

Dorchester County WIP, Phase II Local Team Meeting
Dorchester/Cambridge Airport 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
May 25, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Mike Moulds - Dorchester County DPW (Local Team Leader)
Keith Lackie - MDP, Lower Eastern Shore Regional Office (State Liaison)
Mike Bonsteel - Dorchester County Planning and Zoning
Greg LeBlanc - City of Cambridge
Bill Giese - Blackwater Refuge
Bill Layton – Dorchester Farm Bureau
Bill Edwards - Dorchester County Farm Bureau
Bill Forlifer – Dorchester County Health Department
Jennifer Dindinger – Choptank Tributary Team
Beth Ann Lynch - Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth

Visitors:

Jeremy Hanson – Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Eric Fisher – Chesapeake Bay Foundation

- Handouts: agenda, septic, fed guide, local guide
- April Minutes approved
- Info
 - Answers web page and idea clearinghouse are pending @ MDE/EPA
 - Rural county “don’t panic” webinar to be scheduled
 - For topics we would like covered forward information to Mike Moulds
 - Possibility also still exists for face-to-face meeting
- Q: MM – with ag being so large a component in Dorchester, will its data just be plugged into plan?
- A: KL – it won’t just be plugged in without input from teams first
 - Separate team for agriculture but has not met yet
 - Supposedly an easier process
 - BG – Rhoderick didn’t think there would be duplication but they do need to get on the stick (waiting for numbers in Caroline, according to JD)
- Problem: we don’t know what the numbers are and how much we need to reduce until the MAST is out
 - should not preclude us from thinking about other programs
 - septic and stormwater = low-hanging fruit
- Team Coordination Issues – No Problems
 - Approved BMPs & efficiency rates table was reviewed
 - options in this list
 - Forest Conservation plantings covered by submittal of annual report but what other programs exist?
 - Units? (acres vs. linear feet as it relates to pounds)
 - Woolford-Madison (350) + Christ Rock (≈100) + Bucktown (?) on line w/ sewage treatment plant will be a huge chunk of required reduction.
- Idea Clearinghouse
 - If there are problems & solutions, write a description to be posted on the State site
 - similarly, FAQ still coming.
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- Current Capacity
 - Info being assimilated into database – no changes as of yet.
 - A past question: KL – what if local jurisdictions have data? Can it be submitted? Answer is still pending.
- 2 Year Milestones
 - Trying to accelerate implementation
 - Get local officials thinking about it.
 - Webinar: milestones in and of themselves should not be daunting.
 - May not be measures in the ground, but programs being in place will help.
 - Trying to increase capacity via program enhancements.
 - Funding constraints recognized but status quo will not meet requirements.
 - Is there a way to improve upon current implementation?
 - Q: MM – How do we identify which programs that we have? Is there a listing of what other Counties are doing, what EPA wants?
 - JD – Phase 1 WIP document has concepts.
 - MM – Should combine our current capacity plans
 - BG – Water resources element revision, rezoning as a milestone
 - Discussion on combining data, listing limitations.
 - KL – when formulating 2 year milestones, may receive solicitation from other organizations that have MAST-like programs
 - Maybe helpful but are incompatible with MAST (or CAST) program
 - MM – Buying out of the question due to lack of funding.
- Identify any outstanding needs
 - KL – Don't feel like we can't provide objects, programs that are unattainable in the short-term. Those options are still important for long-term planning.
- KL to provide new webinar date.
- Outstanding needs from BF
 - Subdivision regs are from 70's, septic regs are from 80's, but neither address nutrient – there could and should be a state-wide tool to address nutrients. Bill's hearing "local ordinances" but that does not make sense.
 - KL – question to ask is can the state make a commitment to change septic regulations?
 - BF – need regulations, not policies or law changes.
 - Issue with ability to connect new properties to sewer. Competing interests: smart growth vs. nutrient reduction.
 - Should recommendations include revisions to County planning water resources element to address nutrients?
- BL exploring funding for additional monitoring sites. Transquaking, Chicamacomico, Blackwater (3), Nanticoke and Choptank. Possibly Little Choptank? Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Bacteria, DO and Salinity monitored.
- Next time: MAST, vocalizing current programs & implementation, EPA comparison of data, meeting w/ elected officials with draft milestones
- For next meeting develop a list of existing phase 1 progress that might be applicable for phase 2 planning.

END OF MINUTES

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Moulds