

## Barr Lake/Milton Reservoir Watershed Association

### Technical Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 22nd, 2011 (9:00am – 11:00pm)

Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, Denver

## MINUTES

Technical Committee Meeting – 9/22/11

**In attendance:**

Steve Lundt – Metro Wastewater

Al Baker - Centennial

Richard Archer – ARRA Environmental

Linda Boyle - Aurora

Laurie Rink – FRICO(phone)

**Guests:**

Amy Conklin – BMW

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting minutes from the July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Technical Committee meeting were approved by acclamation with the following corrections to Bill McCutcheon's name.

- 1. Corral Update** – Steve Lundt reported that he is planning to take the limnocorrals out of Barr Lake on Monday. The group discussed whether or not they needed the services of Blair Wacha, the diver. **Steve** will get back to Mr. Wacha if his services are needed. Amy Conklin was directed to send a message to the BMW Board informing them about the planned removal and inviting them to attend or send staff, as we did for the limnocorral installation. **Everyone interested in assisting should meet at Barr Lake State Park at 7:30 Monday morning, September 26.**

Preliminary data from the limnocorral experiment this year show that the impact from aeration was significant but pH in the limnocorral remained high. Dissolved Oxygen remained above the standard throughout the growing season. Steve will be reviewing the nutrient data next and will present it when the analysis is complete.

Westminster loaned us a flow camera to examine species of algae present in both the limnocorrals and in the open water. Analysis of the results showed that blue-green algae inside the limnocorrals were less numerous than in the control limnocorral or the open water, and other species, cryptophytes and diatoms, were found inside the limnocorrals but not in the open water. Only blue-green algae were found in the open water. Richard Archer offered to take a water sample to a Division of Wildlife laboratory for additional analysis. The results are consistent with standard results of well aerated lakes supporting greater diversity of algae species than poorly aerated lakes.

The group discussed the difficulties of obtaining a permit to apply alum and the concern that one won't be obtained in time to use alum during the 2012 growing season. The group concluded that they will extend **an invitation to Gary Beers, a WQCD** permit writer with

whom BMW has been working with to obtain a permit to apply alum, **to the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting**. Steve will email Mr. Beers and invite him and consider inviting appropriate EPA personnel as well.

## 2. Updating BMW WQ Database in 2011

- a. 2006- 2010 – The group reviewed what data was still outstanding from the data request sent to entities earlier in the year. We are missing data from the following entities.
  - o Xcel energy - **Laurie** will follow up
  - o DIA – **Laurie** will follow up w Keith Pass
  - o FRICO – 2010 flow data is still missing. **Laurie** is following up and will try to download data from Data Sharing Network (DSN)
  - o Ft. Lupton, Hudson and Lochbuie – Ft. Lupton forwarded their request to CH2MHill. **Karen Frarck** may be able to provide the requested data for both Lochbuie and Hudson. **Laurie** will follow up with Karen(?).
  - o Cherry Creek data – **Laurie** will follow up with Craig Wolf.
  - o Chatfield -2004-2010 – **Amy Conklin** will download Chatfield data posted on the Chatfield Watershed Authority's website.
  - o SPCURE – **Linda Boyle** will work with Phil Russell at L/E WWTP and Sarah Reeves to try to extract the SPCURE data from the DSN.

The group discussed the need to start the process of hiring a modeler to update the water quality model using the more recent data. Steve will meet with Ken Wagner at the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) conference this fall. Ideally, Ken Wagner will subcontract with a person to conduct the model runs, with Ken acting as the liaison with BMW. The group agreed that they wanted Ken Wagner involved with the modeling even if it became necessary to hire a second firm to conduct the model runs. Steve will ask Ken Wagner if he would be willing to call in to the November 17<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee meeting.

## 3. pH TMDL Update –

- a. **Allocation Table** – A BMW subgroup met on September 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss proposed revisions to the Allocation Tables. The proposed revisions do not change any of the numbers presented in the posted allocation tables, only the verbiage associated with the tables. The WQCD has finished preparing responses to the comments they have received and may be posting the responses as early as November. It is believed that the WQCD understands BMW's concerns and doesn't object to our changes. However, there is an internal disconnect within the WQCD between the staff that works on TMDLs and the permit writing staff. It is possible the TMDL will be sent to EPA early in 2012. EPA will then review the TMDL and, hopefully, approve it. A critical piece of the revisions to the Allocation Tables is that compliance with either a 1.0 mg/L of TP or a 0.1 mg/L of TP be achieved at the point of compliance instead of end of pipe.
- b. **DO TMDL Addendum** - The only comments on the DO TMDL were from BMW.

## 4. TMDL Implementation Updates as Needed

- a. Canal Treatment (Richard Archer/FRICO) – **Richard Archer** requested assistance with preparing graphics for his presentation on in-canal treatment. He will work with FRICO staff to try to get the required expertise.

- b. Stormwater Options (Al Polonsky/Terry Baus) – Steve Lundt reported that the EPA had a fascinating webinar on the impacts of eliminating phosphorus from lawn fertilizer. In Minnesota where a program was implemented over 2 years, the TP in stormwater runoff was reduced from 292 lbs in 2003 to 68 lbs. in 2010. One important consideration for Colorado would be to measure the amount of TP in impacted soils. If soils are naturally low in TP, such a program may not work. Results from Minnesota show that lawns that weren't fertilized had as much TP runoff as lawns that were over-fertilized due to the poor condition of plant roots which diminished their ability to retain runoff. **Amy Conklin** was instructed to post the Power Point presentation to the website.
  - c. NPS/Ag. (Linda Boyle)
  - d. WWTP upgrades (Amy Woodis)
  - e. Internal Loading Treatments (Richard Archer, Steve Lundt, FRICO)
  - f. Other (Burlington Pumps Update – Kelly DiNatale)
- 5. Other BMW Topics and Discussion** – Presentation materials – Amy Conklin reported that content on presentation materials would be topic of discussion for the Board. The Technical Committee recommended that the presentation materials include trends of the nutrient, pH and DO data over last 10 years, lots of photos, and Steve's number for when Linda Boyle was bombarded with questions.
- 6. Next Meeting**
- a. **Tech Comm. November 17th.** No meeting in October.
  - b. **BMW Board meeting September 27<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to Noon**