

DRAFT FINAL PEARCE CREEK IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
October 20, 2017 10:00 AM
90B North Center Street
Cecilton, MD 21919

Attendees:

AECOM: Chris Rogers

Bay View Estates (BVE) Residents: Dave Heacock, Joy Heacock, Steve Zawatski, Bill Haines, Norine Haines, Bob Fitzner, Wilma Fitzner, George Hansell

Cecil County Planning & Zoning: Tony DiGiacomo

Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE): Elder Ghigiarelli, Ginny Kearney

Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Christine Holmburg, Kristen Keene

Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA): Kristen Fidler, Chris Correale, Alex Shull

Representative Andy Harris's Office: Mary O'Keefe

Senator Chris Van Hollen's Office: Melissa Kelly

Sunset Pointe: Kathy McDonough

Town of Cecilton: Mary Cooper, Mayor Joe Zang

US Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District (CENAP): Gavin Kaiser

West View Shores (WVS) Residents: Diane English, Marion Bowman, Eddie Lavin

1.0 Welcome & Introductions

Kristen Fidler, Chair

Ms. Fidler welcomed the attendees to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

2.0 Summary Approval

Committee Members

The Pearce Creek Implementation Committee (PCIC) members reviewed the draft August 2017 meeting summary and it was approved as written; the summary will be posted as final on the Pearce Creek outreach website (www.pearcecreekoutreach.com).

3.0 Philadelphia District Corps (CENAP) Update

Gavin Kaiser, CENAP

Groundwater Monitoring Plan Update

Mr. Kaiser stated that the liner installation is complete and the US Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District (CENAP) is preparing for inflow; the site should be fully functional by mid-November. Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company has been awarded the \$9.2 million contract which will dredge approximately 650,000 cubic yards from the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal southern approach channel. The dredging schedule is not available yet but CENAP will keep residents up to date on any developments. Mr. Kaiser added that the groundwater monitoring results from 2016 have been posted on the Pearce Creek Outreach website.

DMCF Operations Presentation

Mr. Kaiser played a video which showed what occurs during inflow, and the expected noise level which is drastically lessened outside of the Dredged Material Containment Facility (DMCF) berm. Mr. Kaiser assured the residents that there is low noise associated with inflow operations.

Mr. Kaiser explained the steps involved in surface water discharge from the DMCF. First, the excess water will leave the DMCF through the sluice box and subsequently enter a detention basin which is

intended to help reduce the flow and velocity of the water leaving the site. Next, the water will travel through a vegetated, low slope channel which empties into a stream and will travel about 2,500 feet before entering Pearce Creek Lake. The Pearce Creek DMCF is a robust system which was designed to prevent scouring of the lake; concerns regarding scouring of the lake are unwarranted.

Mr. Kaiser explained that the sluice box is designed to remove suspended solids from the water before discharge. As water and sediment increases within the site, the height of the boards on the sluice box will increase as well. Mr. Hansell asked about the expected flow rate. Mr. Kaiser stated that the flow rate can differ depending on a variety of variables (i.e. inflow rate and suspended solids). Mr. Kaiser also reiterated that the discharge is sent to a detention basin before it is released to a vegetated channel leading to the lake; the DMCF and discharge area were designed for maximum flow and to prevent scouring.

Mr. Hansell asked how the dredged material would be transported to the DMCF. Mr. Kaiser explained that the sediment is mechanically dredged, using a bucket, and then dumped into a scow; a spider barge is then used to pump the material from the scow into the DMCF. The spider barge will be removed once the job is complete. The dredging equipment can be present any time during the dredging window from October 1st through March 31st; inflow will also take place within the dredging window. After dredging, the dredging contractor will demobilize and remove the equipment. Ms. Fidler asked how long the dredging would take. Mr. Kaiser replied that two months is the estimated length of time for a dredging event. Ms. Correale asked if there were any requirements if the pipes were left after dredging was completed. Mr. Kaiser replied that coordination would occur with the US Coast Guard to mark the location of the pipes for boating safety. Mr. Kaiser noted that the scow will not be placed in the shipping channel. Once the site is deemed safe for visitors, a public walkthrough will be offered to the residents.

