

DRAFT FINAL PEARCE CREEK IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
December 15, 2017 10:00 AM
90B North Center Street
Cecilton, MD 21919

Attendees:

AECOM: Chris Rogers

Bay View Estates (BVE) Residents: Dave Heacock, Joy Heacock, Bill Haines, Norine Haines,
George Hansell, Ralph Shrom

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

Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Christine Holmburg

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

Town of Cecilton: Mary Cooper, Mayor Joe Zang, Kim Roland

West View Shores (WVS) Residents: Valerie Woodruff, Marion Bowman, Eddie Lavin, Bebe Lavin

1.0 Welcome & Introductions

Kristen Keene, Chair

Ms. Keene 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 October 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

Kristen Keene, On behalf of CENAP

Dredging Schedule and DMCF Inflow

On behalf of the US Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District (CENAP), Ms. Keene provided an update on the dredging schedule and Dredged Material Containment Facility (DMCF) inflow in Mr. Kaiser's absence. Mr. Kaiser is assisting with the hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico to restore electricity. Despite his temporary absence, Pearce Creek team members will continue to coordinate with CENAP to provide progress updates on the dredging project.

Ms. Keene stated that CENAP awarded a \$9.2 million dredging contract to Great Lakes Dredging and Dock Company. Dredging began December 1 in the Elk River near the Pearce Creek DMCF and is expected to be completed mid-January 2018. The US Coast Guard (USCG) has released a Local Notice to Mariners for the dredging work, which is being conducted in the channel, and the floating pipeline has been marked in accordance with USCG standards. The contractor recently had engine trouble with the offloader and is expected to be down until December 16, 2017; once the offloader is running again, both bucket dredges will continue operations. As stated previously, no visitors are permitted onto the DMCF site for safety of the visitors themselves, as well as the workers. The CENAP is continuing to follow the Discharge Monitoring Plan, which was approved by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). A site tour will be scheduled when Mr. Kaiser returns from the relief trip.

Ms. Keene reviewed photos that were taken of the current dredging operation. The photos showed the offloader and pipe to the Pearce Creek DMCF; Ms. Keene pointed out the buoys marking the floating pipeline. There were also photos of the material inflow into the DMCF; Ms. Keene noted that a

membrane was placed underneath the pipe prior to the dredging operation to further protect the DMCF liner. Ms. Kearney asked how many cubic yards were being placed at the DMCF, and the depth of the newly placed dredged material inside the DMCF. Ms. Keene replied that she will follow up with CENAP for more information (*Update: Approximately 650,000 cubic yards will be placed at the Pearce Creek DMCF. Understanding the depth of the newly placed material is challenging since the material will not be uniformly deposited on the bottom of the DMCF considering the DMCF is internally sloped towards the sluice box and the heavier material will settle out.*) Ms. Correale stated that at the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) sites, once the dredging is completed, surveys are conducted within the site to determine the amount of material that is present. This information also helps determine how much air volume is left in the DMCF as the dredged material consolidates. Mr. Hansell asked if the site is kept dry during the off-season. Ms. Correale replied that MDOT MPA attempts to keep their sites dry as it aids crust management (i.e. dewatering, drying, and consolidation process), but precipitation makes it difficult. Mr. Shrom asked if the CENAP used the dredged material for any other projects. Ms. Correale stated that the material can be used for other activities; for instance, the CENAP has other sites with sandier material that is used for other purposes. In August 2017, MDE published new regulatory guidance which would allow material to be removed from the Pearce Creek DMCF and be used for innovative reuses, this would require significant testing that is screened against the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regional screening level criteria. MDOT MPA does not know of any plans by the CENAP to use the material in any other applications.

Mr. Hansell asked if this year's dredging program would be finished by mid-January 2018. Ms. Keene replied that the dredging of the Elk River Range is scheduled to be completed this January, which will conclude the current cycle of dredging. Ms. Correale stated that typically a contract is awarded at the end of the federal fiscal year (September 30); the work would then begin after October 1, 2018 and extend into 2019. Ms. Woodruff stated that there was activity before December 1st. Ms. Keene stated that the activity was likely the equipment mobilization efforts, but will follow up with the CENAP (*Update: Dredging operations in the Elk River Range began on December 1, 2017.*)

4.0 Drinking Water Line Planning Progress

**Chris Rogers, AECOM
Mayor Zang, Town of Cecilton**

Water System Construction Updates

Mr. Rogers stated that the Transmission Main and Distribution System projects are essentially complete. The final completion certification is expected to be issued by the end of the year.

Status of In-home Connections

As of December 15th, the contractor has completed 158 exterior installations, 95 interior connections, and 40 well abandonments. The work has been going smoothly and the plumber has been adapting to the unique situations that each home provides. Regarding the lay-down storage area in Bay View Estates (BVE), Reybold has been directed to tidy up the area. All the material present in the lay-down area is required for the on-lot work, and the space is being utilized properly. Since in-home connections are still being made, the regular flushing regime continues to maintain water quality. Ms. Woodruff asked if flushing would still need to occur, but at a lesser rate, once all of the homes are connected; Mr. Rogers replied that infrequent flushing could still occur. Ms. Haines stated that at times the water pressure is very low and asked why there were pressure changes. Mr. Rogers stated that there should not be wide fluctuations in water pressure; however fluctuations are likely caused by the flushing

activities, which can result in a decrease in pressure. Once the flushing regime slows down or stops, the water pressure will stabilize.

Water System Tour

Ms. Cooper stated that after receiving feedback from the residents, the Town of Cecilton will hold a tour of the water treatment facility, which can be scheduled sometime after mid-January. Ms. Cooper requested interested parties to call or email the Town of Cecilton with dates for availability.

