



## Meeting Minutes

### Big Dry Creek Watershed Association Meeting<sup>1</sup>

**Date/Time:** September 19, 2012, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Broomfield Water Treatment Plant, 4395 W. 144th Avenue

#### Meeting Minutes

##### 1. Group Discussion of Draft Watershed Management Plan

In May 2012, Jane Clary distributed draft copies of the revised draft Big Dry Creek Watershed Management Plan to the Board and North Front Range Water Quality Planning Association for review. (Copies of the plan were also available upon request to watershed stakeholders on September 6, 2012.) Shelley Stanley, Pam Acre and Lesa Julian provided specific written comments by email prior to the meeting. Additional comments provided during the meeting and feedback in response to questions raised at the meeting include:

- A major discussion topic included whether the Board wanted to further develop implementation plan aspects of the plan based on the Colorado Uniform Watershed Plan outline and EPA's "Nine Components of a Watershed Plan." The group consensus was to limit the scope of the plan to the level of the current draft since it serves the purposes and objectives of BDCWA at this time. Additionally, the group concurred that further development of the implementation plan components beyond the general measures identified in the draft plan would be premature at this time. Jane requested that the group provide additional review and feedback on pp. 85-88 of the current draft implementation plan section for edits that may be needed.

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the Big Dry Creek Watershed Association bylaws, this meeting served as the regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors, normally held on the second Tuesday of September. Due to multiple conflicts from Board members, an alternate date was selected for this meeting. All Board members received notice of the meeting date, time and location on July 13, 2012. The meeting was held as a joint meeting of the Board and the General Membership.

- Mary recommended that the adaptive management section of the plan specify an update schedule for the plan that coincides with the year prior to the WWTP discharge permit renewal cycle for the watershed.
- The group discussed the pros and cons of including specific water quality/biological findings in the report because this causes the report to become outdated over time. The group consensus was that it was more helpful to have the water quality issues included in the plan, along with the monitoring plan as an appendix, so that the plan provides “one-stop” information. Users of the plan will also be directed to the BDCWA website to check for updates to the annual water quality analysis.
- Lesa Julian reviewed the Monitoring Plan and provided a few edits via email related to lab procedures and holding times.
- Shelley noted that the Rocky Flats discussion needs a few updates.
- General discussion also occurred regarding whether the Board would like to change priorities, approach, or other aspects of BDCWA’s efforts. No areas in need of major course corrections were identified, with general consensus being that BDCWA continues to focus on issues of concern to the Board.
- Jane will provide a final draft of the watershed plan by the end of October, so please provide any additional comments by October 15, 2012.

## **2. Regulatory and Regional Water Quality Updates**

- The group discussed the 303(d) Work Group process. Several Board members are following this process by email, and Jane and Shelley are attending the meetings. Discussion followed related to listing methodology issues of interest to Big Dry Creek with regard to provisional aquatic life listings (Policy 10-1), including these topics:
  - i. The October 1 cut-off date for biological monitoring in Policy 10-1 and timing issues related to Big Dry Creek’s mid- to late-October monitoring effort.
  - ii. Need for increased clarity for interpretation of long-term, multi-sampling location data sets such as Big Dry Creek’s.
  - iii. Need for a more well-defined procedure for identifying habitat-limitations vs. water quality limitations used in provisional aquatic life impairment listing decisions.

Jane noted that she would include these issues in a broader comment letter (not specific to BDCWA) that she was submitting to the 303(d) work group.

- Jane reported that she attended the Urban Waters Group public education work group meeting that Barr Milton Watershed Association hosted related to the Urban Waters grant from EPA.
- Shelley Stanley reported that she was re-elected as a Barr Milton Watershed Association Board member.
- Dave Meyer and Mary Fabisiak reported on South Platte CURE's proposed monitoring group effort related to Colorado's new nutrient criteria. The pros and cons of BDCWA participating were discussed. At this time, the Board is inclined to continue with the effort already in place for Big Dry Creek, but will likely attend one more meeting of the SPCURE group. The initial cost to participate in the SPCURE effort is \$2,000.

