SP CURE Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 – 9:00 am

Meeting Location:
Virtual Meeting

March Meeting Summary

High Level Take-Aways

- The biosolids sampling was removed from the draft PFAS legislation. The draft bill will be released in the next few weeks.
- The April meeting will be a joint Board and Monitoring Committee meeting to continue our conversation on partnerships.
- SP CURE members value stakeholder discussion at the Water Quality Forum. Without discussion, various members are not interested in participating or supporting the event.

Action Items

- BC will coordinate meetings with Jim, Jordan, and Ben to initiate the Chlorophyll-a draft proposal.
- BC will coordinate the Confluence at the Confluence planning meetings to kick off in April.
- BC will research tax e-filing options and CPA costs - to be presented at the May board meeting.
- Sarah will provide SP CURE member feedback to the Water Quality Forum.

1. **Discussion and Approval of February Meeting Summary**

   Sherry Scaggiari made a motion to approve the February SP CURE Board Meeting Summary with an edit to the PFAS legislation as a "draft long bill." Julie Tinetti seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. **Chlorophyll-*a* WQF Workgroup Draft Proposal**

   Jim discussed chlorophyll-*a* with Aimee Konowal at the Division. The Division will be implementing chlorophyll-*a* with the nutrient criteria. There is the possibility that TMDLs will occur prior to 2027.

   Sherry mentioned that Aurora's Sand Creek permit listed an incomplete TMDL, so it is possible that there are more TMDLs in process that we are not aware of.

   SP CURE is interested in hearing more about 303(d) and TMDLs from the Division. The WQF could be a good venue for hearing an update on this and should be brought up at the WQF retreat this summer to get it on the agenda for next year.

Jim, Jordan, and Ben will help with the Workgroup Draft Proposal. Sarah will email dates to the group to schedule two calls to collaborate on a proposal.

3. Draft PFAS Legislation

This is an ongoing topic that will appear on our agenda. Julie provided an update on stakeholders meeting with Conservation Colorado regarding the bill. The biosolids sampling was removed from the bill, in addition to a few others such as ski wax and exemptions for firefighting foam and commercial kitchens. The bill is set to be introduced in the next two weeks, and they are hopeful this will not be included in the bill. Sherry mentioned that only pieces of language have been reviewed, and we will have to review the bill in full before deciding whether or not to support it. The purpose of the bill is source control rather than focusing on water or wastewater treatment.

Dan mentioned a WEF article regarding banning biosolids in Maine. The topic of biosolids is in the forefront for some environmental groups.

4. Confluence at the Confluence Planning

The December virtual event was regarding Harmful Algal Blooms. Sarah opened the discussion to brainstorm on potential topics for this year's event. In the past, events have been educational and included collaboration/working sessions.

- TMDLs and 303(d) Listing – understanding how to gather data and set limits
- PFAS and biosolids
- PFAS – hot topic*
- Data evaluation – understanding what data mean
- Data sharing and storage – this topic was never resolved from 2019
- Habitat projects on South Platte or stream improvement projects – water quality related results and general updates, Mile High Flood District
- Bear Creek reallocation project – proposed project to increase storage
- Water resources update – CWCB and South Platte
    - Chatfield Reallocation Project update
    - Proposed reservoirs on Lower South Platte River (SPROWG and Parker)
    - Water 22 Campaign and Colorado Water Plan Update
- Source water protection planning – education and outreach
- Salinity issues

The following SP CURE members have volunteered to help with this year's planning: Sherry (or delegate), Curt, Dan, and Julie. The planning will kick off in April. Beth will coordinate with Erin and Jake to get the meetings scheduled with a kickoff in April.

5. SP CURE Taxes – E-filing Options

Starting this year, SP CURE is required to file taxes electronically. There are two options moving forward, paying a certified public accountant or e-filing service. The group consensus is that Brown and Caldwell will continue to do the taxes and pay an e-file service. The e-file service will cost about $50 - $100. Beth will collect quotes from CPAs for comparison and

focus on e-file service selection. Christine is interested in how the e-filing portal will work logistically (how to enter data, add signature, etc.). This will be added to the May agenda.