4.0 Discharge Monitoring Plan Update

Elder Ghigiarelli, MDE

Mr. Ghigiarelli stated that the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) reviewed and approved the CENAP Discharge Monitoring Plan. There were some citizen concerns regarding the monitoring location of the discharge due to the figures in the 2015 CENAP Environmental Assessment Report, which denoted the Dredged Material Containment Area to include the Pearce Creek Lake. Mr. Ghigiarelli clarified that only the DMCF diked area would receive dredged material. Another citizen concern mentioned potential scouring of Pearce Creek Lake by the discharge waters from the DMCF. MDE believes, due to the detention basin and the length of the grassy swale in which the water must travel, the discharge will not be sufficient to scour the lake.

The discharge location is designated at the point at which the discharge leaves the facility. There was a recommendation that the monitoring occur both where the discharge leaves the facility and also at the weir between Pearce Creek Lake and Elk River. MDE does not agree with this recommendation because there are influences of other non-point source inputs from the surrounding area not related to the DMCF and monitoring at the weir would not provide an accurate depiction of the constituents in the DMCF discharge. The Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) will continue the voluntary exterior monitoring program which will be able to provide data to compare with the discharge monitoring data. Regarding a contingency for noncompliance, Mr. Ghigiarelli stated that the Water Quality Certification (WQC) states that if the monitoring indicates noncompliance the CENAP must stop discharge, contact MDE, and ensure compliance before discharge

can resume. A resident suggested a visual aid which indicates the different forms of monitoring and regulatory requirements. Mr. Ghigiarelli stated that current dewatering efforts on-site are removing rainwater which has been approved as part of the plans to reactivate the site. CENAP has approval to discharge rainwater prior to the placement of material.

The duration of the WQC was initially a 2-year certification. CENAP requested an extension due to reactivation delays, which was approved by MDE since there had been no changes. The WQC will expire in March 2018 and CENAP will have to reapply for a renewal; MDE will put out a public notice regarding the renewal which allows citizens the ability to comment on the reissuance. Mr. Hansell asked how long the extension length would be. Mr. Ghigiarelli replied that, in the past, renewals are generally limited to an annual basis. Mr. Hansell recommended a one year renewal since there will be a limited amount of discharge monitoring data available at the time of renewal.

5.0 Drinking Water Line Planning Progress

Chris Rogers, AECOM

Water System Construction Updates

Mr. Rogers stated that both the distribution main and transmission main projects are in the punch list stage. The distribution main passed all potability testing on September 8th. The Town of Cecilton is responsible for the operation of the Distribution Main, which is being managed by a licensed operator. Flushing is still occurring to keep the water fresh and maintain appropriate chlorine residuals levels. A resident asked if the chlorine in the water would be reduced. Mr. Rogers replied that currently there are some minor chlorine residual spikes but when everyone is hooked-up, the chlorine levels will normalize. Mr. Heacock asked if any wells have been decommissioned. Mr. Rogers replied that the third phase of on-lot work, or well abandonment, has not begun. AECOM has submitted a request to Reybold for the well abandonment schedule. The first well abandonment will occur at the home that was rebuilt to allow for occupancy per a requirement of the Cecil County Health Department. A resident asked how many residents have refused to connect to the water system and Mr. Rogers replied six. Another resident asked how long until everyone is hooked-up to the system. Mr. Rogers stated that the one-year contract, which was set in April, is anticipated to be extended due to initial setbacks from potability and scheduling availability of those who live elsewhere in the winter.

Status of In-home Connections

As of the meeting date, AECOM has received 112 plumbing permits; 110 exterior installations have been completed (primarily in Bay View Estates) with about 30 exterior connections made in West View Shores; and 36 interior connections made, most from special requests (i.e. failing well pumps). Mr. Rogers noted that the in-home connections have been going smoothly. Reybold has been installing the service lines and terminating them near the connection to the well line. When the in-home work takes place, Reybold and the plumber uncover the well line, connect the service line to the well line, and complete the interior plumbing. To complete the interior connection, the plumber disconnects all water treatment system components and installs the expansion tank, shut-off valve, and the pressure reducing valve.

Access Agreements

A reminder regarding the MDOT MPA funding window expiration was sent to residents who have not contacted AECOM for an inspection or have refused to connect to the water system. Additionally, five access agreements are missing from homes that were inspected. Mr. Rogers added that there are five pending inspections.

6.0 MPA Updates

Kristen Fidler, MPA

Hook-up Funding Expiration

Ms. Fidler stated that the punch list phase has begun for the transmission and distribution main projects, which was triggered by the in-service date for the water system on September 8th. The September 8, 2017 date serves as the beginning of the 1-year funding window. As mentioned by Mr. Rogers, a second letter regarding the funding window was sent to those residents who have not completed an inspection and those who had refused access. Ms. Fidler reminded the PCIC that bottled water delivery will end when MDOT MPA funding ends for hook-ups, September 8th, 2018. Ms. English commented that the water delivery has been exceptional.