Water & Fire Hydrant Billing

Ms. Cooper stated that Kim Roland (410-275-2692; kroland@ceciltonmd.gov) will be the point of contact for all water and fire hydrant billing needs/questions. Mr. Lavin inquired about the letter from the Cecilton Fire Department Fire Chief, as it is being required by homeowner's insurance companies in order to obtain a discount. Mayor Zang stated that a letter from the Fire Chief is available at Town Hall. Ms. Keene stated that the letter will also be available on the Pearce Creek outreach website and a hardcopy will be included with the first billing statement in January. Ms. Woodruff stated that the hydrants can be paid for all at once as opposed to monthly installments and recommended that the Town of Cecilton notify residents of that option. Ms. Cooper stated that the Town of Cecilton will include a newsletter with the first billing statement, which will contain information regarding hydrant payment options.

5.0 MPA Updates

Kristen Keene, MPA

Exterior Monitoring Update

Ms. Keene stated that the spring 2017 exterior monitoring results and reporting information is being finalized and will be provided to the PCIC at the February 2018 meeting. Ms. Keene explained that the Pearce Creek Exterior Monitoring Program is a voluntary effort conducted by MDOT MPA. The monitoring program includes the collection of sediment and water quality data, as well as benthic community (i.e. bottom-dwelling organisms) samples in the Pearce Creek Lake and Elk River, to evaluate existing baseline environmental conditions surrounding the DMCF. Two years of baseline data have been collected and the initial post-baseline monitoring event will be conducted in spring 2018, and the data will be evaluated to determine if there are any trends or changes in the environmental conditions.

DMMP Outreach

Ms. Keene stated that the Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) is a State program, which was set in statute in 2001 and includes a rolling 20-year plan outlining the management of the State's dredging requirements. The two primary requirements of the DMMP include: 1) the need to regularly remove material from the Port of Baltimore's shipping channels; and 2) ensuring adequate placement capacity for dredged material or alternative management solutions, such as reuse. MDOT MPA is fortunate to have a very active and engaged constituency of DMMP advisory committees and stakeholders to help ensure the sustainability of the DMMP program. The PCIC serves as one of the committees that contribute to the long-term sustainable planning for dredged material management solutions.

The DMMP annual meeting was held on November 3, 2017 and over 100 advisory committee members and interested citizens attended. The annual meeting is part of an ongoing effort by MDOT MPA to engage the public, especially those communities near port facilities, in the DMMP process. The keynote

speaker for the DMMP annual meeting was Colonel Edward P. Chamberlayne from the US Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District. The 2017 DMMP highlights and accomplishments were reviewed with the attendees, and the 2017 DMMP Annual Report is available on the Pearce Creek outreach website in the Related Information section. The Pearce Creek project is included as one of the DMMP Annual Report recommendations, which states: "Maintain the schedule for the reopening of the Pearce Creek DMCF, currently expected during the fall/winter 2017, and the installation of a new drinking water supply system for nearby residents, currently expected by the end of May 2018. Continue to provide timely and transparent information to project partners and community residents throughout project development."

Funding Expiration Reminder

Ms. Keene reminded the PCIC that September 8, 2017 was the official in-service date for the water system (when the waterlines were potable), and serves as the beginning of the 1-year funding window. Therefore, any dwellings that existed as of December 31, 2013 are eligible for MDOT MPA funding for connection to the water system until the funding expiration on September 8, 2018. Additionally, the CENAP-funded bottled water delivery service will also end on September 8, 2018 for those residents who are not connected to the waterline. Residents who wish to continue receiving bottled water via Eastern Shore Coffee and Water Company after connection to the public water system can contact Sarah Chandler (410-749-4494 or sarah@easternshorecoffee.com).

6.0 Citizen Comments

Community Representatives

Feedback from the Community Members

Mr. Haines stated that since the BVE community has private roads, the community was supposed to sign the plans and the grading permit, but that has not happened. Mr. Haines went to the County and a signed copy of the grading permit cannot be located. Mr. Haines stated his belief that the roads were destroyed in BVE without a signed contract and without BVE consent. An Agreement between the Town of Cecilton and BVE stated the following in regard to the private roads: "Grantee shall, as a continuing condition to use said easement, promptly replace and restore as nearly as practicable to its immediately preceding condition. Such portion of the surface of the grantors property whether improved or unimproved may be disturbed by activities of the grantee in the course of implementing and using the easement hereby granted". BVE expects Cecilton to step in and replace the roads to the previous conditions. Mr. Haines also requested to see a signed grading permit.

Mr. Rogers stated that an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan was signed/approved by the County, but is unsure about the status of the grading permit. Mr. Haines stated that the grading plans were not followed per what was submitted. Mayor Zang stated that the Town of Cecilton has not received notice for being out of compliance, and the County has no record of any issues with the grading plan or the roads. Mr. Haines stated that his contact with Cecil County, Kordell Wilen, has stated that the contractor needed to stay within 5-10 feet of the pipeline trench, which was not done. The contractor did not have a permit to disturb 140,000 square feet of road. Mr. Rogers stated that the Town of Cecilton cannot take any action until it receives written notice from the County regarding a violation. Mayor Zang stated that he will contact Kordell Wilen to discuss further.

Ms. Woodruff stated that West View Shores has been happy with all the work, including the roads, being conducted and that there have been no issues.

Future Meeting Discussions

The next PCIC meeting will be held Friday, February 16, 2018 at 10 am.

Snow date: February 23, 2018

Kristen Keene, MPA

2018 Meeting Schedule:

- April 20, 2018
- June 15, 2018
- August 17, 2018
- October 19, 2018
- December 21, 2018

Adjourn - Noon

Kristen Keene, Chair