6. **Discuss Project Updates**
   a. **Colorado Monitoring Framework** – CMF is planning the next all-member meeting which will be in-person in middle to late May. CMF members will receive a meeting invitation shortly. The temperature task force in engaged with the temperature working group focused on updating Water Quality Policy 23, and Erin is working to schedule a Nutrient Task force meeting to discuss next steps for Chl-a analysis. Sarah is coordinating the next PFAS meeting to develop an approach to the PFAS in biosolids regulations/discussions that are eminent.
   b. **CWQMC/CDSN –** The DSN is doing their annual data call for Regulation 85/nutrient data which must be uploaded by April 1.
   c. **BMW TMDL** – BMW is discussing how and when to update the watershed model, and the group is opening to partnering on their modeling. Understanding baseline conditions is a hurdle. Thus, determining 20% percent reduction is an estimate and not very accurate. The group discussed the P-Free Fertilizer Coalition. The next meeting is scheduled for March 22nd.
   d. **Monitoring Committee** – The committee met in February and heard a presentation from Dr. Annika Mosier from CU Denver who works out of the environmental science department and focuses her research on microbial biology in freshwater systems. She's specifically interested in how different environmental stressors impact critical processes of these organisms. She is also interested in sequencing the genome of different types of microbes to see, for example, whether a certain organisms may be more resistant to metals exposure. She is interested in collaborating in the future if there are overlapping interests.

      The committee also talked about the non-detect/overlapping data issues with the arsenic analysis. We are going to work to pull together a data descriptions and target a specific period of record where we have data above the MDL where we can draw some conclusions.

      The board agreed to holding a joint meeting in April to continue the partnership discussion.

   e. **SP CURE Website Update** – Beth contacted Ches Arms to contract the maintenance package. He is currently out of the office, and we will contract our maintenance package upon his return.

7. **Budget Update**

   Budget is on track and there are no unplanned expenses.

   SP CURE 2022–2023 membership dues were emailed out last week. Please reach out to Sarah or Beth with any questions.

8. **Other Topics and Announcements**

Maternity leave – Beth will be on maternity leave starting in April through August, and Erin Donnelly will cover her SP CURE duties.

Water Quality Forum – There are concerns about the general stakeholder process of the WQF. The use-protected status decisions are going to re-heard by the Commission. There is interest in hearing more from those proposing the changes, and the forum has decided not to allow other stakeholders to speak.

Sherry recently started participating in WQF, and it's unclear whether the group's purpose is to report out on information or support collaboration and discussion on issues. If there is no discussion, the meeting is repetitive of the road map meetings, and Aurora will withdraw their participation. Julie mentioned that the moderator should be impartial and capable of coordinating stakeholder conversation and discussion.

Christine and Sarah serve on the steering committee, and Lisa (moderator) is taking direction from the Division. The WQF originally was started to prepare stakeholders prior to Commission meetings to reduce time spent on Commission hearings. Thus, the Commission runs the forum. And as a result, Lisa receives direction from the Division and Commission.

There is concern that only hearing one perspective will skew Commission attendees' perception of the issues. Metro is considering withdrawing funding if this is the case.

Sarah will follow up with WQF steering committee to share this feedback. SP CURE members agree that stakeholder conversations are important and useful.

Cherokee Plant Update – Xcel Energy's compliance plan for various constituents could not be met with existing treatment. Xcel researched options and ended up with a ZLD system that was constructed last year and initiated service in December/January. There are start up issues, and discharge has been limited since initiating the new system. The overall intent is to have zero discharge and reuse water. There is risk of reuse water reservoir overspill, so they will keep their permit in the meantime.

9. Next Meeting Dates

April 19, 2022 – Virtual – Joint Meeting
May 17, 2022 – Virtual (revisit Antideg issue)
June 21, 2022 – Virtual

SP CURE Board Meeting: March 15, 2022
Attendance Record

Present	Name	Organization
	Juliana Archuleta	Adams County
✓*	Sherry Scaggiari	Aurora Water
	Zachary Trabold	Aurora Water
✓*	Julie Tinetti	Centennial W&S
	Alan Polonsky	City and County of Denver
✓*	Jon Novick	City and County of Denver
		East Cherry Creek Valley W&S
✓*	Curt Bauers	FRICO
✓*	Jim Dorsch	Metro District
	Jordan Parman	Metro District
	Mark Koch	Molson/Coors
	Mark Cubbon	South Adams County W&S
✓*	Dan DeLaughter	South Platte Renew
✓*	Eric Marler	Suncor Energy (U.S.A.)
	Ben Wise	South Platte Renew
	Caleb Owen	Thornton
	Shay Shih	Thornton
	Steve Materkowski	UDFCD
✓*	Christine Johnston	Xcel Energy
✓*	Sarah Reeves	Coordinator, Brown and Caldwell
✓*	Beth Albrecht	Brown and Caldwell
	Erin Donnelly	Brown and Caldwell
	Jake Kunugi	Brown and Caldwell

*Joined virtually/by phone