Exterior Monitoring Update

Ms. Fidler stated that the final baseline monitoring event, spring 2017, has been completed and results will be presented at the December meeting. Ms. Keene stated that the initial post-baseline monitoring event will occur in spring 2018; this will be the first exterior monitoring event after the DMCF is operational.

DMMP Annual Meeting

Ms. Fidler stated that the Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) annual meeting will be held Friday November 3rd at 10 am in Baltimore; pastries and coffee will be served. The DMMP annual meeting is for all the committees involved in the dredging program, which includes the PCIC. Topics to be discussed at the annual meeting involve the Port of Baltimore and the overall dredging program, including innovative reuse and beneficial use.

Elected Official Outreach

Ms. Fidler stated that the Port of Baltimore hosted Alan McCarthy, County Executive for Cecil County, in September for a full tour of the marine terminals and dredging overview. A Pearce Creek update meeting for elected officials will be held in November or December to showcase the operations of the DMCF.

7.0 Citizen Comments

Community Representatives

Feedback from the Community Members

Mr. Zawatski requested that the laydown area in Bay View Estates be tidied up and maintained better; Mr. Rogers will communicate the request to the contractor. Mr. Haines stated, regarding the roads, that he has been in contact with the Cecil County Roads Department and read the email response from them: "The grading permit (201623154) was actually issued to Reybold Construction and was approved for the work shown on the approved water distribution system plans. As mentioned by Mr. Haines the disturbance was limited to the water distribution system (approximately 5'-10' on either side of the waterline). Additional roadway pavement that is placed without any disturbance or as a mill and overlay process, would not require additional permitting. Stormwater Management and Erosion & Sediment Control Plan review and approval is required for additional disturbance greater than 5,000 square feet or 100 cubic yards of earthwork". Mr. Haines stated that Reybold went far beyond 5,000 square feet of disturbance. Also, the community was supposed to review and either agree or disagree with the plan considering they are private roads. Bay View Estates is requesting that Reybold supply a reconstruction plan as needed so the roads conform to the original requirements. Mr. Rogers stated that the County did not notify AECOM or Reybold that they were out of compliance with the Stormwater Management Plan

and the Town has no plans to direct Reybold to provide a reconstruction plan. Mayor Zang stated that the Town needs notification from the County; Mayor Zang will coordinate with the County.

Mr. Heacock asked if the fire hydrants were available for use by the fire department and if the fire companies have been notified. Mr. Rogers replied that the Town sent a letter to the Cecilton Fire Chief regarding the status of the fire hydrants and the approximate flow to be anticipated; the Town is waiting for official acknowledgement. The Fire Chief is working on a letter regarding the fire hydrants and how they will be used (the fire hydrants are rated for filling tanker trucks only). Mr. Heacock stated that beginning in late July and through the fall there have been numerous mosquitoes which have been very aggressive. The DMCF and flushing of the hydrants may be a cause of the increase in mosquito populations. Mr. Heacock suggested the development of a spraying program for next year. Mr. Kaiser stated that it is imperative that all three communities spray for mosquitoes and that new construction work and dewatering is ongoing to minimize the ponding, and discussions will be held in the future regarding ponding management. CENAP has spent a lot of time regrading and re-evaluating the stormwater management plan to minimize ponding. Mr. Haines stated that formerly, fly-overs were conducted at the DMCF to manage mosquito populations. A resident from WVS stated that they were happy with the construction and contractor, and that the mosquitoes were no worse than last year.

Mr. Zawatski asked for clarification regarding the fire hydrants. Mr. Rogers stated that the Fire Chief is determining the appropriate acknowledgement and will let other nearby fire departments know that the fire hydrants are available for use. Mr. Rogers stated that the fire hydrants were correctly colored for their use type (i.e. can only fill tanker trucks). Ms. English stated that some of the fire hydrants still have green trash bags over them; Mr. Rogers stated that all fire hydrants are fully functioning and will investigate why some still have trash bags on them.

Future Meeting Discussions

The next PCIC meeting will be held Friday, December 15, 2017 at 10 am.
Snow date: January 12, 2018

Kristen Fidler, MPA

Adjourn - Noon

Kristen Fidler, Chair