

**SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**November 7, 2013 – 4:00 P.M.**  
**Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**

		<b>Attendance Record</b>
<b>Members Present:</b>	Lina Vlavianos, Chair	9/11
	Sally Hornor, Vice Chair	11/11
	Jim Burdick	2/3
	Kurt Riegel	5/11
	Michael Robinson	10/11
	Jeff Schomig	10/11
	Dick Spencer	10/11
	Bob Whitcomb	10/11
	Scott Hymes, MD DNR (Ex officio)	7/11
<b>Guests and Staff:</b>	Ginger Ellis, AACo. DPW/WERS	
	Brenda Weeks, AACo. DPW/WERS	

**Members Absent:** All members present

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Vlavianos called the regular monthly meeting of the Severn River Commission (SRC) to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was declared present. All members were present.

**GUEST SPEAKER**

Ms. Ginger Ellis, AACo. DPW, was invited to discuss stormwater remediation fees and projects proposed in the Severn River watershed. Ms. Ellis began the discussion by noting the stormwater remediation fee is still somewhat in flux as a result of a bill before County Council that proposes to reduce the fee to one dollar for each property as opposed to what currently is in effect. She explained briefly how the fees were calculated for residential and non-residential properties. The stormwater remediation fees will be used to carry out the county's plan, the Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), built on achieving two regulatory requirements: (1) NPDES-MS4 Permit, to manage urban stormwater and impervious surface; and (2) to achieve the county's allocated load reduction to meet the Bay TMDL. The WIP lays out programmatic implementation strategies as well as on the ground project implementation strategies for accomplishing the county's load reduction. A strategy of projects that involve three different main

projects for accomplishing that load reduction/impervious surface management are: stream restoration, retrofit of old stormwater management ponds, and storm drain outfalls. These projects are identified through an assessment of all the watersheds countywide, a requirement of the NPDES Permit. The projects have been mapped by councilmanic districts, not by watershed.

Displaying a map from the 4<sup>th</sup> District and responding to numerous questions, Ms. Ellis noted this map shows subwatersheds where projects are prioritized based on their needs for restoration. Land use and habitat-type metrics were used to prioritize projects. Each entity (federal, state, local) is required to mitigate impacts on their land and what they are contributing. The county may need to purchase permanent easements to have access to areas for restoration and for future maintenance. The criticality of an area is based on the watershed condition, but how critical an individual project is within a cluster will be determined by the project manager when a project is assessed. The efficiency of the permitting process, high to low priority areas, Odenton Town Center, budgeting remediation fees by projects and watersheds, and privately-owned stormwater management ponds are a few concerns that were discussed.

Ms. Ellis will return in January to continue discussing the applications of stormwater remediation fees to projects within the Severn River watershed. She requested that SRC specify what to address in January. Some suggestions were: (1) update the SRC on coordination between county, state and federal governments in getting restoration permits expedited; (2) provide a breakdown on what is planned overall in the Severn River watershed and projected dollars to be spent; and (3) walk the SRC through a restoration project from selection of cluster area to planning, awarding the contracts, and completion and monitoring.

**PUBLIC INPUT / AGENDA ITEMS** – There was no public input.

## **MINUTES**

The Minutes for the October 3, 2013, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval and were accepted as written.

**MOTION:** A MOTION, TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 3, 2013 MINUTES AS WRITTEN, WAS MADE BY SCHOMIG AND SECONDED BY HORNOR. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Whitcomb's and Robinson's three-year terms end January 31, 2014. Whitcomb agreed to continue serving if reappointed. Robinson will get back to Vlavianos by the end of November with a decision whether to continue to serve on SRC.

To keep three-year terms consistent, Burdick's term will expire on January 31, 2016 and Riegel's term will expire on January 31, 2015.

2. AACo. I&P Director Christine Romans will address the SRC in December. She requested that SRC give her some ideas for topics to discuss that are of specific interest to the Commission.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Stormwater Management on Severn Run**

Different opinions were expressed where to focus on Severn Run: Odenton Town Center, SHA, Jabez or a combination of all the above. Schomig and Vlavianos will refine the existing draft letter that addresses stormwater impact on Severn Run from multiple sources which can be corrected only through cooperation of county and multiple state agencies.

**Oyster Restoration Activities** – There was nothing new to report.

### **Annapolis / Annapolis Marine Water Quality**

Burdick noted he has nothing new to report on the marine no discharge zone (NDZ). He did report that three outfalls on Weems Creek are being remediated after serious failures.

### **Critical Area**

Spencer testified on behalf of SRC in support of Critical Area Bill 76-13 at the County Council meeting. The bill was passed.

### **Jabez/SHA**

See Stormwater Management on Severn Run under Old Business.

**Website** – There was nothing new to report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Spencer recently attended a WIP workshop at Southern Maryland Community College where the state of the State was discussed. There were briefings on the new fertilizer regulations, one by the Mayor of Forest Heights on things the community is doing to improve their environment, and a Bay Survey ([baysurvey.org](http://baysurvey.org)) about environmental practices.

He reported that infiltration trenches and stormwater management bio-retention systems have been put in place along the road at the new Navy Exchange at Greenbury Point.

**PUBLIC INPUT/NEW ITEMS** – There was no public input.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room (4<sup>th</sup> Floor), 2664 Riva Road.