

SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2015 – 4:00 P.M.
Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4th Floor

		Attendance Record
Members Present:	Lina Vlavianos, Chair	1/1
	Sally Hornor, Vice Chair	1/1
	Kevin Curran	1/1
	Scott Hymes, MD DNR (Ex officio)	1/1
	Kurt Riegel	1/1
	Dick Spencer	1/1
	Bob Whitcomb	1/1
Guests and Staff:	Dr. Andrew Muller, USNA	
	Diana Muller, South River Keeper	
	Michelle Corkadel, AACo. Constituent Services	
	Meghan Spencer, AACo. DPW/WPRP	
Members Absent:	Jim Burdick	0/1
	Jeff Schomig	0/1

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vlavianos called the regular monthly meeting of the Severn River Commission (SRC) to order at 4:07 p.m. in the Severn Room, 4th Floor, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was present.

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Andrew Muller of the United States Naval Academy (USNA) was invited to make a presentation on the Past, Present & Future Monitoring & Modeling of the Severn River.

Dr. Muller discussed spatial and temporal variability, focusing on the understanding of the bio-physical processes that dominate ecological systems. He also discussed the data gathered from the Severn River by Remote Autonomous Environmental Unit S (REMUS 100), focusing on hypoxia in various areas of the Severn River and the correlation between salinity and tidal currents. Dr. Muller also discussed predicted and actual salinity and temperature of the Severn River. He gave a detailed explanation of future plans of the United States Naval

Academy Naval Estuarine and Coastal Ocean Observation System (USNA-NECOS) concept, an environmental monitoring system of satellites, buoys, fixed meteorological stations, and REMUS 100. Dr. Muller then answered questions from the SRC and meeting attendees in response to his presentation. The digital file of the entire presentation is available at the SRC Office.

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

MINUTES

The Minutes for the December 4, 2014, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval and were accepted as written.

MOTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 4, 2014 MINUTES AS WRITTEN, WAS MADE BY CURRAN AND SECONDED BY RIEGEL. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Burdick was unable to attend this meeting.
- (2) Vlavianos sent a request for reappointments to the County Executive and City of Annapolis Mayor. Vlavianos has contacted Arlene Berlin from the County Executive's Office and is currently awaiting a response from the County Executive and the Mayor of the City of Annapolis.

Spencer wishes to make recommendations to the County Executive and the City of Annapolis Mayor. Curran and Riegel suggested that any interested parties contact the correct office and express interest in SRC membership. Vlavianos requested a vote on the matter of recommending new SRC members to the County Executive and the City of Annapolis Mayor. Spencer stated that a vote was not necessary.

OLD BUSINESS

SRC Enabling Legislation/Bylaws

Vlavianos requested that this item be removed from the agenda until new members have been appointed to the SRC.

Website

Curran will review the SRC web site within the next week. Curran will also contact Dr. Andrew Muller regarding his comments on the SRC web site. Hornor stated that language on the SRC web site came from an informational booklet released by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the 1970's.

Oyster Restoration Activities

There was nothing new to report.

Annapolis / Annapolis Marine Water Quality

There was nothing new to report.

Stormwater Management on Severn Run

Because no response has been received from DNR to the SRC's letter of June 2014, Whitcomb will draft a follow up letter requesting a response. Spencer suggested sending a tracer letter to DNR as soon as possible. Whitcomb will follow up with a draft letter to DNR.

Jabez / SHA

Curran will contact Rob Shreeve about equipment needed for the Jabez Stakeholder Meeting. Spencer will follow up with Charlotte Lubbert regarding receiving a final draft report from Stantec. Spencer also noted that it was not necessary for Stantec to present to the SRC at the beginning of March 2015, as the Jabez Stakeholder Meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2015, and will inform Shreeve to that effect.

Severn Water Quality Monitoring

Hornor said that Dr. Muller has plans for monitoring water quality on the Severn River if funding is available, and Operation Clearwater will continue operations. Vlavianos requested that this item be removed from the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Whitcomb noted that Trash Free Maryland, a lobbying group, will be concentrating on the ban on plastic bags, enforcement on litter & commercial dumping, and a ban on micro-beads in personal care products. Whitcomb also mentioned legislation that may be potentially introduced that the SRC could take a position on over the next 25 days. Vlavianos confirmed that the SRC has an interest in the work of Trash Free Maryland in the future.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room (4th Floor), 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Spencer
AACounty DPW, Bureau of Engineering
Watershed Protection & Restoration Program