I. Welcome: Annie Costandi called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. Changes to the Agenda – none

3. Review and action on draft minutes of September 5, 2017

   After a brief recap by Dan Albrecht, Sherrard made a motion, seconded by Palola to approve the September 5, 2017 minutes. Annie Costandi stated that the link to the watershed projects database is missing on page 2. No further discussion. MOTION PASSED. Polly Harris abstained.

4. Disposition of UPWP $100k for water quality assistance

   UPWP funds – Chris Dubin stated that we will be sending out formal approval letters for this today and we’ll get started on those once consultants are picked.

   Grants in Aid – Chris Dubin stated that these projects are moving along, thanks to those Towns that are participating.

   Transportation Enhancement money – transportation related, deadline in early November.

   Better Roads - deadline changed to late fall.

5. CCRPC Comment Letter on Draft MRGP Permit

   Dan Albrecht provided an overview of the process of this so far. Draft permit is now out and comments are due on October 27th. Dan walked through the draft letter and explained the edits received from the TAC this morning. Staff will bring these to the CCRPC Board for consideration on 10/18. Dan explained that the bulk of our comments are on the standards themselves, and we are concerned that the current standards in the permit are more road maintenance standards than actually water quality. In connection with this, the TAC asked that we remove the roadway crown and berm from the permit altogether. The TAC also suggested edits associated with all segments over 10% need to be corrected by 2025 (may be too difficult and costly to get this done by 2025). Also the TAC felt that the minimum number of road segments per year is too rigid. Christy stated that the MS4s will not be held to this same schedule and no minimum segments. Christy added that the only thing that will be pulled from the MRGP and added to the MS4 permit will be the standards themselves, not any of the deadlines (including the February 1st reporting deadline, because the MS4s do their annual report by April 1st). We’ve maintained our previous comments on the permit fees and Class 4 roads.

Discussion/Questions:
Some grass lined ditches work very well, and so rock-lined ditches shouldn’t be required within 5 to 8% grade. There should be a range of what you can do to stabilize the ditch. Make the permit results oriented so you can check in and make sure it works over time.

In general agreement, but there is a lot of technical detail so can’t make a comment on it now. Darlene was able to read it and seems good.

Should we suggest an alternative compliance schedule (i.e. set their own compliance schedule). Essentially the draft permit says that already, so long as we remove the rigidity of the minimum segments and specific schedule.

There were no other comments. Dan will clean up the language and get it out via email. We’ll need to get this settled by next Wednesday, October 11th so we can send it to the full Board.

Dan showed the CWAC where the draft permit is with all of the attachments that you need to see. Dan reiterated the emphasis on water quality standards rather than road maintenance. Marty added that in clay soils, even very low slope can be an issue.
5. Direct to Lake Basin Plan: Karen Bates, DEC
In the TMDL we have certain requirements and allotments per tactical basin (in the Phase I TMDL Implementation Plan). The Phase II plan includes more information and the tools that we have. But it doesn’t actually say how we are going to do it. The Tactical Basin Plans (TBP) will include the detail of how and what we are going to do.

The current Direct to Lake TBP will be updated to set the phosphorus targets. This TBP will still be updated more in full on its regular update schedule. Discussion around the actual project/implementation prioritization. We aren’t going to get into project prioritization in this update to the Direct to Lake TBP. Charlie Baker stated he hopes that we will be able to get there in the Winooski TBP. There was some discussion on what we mean by “prioritization” and how we provide meaningful input to help prioritize the watershed projects database. Marty added that the TBPs are our implementation plans for the TMDL so it does make sense to have everything in there.

Karen Bates explained that the Phase II implementation plan calls for certain things in the TBPs: where do phosphorus loads originate, how much of the phosphorus load can be reduced; how much phosphorus reduction could be required for each land use. The Phase II implementation plan does not include a target for the Direct to Lake basin because it is broken out into the other basins. DEC is currently modeling how to break this out and it has been quite complicated.

Karen showed the phosphorus load data maps for the Direct to Lake basin; and the specific developed lands map.

This will be an update to meet a deadline, not the full update. Essentially Karen will only be adding this phosphorus load data chapter to the TBP. She plans to have this out by the end of October, and will come to the November CWAC to answer questions (or December). It needs to be adopted by December 31, 2017.

There was a discussion regarding if we put all of our regulations on the ground, what is then left to do? Will the regulations get us to success, or will there be more to do? Tom DiPietro stated that he sent all of his Flow Restoration Projects to get modeled for phosphorus reductions and with those they are almost there on phosphorus reduction for developed lands, 3 acre permit and roads.

6. Brief Updates as Needed
- Act 73 and other State funding issues. Tasked with looking at long-term financing. Karen Adams explained the process so far. The MS4s have been asking to participate in the advisory group. Charlie added that the advisory group was ad-hoc, not a formal group under the Governor. There is currently only one municipal representative so far. Julie Moore is working on a draft plan for October. There needs to be more funding for project development – getting closer in line with VTrans funding. The MS4s are staying involved to keep aware of and try to ensure that if a state-wide parcel fee is suggested and implemented it works from their perspective.
- At what point will the 3 acres be identified? DEC doesn’t have a timeframe yet.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m. 
Respectfully submitted, Regina Mahony and Dan Albrecht