The Virginia Water Monitoring Council (VWMC) Steering Committee met at the USGS Virginia Water Science Center on Parham Road and by conference call on July 5, 2012 (1:00– 3:00 PM). Chris French, Steering Committee Co-Chair, led the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM. Following welcome and introductions, the meeting agenda was reviewed and approved. The minutes from the April 17, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved. The financial report was presented and discussed. The Altria Grant Account has been closed out – all deliverables are satisfied.

Announcements:
• DEQ announced there will be Citizen Monitoring grants in 2013. Applications are due Aug. 31, 2012. The only grants available are competitive grants of $4000.
• Chesterfield County announced their Stormwater Technician position closes tomorrow. This position has generated a lot of interest.

Old Business:
2012 Conference:
There were 113 people registered to attend this conference and 106 present at the conference. Registrations netted $3098. Exhibitor fees netted $675. Total expenses exceeded income for a loss of $501. The 2012 Conference online survey results indicate the following interests:
• Field sessions – possibly on another day pre/post to conference or ½ day field/ ½ day presentations.
• Fall and Spring events, one possibly being a conference and the second being a fieldtrip.
• Concurrent sessions – one inside and one outside.
• Regional hands-on workshops.
We need a committee now to discuss these options. Volunteers were Katie Register, Weedon Cloe, and Stuart Torbeck.

**501c3 Organization Planning**
The ad hoc committee provided a report of their progress. The timeline for the conversion indicates that conversion should be complete by January, 2013. The ad hoc committee proposes the name be changed from the Virginia Water Monitoring Council to the Virginia Water Monitoring Association. A motion was made by Weedon Cloe and seconded by Stuart Torbeck to change the name of the Virginia Water Monitoring Council to the Virginia Water Monitoring Association. Since this name is so similar to the existing name it may/will require publicity and re-branding efforts. The committee determined that the survey of conference attendees regarding the planned change to a 501c3 organization was adequate to gauge support for the change and an additional survey of the entire membership was not necessary. The committee plans to further tweak the proposed charter and will bring it back to the board.

The committee is holding off on opening a bank account until the new organizational structure is in place. The committee asks permission to set aside some monies ($500) to pay for fees necessary to convert to the 501c3. Ken Brooks volunteered to pay necessary application fees. Therefore the committee’s request was withdrawn. Chris French asked Ken Brooks to participate in the committee’s next conference call meeting.

**New Business:**
**Facilitating IDDE Discussion Group/Workgroup/Committee**
The VWMC may be good organization to facilitate this group. To that end it was proposed that a permanent committee be formed to address this issue until it is no longer an issue. Suzanne Dyba moved to have Craig supported by the VWMC to start an IDDE subcommittee. This motion was seconded by Weedon.

**DEQ Citizen Monitoring Grant Program**
Jane Walker is filling out our paperwork to apply for one of these competitive grants.

**Future Meeting Date:**
To be determined by doodle poll for sometime in August 2012, likely at the USGS Richmond offices, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Jane will publish the doodle poll, and Weedon will review the results and determine the next meeting date.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.