### **3. Election of Officers (2012-2013 term)**

Annual election of officers was conducted by secret ballot, with David Bauer providing his vote via email. The officer slate passed unanimously with the following individuals extending their service to the organization for an additional year:

- Lesa Julian, City of Broomfield, Chairperson
- Shelley Stanley, City of Northglenn, Vice-chairperson
- David Carter, City of Westminster, Treasurer
- Andrea Berg, Adams County, Secretary
- David Bauer, Weld County, Member At-Large

### **4. Routine Business**

The following motions were proposed and passed unanimously:

- BDCWA will continue its membership in the Colorado Watershed Assembly. David Carter was authorized to pay the \$50 annual dues.
- BDCWA will continue its membership with the Barr Milton Watershed Association at a \$100/year level.
- An expense of up to \$5,000 is approved for Aquatics Associates to calculate MMI scores for Big Dry Creek.
- The April 2012 BDCWA meeting minutes were approved.

## 5. Treasurer's Report and Funding Topics

- David Carter provided the Treasurer's report, including an itemized report of year-to-date expenses. Highlights included:
  - i. A final bill from Aquatics Associates of approximately \$21,519 for the 2010 biological monitoring is expected in October. An invoice for field work for the 2012 biological monitoring will follow shortly thereafter.
  - ii. Broomfield's 2012 special studies funding (\$4,000) will be allocated to completion of the revised Watershed Plan. Jane will prepare an invoice from BDCWA to Broomfield before year-end.
  - iii. The larger than typical web hosting service fee in the Treasurer's report was due to pre-payment of a 3-year web hosting fee, rather than monthly fees.
- Shelley requested that Jane provide an update on watershed activities to the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority (WCRA) Board later this year. Funding from WCRA has been a critical component of BDCWA's biological monitoring program.

## 6. Biological Monitoring

- The 2010 biological monitoring report should be available within the next month, per discussion with Tami Schneck prior to the meeting. Jane provided a handout with the Executive Summary and Recommendations sections of the Aquatics Associates report, which Tami provided by email prior to the meeting.
- The 2012 fish shocking will be conducted on October 8-10. Per previous Board decision, Tami will provide staff necessary to conduct the sampling; however, volunteers are still welcome and should coordinate with her regarding meeting location. Jane will send two volunteer WWE interns, and Lesa Julian may also provide a volunteer.
- Macroinvertebrate sampling is planned for October 22.
- Tami will provide a cost estimate for MMI calculation, which will be conducted on the 2008, 2010 and 2012 macroinvertebrate results. This estimate is expected to be between \$3,500 and \$4,500. (An upper limit of \$5,000 was approved as part of routine Board business.)
- The group discussed the cost of the biological monitoring program and options for continued funding in 2014. The group plans to continue the macroinvertebrate sampling due to the direct regulatory nexus with provisional aquatic life listings and nutrient criteria. Habitat assessment

should be continued in conjunction with the biological monitoring program. Some discussion occurred regarding whether fish shocking/sampling should continue due to cost and uncertainty regarding future funding. Options discussed included maintaining the current program, reducing the program to certain locations, shifting to a less frequent sampling program, or abandoning the program. A decision was not reached at the meeting. (*Note: emails following the meeting indicated support for continuing the fish sampling program in some form.*)

7. **Next Meeting:** December 4, 2012; additional details to follow.

### **Attendance**

Andrea Berg, Adams County  
David Carter, City of Westminster  
Mary Fabisiak, City of Westminster  
Laura Hubbard, City and County of Broomfield  
Lesa Julian, City and County of Broomfield  
Dave Meyer, City of Westminster  
Shelley Stanley, City of Northglenn  
Connie O'Neill, North Front Range Water Quality Planning Association  
Jane Clary, Wright Water Engineers  
*\*David Bauer, Weld County (provided vote for officers via e-mail)*

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 September 19, 2012, notwithstanding the date of actual signing. Meeting minutes were prepared for the Secretary by Watershed Coordinator, Jane Clary.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
BDCWA Secretary