies between BDCWA instream instantaneous measurements and UDFCD's Alert gauge in the vicinity of bdc3.0. The gauge measurements are not appropriate for estimating baseflow/low flow conditions, but may be useful for estimating flows during high flow conditions when stream access is not safe for BDCWA samplers.
 - b. **MS4 *E. coli* Work Group:** Colorado Stormwater Council is working on putting together a one-day *E. coli* Summit (conference) in the spring. Jane will participate in the effort as part of her regional involvement/activities task in her scope of work. Jane and Juliana requested input on topics that the group would like to suggest for inclusion in the conference.
 - c. **Newsletter:** Jane provided an update on the 2018 BDCWA Newsletter, which will be distributed for review by December 21, 2018. Distribution is planned for the first week of January 2019.
6. **Next Meeting and Watershed Plan Update Schedule:** Work on the watershed plan will continue in January based on input from the group. A working meeting will likely be scheduled in late January or February to discuss the review draft. (Note: a preliminary working draft was provided to the group prior to the December meeting.) Additionally, the annual water quality analysis meeting will be held in late March or early April, depending on the timing of the 2018 water quality data submittals.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Attachment: Summary of Group Prioritization Exercise

Attendance

Juliana Archuleta, Adams County
Lesa Julian, City and County of Broomfield
Evelyn Rhodes, City of Northglenn
Lyndsay Holbrook, Weld County
Tara Wilson, City of Westminster
Kelly Cline, City of Westminster
David Carter, City of Westminster
Shelley Stanley, City of Northglenn
Jane Clary, Wright Water Engineers
Robert Fiehweg, Citizen
Craig Hoffman, City and County of Broomfield

These minutes of action constitute the record of the meeting of the General Membership and Board of Directors of the Corporation and any officer of the Corporation is hereby authorized to certify any action taken by these minutes of action as having been duly taken or ratified by the Board of Directors of the Corporation on December 19, 2018, notwithstanding the date of actual signing. Meeting minutes were prepared for the Secretary by Watershed Coordinator, Jane Clary.

By: _____
BDCWA Secretary

Attachment: Summary of Group Prioritization Exercise

For this exercise, five questions were posted on the wall with participants pasting answers on sticky pads under each question. Numbers in parentheses (#) indicate the number of people providing the comment.

1. Highest Priorities for Improving Stream Health/Water Quality

- *E. coli* source identification. (3)
- Stream stabilization. (2)
- Sediment – iron. (2)
- *E. coli* education.
- Nutrients education.
- OWTS improvements.
- Monitor growth impacts on water quality from increased impervious surfaces and increased urban landscape and non-point source contributions.
- Research and organization of data and efforts (i.e., sampling, database, annual report).

2. BDCWA Goals for 2019

- *E. coli* source identification/dry weather study expansion. (3)
- Public engagement (including City staff/Council and public). (4)
 - Examples: Pilot program, infographic, geocaching, creek cleanup, farms projects, dog parks – pet waste burning lamp.
 - Use the watershed plan to educate leaders in watershed communities.
- Exchange program information/share resources.
- Analyst appreciation (gets whole group together – lots of new faces, etc.).

3. Barriers to Stream Health

- Money to implement on-the-ground projects. (7)
- Need broader type of participants/limited engagement of stakeholders (3)
 - Examples: Ag community, NRCS, USGS(?), trade group(?), Colorado Corn, Cattle Association).
- Time/workload (3).

- Land ownership/barriers to engaging the agricultural property owners. (2)
- Regulatory complexity.
- Insufficient number of participants to create momentum.
- Population growth (agricultural transition to urban, construction).
- Urbanization of watershed, flow fluctuations in creek.
- Agricultural impacts (e.g., cattle in stream).
- Wastewater technology and implementation (nutrients).

4. Who are we missing?

- City stormwater staff/MS4s. (5)
- Ag agencies/NRCS. (3)
- Private sector/landowners. (3)
- USGS. (3)
- Environmental organizations.
- CDOT.
- Smaller cities and Jefferson County.
- Thornton—more attendance.
- EPA, CDPHE.

5. How can we better engage stakeholders?

- Events/ field trips over meetings – invite others. (3)
- Reach out to new agencies/communities and build on/expand existing relationships/programs. (2)
- Social media presence (2) (piggy-back on other local groups?).
- Provide seed money or offer technical advice as a way to initiate on-the-ground projects.
- Invite more people to our meetings.
- Food at meetings.
- Share newsletter.