

Carroll County Water Resource Coordination Council

Hampstead * Manchester * Mt. Airy * New Windsor
Carroll County Health Department



* Sykesville * Taneytown * Union Bridge * Westminster
Carroll County Government

WRCC Meeting Summary March 25, 2026

Attendees:

Municipalities:

- Kevin Hann, Chair, Hampstead
- Jim Wieprecht, Vice Chair, Taneytown
- Zac Amoss, Westminster
- John Breeding, Mount Airy
- Gary Dye, New Windsor
- Delbert Green, Manchester
- Greg Howell, Westminster
- Mayor Perry Jones, Union Bridge
- Rodney Kuhns, Manchester
- Matt Leister, Manchester
- Jim Roark, Hampstead
- Kevin Rubenstein, Sykesville
- Kevin Smeak, Taneytown
- Dick Swanson, Mount Airy

CC PLM:

- Brenda Dinne
- Glenn Edwards
- Elyssa Greene
- Chris Heyn, PLM Director
- Claire Hirt
- Byron Madigan
- Mitch Masser
- Denise Mathias
- Zach Neal
- Janet O'Meara
- Nick Totushek

Health Department:

- Richard Brace
- Nicole Bowman

CCG Others:

- Andy Watcher, CC DPW
- Bryan Bokey, CC DPW
- Jason Green, CC DPW
- Lexi Biondo, CC M&B

Guest Speakers:

Others:

1. Opening Statement

Chair

- Mr. Hann called the meeting to order at 2:29 PM.

Vice Chair

- n/a

2. Approval of Meeting Summary – February 25, 2026

Approval of the February meeting summary was discussed. No changes were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Dick Swanson and seconded by Gary Dye to approve the February 25, 2026, meeting summary. Motion carried.

3. Maryland Biological Stream Survey (MBSS) Sampling – Byron Madigan

- Mr. Madigan explained the MBSS and the work Resource Management Division staff are currently undertaking to complete the sampling in Carroll County.
- The sampling is one component of the NPDES MS4 permit requirements. Work is done in-house rather than participating in the pooled monitoring program through Chesapeake Bay Trust. This option saves the County \$500,000-700,000 over the life of the permit.

- The sampling window is between March 1 and April 30 each year.
- The goal for mitigation work is for streams to be able to be delisted from the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) list.

Reference/Attachment:

- *PowerPoint: Maryland Biological Stream Survey (MBSS) Sampling*

4. Legislative Update – Brenda Dinne

- Ms. Dinne reviewed the proposed bills on the attached table. These are bills proposed in the Maryland General Assembly for the 2026 session that are relevant to water resources, environment, and planning that seemed more pertinent to bring to the attention of the municipalities.
- The table indicates which bills crossed over to the opposite chamber by the March 23 crossover deadline.

Reference/Attachment:

- *WRCC Legislative Update – March 25, 2026*

5. Water Resource Element (WRE 2024) Update – Brenda Dinne

- The goal is for all planning commissions to have approved the WRE plan document, signed the approval resolution, and forwarded the plan document to the elected bodies with a recommendation for adoption by the end of April.
- A comment packet was shared with the municipal staff and Planning Commissions that included the recommendations, a copy of the comments received, and a redline version of the pages of the plan document reflecting staff recommendations.
- Each planning commission should approve the entire plan document excluding the other municipal system sections under the Overview by Municipal System section.
- Elected bodies will also have to hold a public hearing before modifying or adopting the plan document. The general process was reviewed.

Reference/Attachment:

- *WRE 2024 Councils Adoption Process (2026-Mar-25)*

6. Municipal Stormwater Projects Update – Janet O’Meara

- Ms. O’Meara reviewed the status of the projects.

Reference/Attachment:

- *Municipal Project Status, March 2026*

7. PFAS Discussion

- Hampstead is close to breaking ground on the treatment plants. Grading work should start in April.

Reference/Attachment:

- *n/a*

8. Other

- Next Regular Meeting: The next regular monthly meeting will be held on April 22, 2026. A Calendar of Tentative Future Agenda Topics was shared.
- Annual Stormwater Tour: The annual stormwater tour for WRCC members will be held on Friday, May 8, 2026. Denise will send an email to the municipalities for RSVPs, lunch orders, and transportation needs.
- Drinking Water Protection Area Signs: Feedback was shared by some municipalities on the initial sign options. A survey will be sent to the municipalities soon. The feedback can be

shared in the survey. Resource Management staff will be looking for grants to pay for the cost of these signs.

- **Drought:** Baltimore City is concerned about the low water levels in the reservoirs.
- **Solar Facilities:** When seeking a Certificate of Convenience & Necessity (CPCN) from the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC), a solar developer is required to provide a copy of the environmental review document (ERD) to the County at least 90 days prior to submitting a CPCN application to the PSC. At this point, at least 30 projects countywide seem to be in the pipeline. The County's hands are tied on most of these projects as a result of the Renewable Energy Certainty Act adopted in 2025 by the Maryland General Assembly, as most are under 5 megawatts (MW). Solar facilities are not allowed on easement properties. Planning & Land Management (PLM) staff are meeting with PSC staff to figure out the process for decommissioning bonds, since State law requires the bonds to be held by the PSC.

Reference/Attachment:

- *Calendar of Tentative Future Agenda Topics: March – July 2026*

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:42 PM.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Dick Swanson and seconded by Chris Heyn to adjourn the March 25, 2025, meeting. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ☐ *Regular Monthly Meeting – April 22, 2026*