

Dorchester County WIP, Phase II Local Team Meeting
Dorchester/Cambridge Airport 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
April 4, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Mike Moulds - Dorchester County DPW (Local Team Leader)

Keith Lackey – MD Department of Planning

Jen Dindinger – Choptank Tributary Team

Bill Forlifer – Dorchester Co. Health Department

Jim Newcomb – Dorchester Soil Conservation District

Bill Edwards - Dorchester County Farm Bureau

Beth Ann Lynch - Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth

Visitors: Erik Fisher – Chesapeake Bay Foundation

- January Minutes – approved.
- Handouts
 - January Meeting Minutes.
 - State Phase II WIP
 - County Revised Draft WIP
 - NFWF Grant Application
- Announcements
 - Jen announced that due to demand a second stormwater retrofitting session is scheduled for June 13th. Greg L. has attended. Mike M. will sign up for next session.
 - Janice Henderson will be the replacement for Mike Bonsteel from County Planning and Zoning.
 - Mike M is still working to get IT permission to update Web Site.
 - Bill F. noted Health Dept. received a BRF supplemental grant in March. Provides and additional \$400,000 for this fiscal year. Biggest award in the state. Targeted 65 for the original grant; these funds will allow for an additional 30 systems upgraded. Current permit system has been working for the County, but MDE now wants the drain field to be repaired before the BAT system gets installed. This has the potential to slow down the process and inhibit the County's ability to spend the grant funds.
 - Beth L. noted the DCPG will be at Spocott Windmill for an Earth Day celebration.
 - Keith L. MDP is working on septic bill currently along with implementation of Plan Maryland and designation of different planning areas.
 - Claudia Friedetzky from Sierra Club has a general presentation available about WIPs to show to local governments. Contact her if you are interested.
 - MDE will not be providing specific comments on each county WIP; will respond to specific questions if asked. Keith will ask how the additional BMPs added by the state to each plan is to be communicated to the counties. Focus may be on the two year milestones.
 - State has submitted its WIP plan to EPA; EPA will review, not sure when they will return comment to state.
 - Revised numbers to be sent to counties at end of April.

- Legislative Action Status
 - BRF fee increase HB446/SB240; passed in House, now in Senate.
 - Stormwater Restoration Fee SB614/HB987 - passed in Senate now in House. Only MS4 permitted jurisdictions would have to comply. Dorchester is currently no one of them.
 - Sustainable Growth and Ag Preservation SB236/HB445- Encouraging growth in sewerred areas. Passed in house.
 - Nitrogen removal Technology Cost differential – Changes homeowner % reimbursement to income. <1005 if income is over \$150,000. No big impact to Dorchester.
 - Other related bills of note not going anywhere-
 - SB695 – Conowingo Dam environmental assessment. Prevents WIP implementation until assessment done on dam.
 - SB705 - Hydroelectric nutrient filtration. Keeps Susquehanna dams closed unless nutrient filters available.
 - SB702 – req'd all Susquehanna dam flood gates to stay open all the time.
 - SB821 – WIP cap on costs.
 - SB827 – Limits MDE prohibitions on septic systems until Susquehanna dam overflows are addressed.

- Draft WIP for Dorchester County
 - Suggestion made to change photos to represent areas from Dorchester County.
 - Narrative has been adapted to informational to general public.
 - Incorporated the Agricultural chart from the MDA website.
 - Funding scenarios have been included.
 - A more local specific consequences section has been added.
 - Question on administrative recommendation or a menu of options. Difficult to identify without further study.
 - Ability to identify more specific planning studies than what is identified in milestones.
 - Improving existing databases
 - Evaluate growth and treatment capacity
 - ID target projects (as done in Caroline County WIP pilot project).
 - Minor WWTP upgrades- How to get MDE consideration of Twin Cities and Vienna minor plants upgraded. Competition for funds and biggest impact in meeting TMDL's.

- NFWF Grant
 - Working with Lori Lilly at Center for Watershed Protection to submit a grant application for \$40K to fund consulting technical assistance to conduct a septic management district feasibility study. Also includes an assessment of continuing maintenance of BATs. Council is in support of this grant request. Bill F. is meeting with the Sanitary District next month to talk about this project, shared facilities, and some others. Cambridge also interested in submitting an application for stormwater retrofits

- Public Outreach
 - Daily Banner article – Article ran on February 3rd. Beth will send Mike M. a copy.
 - Mike M. and Bill F. met with Vienna Town Council on February 27th and were well received.
 - Mike M. met with Chesapeake Bay Foundation to discuss local planning efforts and ways they might be able to assist. Letters of support for grant applications and organizing private foundation efforts in obtaining grants.
 - Fred Pomeroy with DCPG sent nice letter to County Council to recognize the work of the WIP Team.
 - Discussion of time frame for public comment on local plan. Waiting on end of legislative session on new regulations and funding. We will need to submit to Council and get approval for a public comment period.
 - MDE has sent a response to MACO on comments and concerns about the status of the Bay Model, numbers/data, and expectations of Counties on the Phase II WIP.
 - WIP Stakeholder Advisory Committee submitted comments on Phase II WIP
 - Keith will check about how MDE is planning to respond to the comments made during the public process

- Upcoming events
 - Beth L. and Mike M. to attend Cambridge Rotary Meeting Presentation on April 5th.
 - Mike M. and Jen D. to attend Watershed Assistance Collaborative Spring Forum on April 17th.

- Next meeting April 25th depending if feedback is received from MDE on plan submission in time.

END OF MINUTES

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Moulds