**Chesapeake Bay Program Principals’ Staff Committee**

**Meeting Actions and Decisions**

**May 14, 2012**

Program Update

* Action **–** CBP staff will provide a revised charge for the ongoing independent evaluator function and will include a discussion about this function on the agenda for the next PSC meeting.

Using the CBP to Support Individual Jurisdictions’ Restoration Implementation

* Decision - The Principals’ Staff Committee agreed to follow through on the proposed actions/requests/ideas identified during the discussion by:

1. Documenting the PSC membership’s priorities and feedback within the meeting summary;
2. Categorizing the specific requests for partnership support and focus;
3. Assigning each request to the appropriate Goal Implementation Team;
4. Appointing a Chesapeake Bay Program Office staff person to follow through with the assigned GIT; and
5. Integrating these requests for partnership support into the GIT decision framework.

* Action - Chesapeake Bay Program Office staff will circulate the draft list of PSC recommendations and priorities to PSC members organized by category with the recommended lead Goal Implementation Team and Chesapeake Bay Program Office staff person assigned.
* Decision **–** The PSC agreed that the partners should work together to seek USDA cooperation in sharing aggregate BMP data, working the existing process for developing the basinwide BMP verification program.
* Decision **–** Individual PSC members agreed to continue conversations about working with USDA on issues related to Farm Bill reauthorization (including the sunset of funding for certain key programs).
* Decision **–** The PSC chair will ask EPA staff to work with others to put together a plan for reaching out to USDA to address Agricultural Certainty and farm bill funding issues.

Emerging Issues from the Proposed Partnership-wide BMP Verification System

* Decision – The PSC approved the revised schedule for the CBP BMP Verification Program Development.

The role of CBP Advisory Committees

* Decision – The PSC chair tabled the discussion about the role of CBP Advisory Committees; members agree to work off-line to further discuss roles and by-law modifications and bring back to the PSC during a future if necessary.

Progress on Reducing Nutrient and Sediment Pollution

* Decision – PSC members agreed to the draft briefing package—as presented—that will be used at the 2012 Executive Council meeting to show progress on reducing nutrient and sediment pollution.

Assessing Progress Toward Chesapeake Restoration Using Expanded Nontidal Monitoring Data and Improved Tidal Monitoring Analysis to Achieve Water Quality Standards

* Decision – The PSC approved using a three-pronged approach to explain restoration progress (1. Progress in BMP implementation; 2. Nutrient and sediment trends; and 3. Attainment of standards).

Decision Framework Implementation

* Decision – The PSC agreed that the Goal Implementation Teams should continue their work to implement the CBP Decision Framework and requested an update on their progress at future meetings.

Planning for the Executive Council Meeting

* Action – The PSC requested that the EC planning team refine the proposed theme for the 2012 Chesapeake Executive Council meeting and report the revised theme to members.
* Decision – PSC agreed there should be only two discussion items for the EC private lunch.