**Chesapeake Bay Program Principals’ Staff Committee**

**Meeting Actions and Decisions**

**February 16, 2012**

**Actions**

* CBP staff will send copies of federal 2 yr milestones to PSC (and Management Board).
* CBP staff will send out revised Independent Evaluator and Key Challenges document to the PSC and Management Board.

**Decisions**

Recommendations on the National Academies of Science’s Report

* Building a Partnership-wide BMP Verification System

Decision – The PSC agreed to proceed with the framework, initial schedule and process for developing a comprehensive BMP tracking, verification and reporting system on behalf of the CBP Partnership. The Partnership, through the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team’s BMP Verification Steering Committee, will communicate its work on this initiative widely with stakeholders and will track its development and review progress. The PSC agreed to resolve and approve issues related to reviewing, modifying, and adopting the BMP verification framework and schedule on behalf of the partnership—as recommended by the Management Board—and to communicate the adoption of the BMP verification framework widely with stakeholders.

* Adaptive Management
  + Decision **–** The PSC adopted the Management Board’s recommendations for Adaptive Management and assigned the Partnering and Leadership Goal Implementation Team (GIT 6) with the responsibility for carrying out the Adaptive Management recommendations, relying on the Decision Framework. The PSC further requests GIT 6 to provide a work plan and time line for completing the assigned Adaptive Management recommendations to the MB.
* Modeling Lab
  + Decision **–** The PSC agreed that the Partne*r*ship should evaluate multiple structural options for establishing a CBP Modeling Lab to inform the decision of whether to establisy a Modeling Lab and how it might operate. To facilitate this work, it authorized the Management Board’s establishment of an action team charged with the developing a more definitive set of implementation options. The action team shall include members with well recognized expertise in modeling and other monitoring data and management decision making in order to represent multiple perspectives drawn from federal and state agencies and academic institutions. Each watershed jurisdiction would be represented on the action team.
* Finalize CBP Partnership’s Formal Response
  + Decision: The PSC approved three of the Management Board's recommendations in response to the NAS Report. The PSC withheld its decision, however, on the Management Board’s fourth recommendation for addressing the PSC’s request to identify the need for an ongoing independent evaluation. Upon resolution of the Independent Evaluator issue, CBP staff will revise the formal response and resend it to the PSC for final approval.

Independent Evaluator

* + No decision reached*. CBP staff will summarize the PSC’s discussion and various perspectives on the Management Board recommendation and develop a set of options on establishing a permanent independent evaluator function. To assist the PSC in making a final decision on the (MB) recommendation, CBP staff will develop and distribute to the PSC via email a draft charge to guide the development a set of options for PSC consideration and approval.*

LGAC Headwater Participation

* Agreed: The PSC supports the idea Headwater states’ participation in the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) and looks forward to future discussion.

Planning for the Executive Council Meeting

* Decision*:* The PSC authorized formation of a planning team for the 2012 Chesapeake Executive Council meeting. Recommendations for planning team members should be sent to Carin Bisland at the CBP.