

**Dorchester County WIP, Phase II Local Team Meeting**  
**Dorchester/Cambridge Airport 10:00 am to 12:00 pm**  
**September 28, 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  
Jen Dindinger – Choptank Tributary Team  
Jim Newcomb – Dorchester County Soil Conservation District  
Bill Edwards - Dorchester County Farm Bureau  
Bill Giese – Blackwater Refuge  
Beth Ann Lynch - Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth  
John Avery - Town of Hurlock

Visitors:

Eric Fisher – Chesapeake Bay Foundation

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- Handouts
  - Copy of the August meeting minutes approved and will be posted to site.
  - 9/23/11 MDE Letter from Robert Summers on time extension.
  - Initial Septic BMP Analysis.
  - Urban BMP MAST printout.
  
- Announcements
  - Big picture on revised Bay numbers; Baseline load is higher, but the allowable load (target) is also higher so the reduction gap is roughly unchanged and generally slightly higher.
  - State created WIP will be submitted to EPA by March 30, 2012.
  - Local WIP strategies would be due to State by June 30, 2012.
  - MDE is requesting that a draft narrative be completed according to old timeline (by late November) to provide guidance for the State with caveat that the concepts have not been shown to the public.
  
- Discussion of schedule and target loads.
  - Jen D.: after public input in February/March, State will take public comments to EPA for consideration as revisions.
  - 2010 progress runs supposed to be completed last week but no information yet.
  - Keith L.: Draft milestones, MAST input deck, draft narrative expected by the end of November.
  - Jen D.: info referred to in letter implied WIP's to be viewed from a basin perspective but if shortfalls are seen, how will jurisdictions have to address?
  - Keith L.: basin perspective is guaranteed for agriculture sector.
  - Jim N.: reporting is based on sub-watersheds, but how MDA puts it in MAST is unknown.
  - Keith L.: Agricultural targets by basin as larger areas are consistent with funding and other factors, not know why it is not allowed for other sectors.
  
- WIP Phase II workshop
  - Jim N., Greg L. and Mike M. were in attendance. Good discussion on stormwater BMP costs and funding scenarios.

- Chesapeake Bay Foundation/MACO Phase II WIP Symposium
  - Mike B. will attend.
  - Erik F.: morning for staff: challenges, resources, networking to share resources.
    - lunch presentations
    - elected officials in afternoon and skipjack later
- County Council PowerPoint presentation.
  - Mike M. and Beth used presentation for Shoreline Erosion Group as a practice. Got a good reaction.
  - Reviewed presentation for comments from Team. Will need to make changes and get it to County Council office this afternoon.
  - Jim N: numbers for acreage are all over the place but actively managed crop land is less than 90,000 acres when considering woods as “farmland” use and CREP. Notation would be nice.
  - Mike B: looks like slight increase between models for N in ag/urban, but jump in P for agriculture allocations.
  - Jim N: There are 33 agricultural BMPs which can we get credit for.
  - Mike B: Can we get credit for nutrients and sediment reduction via future shoreline erosion control projects and since 2009? Shoreline stabilization is indicated as a BMP under agriculture and urban sectors. Probably applies to wetland creation (living shoreline). Future BMP for rip rap shoreline being evaluated.
- Update on Second Agricultural Group meeting:
  - Jim N: better turn-out than first.
    - Thought it would be a better follow-up from MDA.
    - Initial spreadsheet was flawed, so first meeting numbers (reasonable, conservative) in MAST got no credit.
    - MDA asked what more they can do.
    - Looked at increasing efforts to meet allocation.
    - MDA also looked at a more aggressive increase – but no real impact on allocations.
    - If getting credit by percent increased, the acreage denominator/divisor must be accurate (and consistent).
    - Tracking is a must to get credit. Those farmers adapting with technology are not getting credit.
  - Bill Edwards: Confusion in the ag community.
    - 8-10 BMPs dropped from first draft.
    - Comment made that “don’t know why, don’t know if we can get them back”.
  - Decision/precision agriculture used for economic reasons, a management issue, and data may be withheld as proprietary.
  - Jim N: walking a fine line between help and regulation.
    - trying to maintain trust. A larger issue of government in everything.
  - Jen D.: farmers should trust because providing numbers (to SCD) will help them in the long run.
  - Jim N: trying to get larger group of farmers together and more info. Must work with MDA to get reasonable baseline numbers in place.
- Mike M: letter to the editor approved by County Council. Beth to submit as member of Local Team and her organization.
- MAST input review on septics handout
  - Septic a good place to start with specific number of systems, Only 3 BMPs to work with.

- Results in great reliance on denitrification of individual septic systems to meet allocation.
- Initial runs require 100% of critical area septic connection of conversion and 20% of systems within 1,000 feet.
- Rough cost estimates of \$43.7M does not consider staffing, tracking
- Majority of cost \$39M associated with septic conversions. It may be necessary to look at community systems or new WWTP in the north as alternatives to individual systems to bring down cost.
- Still waiting on answer regarding minor WWTP required allocations. MDE says no but allocations indicate a required reduction. Has an impact on septic system alternatives.
- Urban BMPs
  - Handout of MAST window showing available BMP and distribution of 2009 baseline.
  - Apparently there is no way in MAST of getting credit for CSS conversion but narrative will be allowed per email from MAST technical support and MDE.
  - Need to take credit for it as it should help with urban nutrient reduction.
  - Question about locations of regulated commercial/industrial facility impervious/pervious areas including septic.
  - Appears that MAST 2009 baseline is applying credit/uses across the County rather than focusing on specific areas of impacts. This was apparent with septic. Need to refine input to reflect actual conditions.
- 2 year Milestones
  - Still looking for any suggestions of anything else we should include.
- Goals for next meeting
  - updates
  - reactions
  - work on urban BMPs
  - October 26<sup>th</sup>, milestones by November, depending on County Council reaction
- County Council meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Attendance and support is appreciated.

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END OF MINUTES

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mike Moulds