

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

September 24, 2025

Attendees:

Municipalities:

- ☒ Kevin Hann, Chair, Hampstead
- ☒ Jim Wieprecht, Vice Chair, Taneytown
- ☐ Zac Amoss, Westminster
- ☐ 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
- ☐ Vance Summerhill, Westminster
- ☒ Dick Swanson, Mount Airy
- ☒ John Breeding, Mount Airy

CC PLM:

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

Health Department:

- ☐ Richard Brace
- ☐ Nicole Bowman

CCG Others:

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

Guest Speakers:

- ☐ n/a

Others:

- ☒ Diane Fisher

1. Opening Statement

Chair

- Mr. Hann opened the meeting at 2:32 pm.
- Mr. Hann reminded everyone about the upcoming EnviroFest on October 25, 2025, from 9:00-12:00 at the Robert Moton Center.
- He thanked everyone for coordination in compiling the information and developing the Salt Management Plans.
- He also thanked Resource Management staff for organizing and holding the annual NPDES training workshop.

Vice Chair

- n/a

2. Approval of Meeting Summary – August 27, 2025

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Dick Swanson and seconded by Chris Heyn to approve the August 27, 2025, meeting summary. Motion carried.

3. Proposed Revisions to MDE Stormwater Regulations – Chris Heyn

- Mr. Heyn provided an overview of Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) proposed stormwater regulations and process. MDE has been working for two years on updates to the regulations to address flooding and a corresponding update to the design manual.
- The draft of the new regulations was released on September 19, 2025. Comments are due by December 19, 2025. In addition to the 18-page COMAR regulations, a 200-plus page new design manual will also be released.
- Adoption of the regulations is expected for early next year and will go into effect 18 months following adoption. The County will have six months to develop local regulations to comply.
- Water quality increasing from 1" to 1.5". Volume of ESD practices is going to go up by 50%.
- Treatment of the 1-year storm, which must be done in ESD practices, is going to go up from 2.54" to 3.00".
- Treatment of the 10-year storm must be done in structural practice.
- Existing rainfall is 4.69". Future rainfall is 5.57".
- Design requirements for stormwater facilities do not recognize innovations and what we have figured out over the past 15 years. We will need to raise questions regarding what we are allowed to approve. Example – the need for forebays with surface sand filters.
- Mr. Heyn will prepare a comment letter. A draft will be sent out to the municipalities to review and add any additional comments before the December WRCC meeting. MAMSA is also preparing a comment letter, which also will be shared with the WRCC.

Reference/Attachment:

- n/a

4. State Highway Administration (SHA) MS4 Permit Requirements – Claire Hirt

- Ms. Hirt provided an overview of items to note in the final MS4 permit issued to SHA by MDE and effective on August 22, 2025.
- Items of note included thermal best management practices (BMPs), green infrastructure (GI), environmental justice (EJ), impervious surface restoration (ISR), and comments submitted.
- Multiple references indicate an increased emphasis on thermal pollution and impairments going forward. The County and municipalities already require/apply appropriate BMPs in thermally sensitive watersheds, but reference to thermal reflectance is an issue to watch.
- There is also increased emphasis on green infrastructure BMPs. It's unclear how our surface sand filters would be looked at with this emphasis on GI.
- With the increased emphasis on environmental justice, MDE clarified that projects can be upstream of EJ communities and provide benefits. MDE has re-released an online EJ screening tool. This tool provides users with data to inform their decisions on siting, permitting, enforcement, and infrastructure improvements. EJ scoring is not mandated, but the score may be considered for some decisions. MDE expects outreach to applicable communities. It is not clear yet how grant funding will be scored.
- SHA's ISR percentage was increased at SHA's request. MDE has acknowledged projects already completed; therefore, additional BMPs are minimal.
- Common threads between comments on the permit from non-governmental organizations (NGO) and other external groups, as well as MDE's responses, include stream restoration, restoration efforts and backsliding, climate change, and PFAS monitoring and source tracking.

Reference/Attachment:

- *PowerPoint: SHA MS4 Permit*
- *Reference: MDEnviroScreen Tool Website:*
https://mde.maryland.gov/Environmental_Justice/Pages/MDEnviroScreen.aspx

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

- Mr. Heyn shared that, so far, all the municipal planning commissions, except Taneytown and Mount Airy, have given approval to send the draft plan to the State for the 60-day review period. Approval by the last two municipal planning commissions is expected by the end of September. The County Planning Commission is still working through the WRE.

Reference/Attachment:

- n/a

6. Municipal Stormwater Projects Update – Janet O'Meara

- Ms. O'Meara reviewed the status of municipal stormwater projects in progress.

Reference/Attachment:

- *Municipal Project Status, September 2025*

7. PFAS Discussion

- Mr. Swanson indicated that two of the four water stations are waiting for final paperwork. The Town is working on the paperwork for the other two.
- Mr. Hann shared that Hampstead broke ground to connect the wells for centralization.
- Mr. Wieprecht stated that Taneytown is waiting on a grant award to be able to continue with design.

Reference/Attachment:

- n/a

8. Other

- Watershed Restoration Engineer: Ms. Hirt shared that Nicholas Totushek was hired to fill the Watershed Restoration Engineer position. He starts October 2.
- MS4 Annual Report: Ms. Masser indicated that staff is currently working on pulling together the annual report.
- Salt Management Plans: Ms. Edwards noted that some last details are being worked out for some of the municipal Salt Management Plans. They will be finalized in time to submit with the annual report.
- Carroll EnviroFest: The EnviroFest will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Robert Moton Center on Center Street in Westminster. Ms. O'Meara said that 24 art students had registered for the recycled art contest as of that day.

Reference/Attachment:

- *2025 Carroll EnviroFest webpage:*
<https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/government/directory/planning-land-management/carroll-envirofest/>

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:29 PM.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Dick Swanson and seconded by Jim Wieprecht to adjourn the September 24, 2025, meeting. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ☐ *Regular Monthly Meeting – October 22, 2025*