

**MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE FOR ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
DRAFT MINUTES**

Meeting Type: **Members Meeting**
 Meeting Location: **Rochester DPW**
209 Chestnut Hill Road, Rochester NH

Remote Location:
Register in advance for this meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvceqqrDsjHtLKP29uPEb80AqtrpOPiofv>

Meeting Date: **August 15, 2024**
 Meeting Time: **1:00 pm**

A quorum of Members will be in person, but for those interested in participating remotely please register at the above link.

Meeting was not publicly noticed correctly, no votes were taken. For the record meeting minutes have been recorded.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to Order at 1:00 p.m.

Members:

Town/City	Representative	Present
Dover	John Storer Community Service Director	Yes
Portsmouth	Jamie McCarty GIS/Stormwater Manager	Yes
Rochester	Gretchen Young Deputy Director of Public Works	Yes
Exeter	Paul Vlasich Town Engineer	No
Newington	Aerial Write Plant Operator	Yes
Milton	Billy Walden Public Works Director	Yes
Epping	Jake Roger Town Administrator	Yes

Non-Members:

Sally Soule, NH DES
 Tom Swenson, NH DES
 Brian Goetz, City of Portsmouth
 Renee Bourdeau, Geosyntec Consultants
 Jamie Houle, UNH SWC
 Jim Steinkrauss, Esq., Rath, Young and Pignatelli
 Kalle Matso, PREP
 Melissa Paly, CLF
 Stacy Villanueva, Brown and Caldwell
 Danielle Gaito, EPA Region 1

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Josh Wyatt, Dover City Attorney
Garrison Beck, VHB

2. Approval of minutes of June 6, 2024, meeting

Not reviewed due to non-meeting

3. Update on Maine Total Nitrogen Regulations – Daniel Gato from EPA

Item was moved up in agenda. Gato’s audio was not working. Young shared that EPA is not the governing entity in Maine, however, EPA is working closely with Maine DEP to develop permits for communities discharging to the Great Bay. Paly shared that Maine DEP issued 4 draft permits for North Berwick, Berwick, South Berwick, and Kittery. The only facility over 2MGD is Kittery. Comment period ended earlier in the Summer, and Maine DEP is attending to comments and expects to issue permits later in the calendar year.

4. Adaptive Management Plan Revision discussion: Discussion led by chair with assistance from Brown & Caldwell and other project partners (MAAM technical advisor)

Young stated that the initial Adaptive Management Plan was developed in year 1, but that not much has changed sense the first year. This year the hope is to make updates and clearly outline the work that has been completed and what next steps are. Young noted that much of the data that has been collected has not been formally put into a report, and that recommendations have not been generated, therefore it is likely that this year’s Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) will not be substantially modified.

Young confirmed that Epping will be included in this years AMP.

Young outlined AMP submission deadline. The settlement agreement dictates that the AMP be submitted in September. Young recommends all discussed revisions be submitted to her by September 12th, a draft of the AMP will be distributed by September 19th, and she recommends that MAAM hold another meeting on September 26th to approve final AMP.

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- a. General approach and implementation of Adaptations to the plan**
 - i. Background and general updated needed. Funding proposal to do the work.**

Young proposed substituting the background section with a summary of AMP update that had been distributed prior to meeting. No one had comments, this modification will be included in the draft AMP.

- b. Sections A, D and E (monitoring, research and development of TN thresholds)**

Section A: Villanueva was present to lead discussion around monitoring. She recommended revision changes to the list of studies, recent funding, project details including projected timelines, updating trends, and 4-point indicator survey with dash board charts regardless of the skewed data view. Recommends adding an Appendix outlining the work that MAAM has funded. Matso stated that PREP agrees with these recommendations. Villanueva stated that there are recommendations to revise data analysis approaches moving forward.

Section D: Villanueva recommends modifications to the discussion about translation between concentrations and loads, and start laying groundwork for the discussion of the next permit cycle. She recommends adding focused comments on the work that has been done and that can be achieved on the point source and non-point source loads. She suggests tying this in with the opportunity to have collaboration with regulators and outlining what responsibilities. Swenson noted that NHDES has been discussing ideas around setting thresholds and would be interested in collaborating.

Section E: Young noted that NHDES has shared that they are not currently looking towards a TMDL, and recommends continuing with the voluntary improvements. Villanueva recommends updating section to highlight the work done to date and the need for collaboration in discussing next steps with NHDES.

- c. Section B (PTAP)**

UNH Stormwater Center recommends updates to include some of the additional advances that were made, such as the non-structural controls. There is now a dashboard that shows all of the community progress. This data will continue to

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become more accurate as communities input data. EPA is working with UNHSC to look at larger land change data.

d. Section C (Source Reductions)

Individual communities will need to update their plans. The plan needs to be understandable to the community even if it is not in a set format that easily compares across communities.

5. Other business updates

none

6. Stake Holder Comments:

Paly appreciates communities taking stock of how this permit is being implemented and see all the progress that is being made. Creating infrastructure to figure out how to measure and track and demonstrate impact. Props to the group for achievements.

Paly stated that through settlement agreement CLF is continuing to look at different options for a \$45,000 Piolet Project. It has been difficult to advance projects.

Paly asked about status of MAAM website with publicly accessible dashboards. Young stated that PTAP dashboard can be shared on the existing MAAM website which will meet the settlement agreement requirements. Young cautioned that that the dashboard will show a work in progress rather than an actual snapshot of community progress. Houle noted that the trendline can be used to motivate communities to participate in the PTAP program.

Paly noted that CLF has entered comments on the Maine DEP wastewater permit.

7. Public Comments

a. Limited to 5 minutes per speaker none

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8. Other Business

9. Schedule next meeting and agenda items (September: AMP approval and submission)

- a. Deadline Sept 12th for all updates to be provided to Gretchen**
- b. Sept 26th meeting at 1:00 at Rochester DPW**

10. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 02:00 PM

Prepared by: Michelle Williams Administrative Assistant, City of Rochester