



**Stakeholders' Advisory Committee**  
TO THE CHESAPEAKE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

**Stakeholders' Advisory Committee  
Meeting Agenda  
December 6-7, 2023**

**Vandiver Inn**  
**301 South Union Avenue**  
**Havre de Grace, MD 21078**

**Hybrid Meeting Access**  
**[Zoom Link to Join Remotely](#)**

*This meeting will be recorded for internal use to assure the accuracy of the meeting notes.*

**Meeting Goal:** Set 2024 Stakeholders' Advisory Committee priorities.

**Day 1: Wednesday, December 6- Vandiver Parlor**

- 11:00 a.m. Call to Order and Welcome.....Julie Patton Lawson, Chair**
- Introduction of members and guests
- 11:05 a.m. Business Meeting**
- Chair Opening Remarks and Updates
    - Debrief from October Executive Council Meeting
  - Approval of September Meeting Minutes
  - Pilot Honorarium Program (Vice-Chair, Chuck Herrick and Coordinator, Jess Blackburn)
- 11:30 a.m. Member Spotlights**
- 10-minute presentation on a member's background, what they do, a highlighted project and what inspires or gives hope about their work.
- Abel Olivo (*pending*)
  - Donna Harris-Aikens
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. Havre de Grace Local Watershed Context.....Bruce Russell,  
Board President,  
[Havre de Grace Maritime Museum & Environmental Center](#)**
- Jean Johnson  
Education Director,  
[Havre de Grace Green Team](#)**
- History of the town, role of water industries, changes over time
  - Unique environmental challenges and opportunities
  - Local community educational and engagement programs

**2:00 p.m.      CBP Updates.....[Dave Campbell](#)  
Acting [Chesapeake Bay Program](#) Director  
Environmental Protection Agency**

- Progress on CBP response to the Stakeholders’ Committee annual recommendations
- influence of Stakeholders’ report on equitable access to grants on EPA CBP grants
- Understanding the Executive Council’s charge to explore the creation of a new CBP Agriculture Advisory Committee
- Further explanation on EPA’s response to the Inspector General’s report and proposed corrective action

**2:45 p.m.      Break**

**3:00 p.m.      Understanding the Wetlands Outcome and State Action Plans.....[Pam Mason](#) (virtual)  
Chair, [CBP Wetlands Workgroup](#)  
[Virginia Institute of Marine Science](#)**

The Wetlands workgroup, under the Healthy Habitats Goal Implementation Team (GIT), facilitates the implementation of projects that protect, restore, and enhance tidal and non-tidal wetlands across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Restoration efforts are focused on projects that benefit species requiring high-quality wetland habitats and incorporate water quality benefits where possible. Additionally, the workgroup coordinates the collection and organization of wetland restoration data reported by the Chesapeake Bay Program.

**2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement Outcome:**

“Continually increase the capacity of wetlands to provide water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed. Create or reestablish 85,000 acres of tidal and non-tidal wetlands and enhance the function of an additional 150,000 acres of degraded wetlands by 2025. These activities may occur in any land use (including urban), but primarily occur in agricultural or natural landscapes.”

**2023 Stakeholders’ Advisory Committee Recommendation:**

“Relying on the work already completed by the Forest Buffer and Wetlands Actions Plans, charge the PSC to approve within six months the specific actionable items for each jurisdiction to accelerate the implementation and close the progress gaps for water quality restoration. This should include identifying champions in each jurisdiction responsible for leading the effort, outlining the short and longer-term funding needs, establishing ambitious yet reasonable expectations of progress by 2025, and incorporating stakeholder feedback.”

- Origin of the numerical outcome
- Key points from the [2023 Wetlands Action Plan](#)
- Current workgroup/GIT thinking on implications for Beyond 2025

**4:00 p.m.      Beyond 2025 Steering Committee Update.....[Anna Killius](#)  
Executive Director, [Chesapeake Bay Commission](#)  
Co-Chair, Beyond 2025 Steering Committee**

**2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement Vision Statement:**

“Chesapeake Bay Program partners envision an environmentally and economically sustainable Chesapeake Bay watershed with clean water, abundant life, conserved lands and access to the water, a vibrant cultural heritage, and a diversity of engaged stakeholders.”

**2023 Stakeholders’ Advisory Committee Recommendation:**

“The Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee’s recent ‘Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response’ (CESR) report as well as the Bay Program’s internal ‘2023 Strategy Review System Biennial’ report bring forth incredibly valuable lessons learned from the decades of the Chesapeake Watershed restoration effort. There is a wealth of well-informed and timely recommendations for the Partnership to discuss and incorporate into this upcoming year’s Beyond 2025 Steering Committee work. As we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Chesapeake Bay Program, the Partnership has the resources to be responsive and strategic to the changing environment.”

- Five Topical Small Groups (Climate, Healthy Watersheds, Clean Water, People, and Shallow Water Habitats)
- Discussion Questions for Stakeholders’ Committee feedback:
  - Looking at the Chesapeake Bay Program’s Vision, has or should anything change, either in words or understanding?
  - For each of the 5 topical areas, what big ticket questions or ideas do you want to see the small groups grapple with?
  - Are there any groups or convenings over the next 3-6 months that you would recommend the small groups or steering committee use to share updates and gather feedback?
- Proposed Timeline
- Potential Work Product

**5:00 p.m. Meeting Recess**

**6:30 p.m. Dinner- Backfin Blues Creole De Graw**  
Meet in the Inn’s lobby at 6:15pm to walk together as a group.

## **Day 2: Thursday, December 7- Vandiver Parlor**

**8:00 a.m. Breakfast at the Vandiver Inn**

**8:30 a.m. Reconvene, Reflections, and Elections**

- Reflections on previous day’s discussions
- Overview of Officer Positions and Elections process
- Election: Chair and Vice-Chair (Charlie Stek)

**8:45 a.m. Setting the Stage for 2024 Priorities**

- Role of the Subcommittees
- Recent Priorities, Panels, and Outcomes

**9:00 a.m. Subcommittee Break-out Sessions**

*Objective 1: Answer these Guiding Questions and Designate a Reporter*

- What is the challenge around your topic?
- What does the panel seek to uncover?
- Does the Committee have influence over the issue?
- Does the issue fall under CBP purview?
- How does the issue relate to the *Watershed Agreement* goals?
- Which quarterly meeting should your subcommittee lead?
  - February, May, or September
- What experts and practitioners should be invited to speak?

*Objective 2: Elect your Subcommittee Chair*

- 10:30 a.m. Break**
- 10:45 a.m. Subcommittee Reports**
- 11:30 a.m. Committee Discussion**
- Wrap-up
  - Action Items
- 12:00 p.m. Adjourn**

**Stakeholders' Committee 2024 Meetings**

February 22-23

May 22-23 (Ellicott City, MD following the CCWC Conference)

September 18-19

December 12-13