



## **RHODE ISLAND BAYS, RIVERS, & WATERSHEDS COORDINATION TEAM**

November 19, 2008  
RI Economic Development Corporation

### **DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

#### Members in Attendance:

EDC: Mike Walker (for Saul Kaplan)  
NBC: Tom Uva (for Ray Marshall)  
DEM: Sue Kiernan (for WMS)  
RC: Jane Sherman

Members Absent: CRMC, WRB, Div. of Planning

Coordination Team Staff: Ames Colt, Melissa Stanziale

Other Meeting Participants: Meg Kerr

#### **CT Administration:**

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Colt requested approval of draft minutes for September 24th, 2008 meeting.

*Motion passed unanimously to approve the 9/24/08 meeting minutes.*

Colt reported that Director Sullivan has asked that he serve on the the RI Planning Council's Technical Committee as a representative of the BRWCT and DEM. This will provide an opportunity for Colt to work more closely with the Statewide Planning Program & develop input and support from the Planning Council for the BRW SLP.

#### **Budget Article 30 Implementation:**

##### Septage Fee-

Revenue updates: April to June '08 revenues as of Sept 08 reported by Terry MacGuire of DEM: \$125,685.80  
(meaning 1,256,858 gallons of septage were received by RI WWTF's for treatment)

Should have data available on July-Sept 08 quarterly collections due by next month's meeting.

Cable Fee- at continuation of 2/12 public hearing July the CRMC decided to continue the hearing again and to request input for GA legislative counsel on the legislative intent behind establishing the cable fee and on how the CRMC should respond to AT&T's comments. A letter has been transmitted from Attorney B. Goldman to the GA and possibly a written response has been sent by the GA to the CRMC. No word yet from CRMC on when it will reconvene this public hearing. Meeting between Colt and GF scheduled for Fri 11-21.

### BRWCT Restricted Receipt Account

DEM Account No. 3625110

Fiscal Year	Costs	Revenues	Net
2007 \$	-	\$ -	\$ -
2008 \$	201,530.00	\$ -	\$ (201,530.00)
2009 \$	195,374.00	\$ 125,685.80	\$ (69,688.20)

Nov 08 Balance \$ (271,218.20)

Projected Date for  
first positive  
balance:  
**Jun 09**

With receipt of septage revenues through Mar 09, (received by June 09) account should break even.

**Key goal: ensure that BRWCT keeps these funds in FY09 supplemental budget and FY10 budget**

#### OSPAR FY 09 Allocation:

USGS contracts renewed for large river monitoring and the three BRWCT stream gauges on the Blackstone, Hunt, and Pawtuxet Rivers last summer.

At September 2008 meeting, BRWCT approved additional expenditure of OSPAR FY09 funds to cover expenses for fixed station network after complete expenditure of available federal (bay window) funds, totaling \$20,000.

To summarize, as of November 2008, the BRWCT FY09 OSPAR allocation of 250K will be spent as follows:

\$156.6K large river monitoring  
\$ 33.9K stream gauges  
\$20.0K upper bay fixed station buoy network  
**\$210.5K TOTAL COMMITTED**

Leaving a balance for **\$39,500** for economic monitoring.

**Economic Monitoring Collaborative:**

Colt reported that he met with EDC's Paul Harden on 11/14/08 to discuss marine economic priorities and Eco MC reconvening (marine economy sector lead & recreational boating primarily.)

Colt and EDC plan to convene the Economic MC in December-January. Consider the ideas established by Eco-MC last spring. EDC will need to administer RfP and ensuing contract.

**Environmental Monitoring Collaborative:**

Colt reported that the Environmental Monitoring Collaborative will reconvene some time in the beginning of 2009 to review accomplishments of monitoring investments to date, during which time they will develop an annual report for issuance in early Spring 09 as well as chart work tasks.

Colt also informed the team that Peter August will be stepping down as the URI Coastal Institute Director in 2009.

**Narragansett Bay Estuary Program:**

Colt reported on ongoing discussions with Narragansett Bay Estuary Program and EPA Region I staff and NBEP Management Committee members regarding completion of NBEP Status and Trends Report and aligning the work of the NBEP with the BRWCT.

In April of 09 – major forum for Narragansett Bay Estuary Program. Colt agreed to have the BRWCT partner on this. It requires the successful completion of the status & trends report. The draft that is out right now requires extensive review.

Colt reported that DEM Director Sullivan sent a letter to EPA Region I Administrator Bob Varney regarding a proposal to undertake changes in NBEP's planning responsibilities as they relate to the BRWCT's own planning mandate. ABC helped the Sullivan draft the letter. Varney forwarded the letter directly to Margherita Pryor and Mel Cote of EPA Region I's Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit.

Colt attended a meeting convened at Save the Bay on the NBEP Status and Report and the Sullivan letter was discussed in detail. As a result, it was agreed that Colt and NBEP's Richard Ribb will work up a Memorandum of Agreement on how the SLP and CCMP will merge and co-exist. Colt's preference would like to see SLP modified so that all it incorporates an element or chapter that will function as the Narragansett Bay CCMP.

**BRW SLP Executive Summary:**

A new graphics layout for the BRW SLP Executive Summary has been worked up by Gail Mastrati, DEM's Director of Communications based upon Colt's October 2008 Exec. Summary text. Representative Naughton has requested more details on the mailing of the SLP that she has called for, which Colt will provide. Rep. Naughton would also like to see each BRWCT agency board of directors formally endorse the SLP. Comments on the summary are still welcome. Colt stated that he would like to see a little more refinement in terms of graphics and layout.

**Water Resources Board:**

Colt informed the CT that the WRB is moving from the Department of Administration to the fourth floor of the Foundry Complex, 235 Promenade St. The WRB General Manager position has been posted this week and the deadline for applications has been set for December 19. Hopefully the next General Manager will be in place by early 2009.

**BRW SLP Implementation Plan:**

To make it possible for him to assemble a statement of implementation priorities and work tasks, Colt requested that the BRWCT agencies undertake the following steps and report back to him prior to or at the next BRWCT meeting in December:

- Review table of implementation priorities that Colt produced based upon their survey inputs of the fall of 2008.
- Add to this table additional agency actions as desired, or recommend deletions.
- Develop and provide to Colt quantitative estimates of FTE's and \$\$'s required to implement the stated priorities in FY 2009 and 2010.

Colt asked that they be prepared to discuss their near-term SLP implementation priorities and required resources at the next BRWCT meeting in December. He encouraged discussion between the agencies and with him as they worked through this assignment.

Colt said he would follow up 12/17 meeting with a synthesized workplan draft that will be submitted to the General Assembly and to the Governor.

**Stormwater Management Taskforce:**

Colt reported that he had a meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> with Sue Kiernan, Scott Millar, Walt Galloway, & Scherer to discuss Stormwater Task Force. They mapped out a one-pager similar to the watershed development effort and are pulling together a wide array of stakeholders. They are going to focus on two case studies: Greenwich Bay & the Scituate Reservoir in order to cover stormwater management issues centered upon mitigation and prevention respectively

*Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.*