

## EC Planning Meeting - August 31, 2022

### Participants:

Carin Bisland, EPA CBPO (Chair)  
Rachel Felver, ACB CBP (Chair)  
Garrett Stewart, CRC CBP (Staffer)  
Marisa Baldine, CRC CBP (Staffer)  
Amanda Davis, DE DNREC  
Dave Goshorn, MD DNR  
Jennifer Starr, LGAC  
Jennifer Walls, DE DNREC

Jess Blackburn, CAC  
Julia Wakeling, DC DOEE  
Jutta Schneider, VA DEQ  
Kristen Wolf, PA DEP  
Marel King, CBC  
Matthew Rowe, MDE  
Shane Gutsie, PA DEP

- **Briefing book**

- The 2022 EC Briefing Book page can be accessed here:  
[https://www.chesapeakebay.net/ecbrief/2022\\_executive\\_council\\_meeting\\_briefing\\_book](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/ecbrief/2022_executive_council_meeting_briefing_book)

- **Meeting plans:**

- Location: EPA Headquarters
  - Public Meeting will be held in the Map Room in the EPA East Building.
  - The EPA East Building can be accessed through the entrance located at 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW.
  - Easy to access for EC members, staff and members of the public.
- PSC agreed the meeting should be in-person.
- We will continue to offer a live-stream option for the public.

- **EC Member RSVP:**

- Calendars checked:
  - WV - Jim Justice, Governor
- Confirmed attendance:
  - EPA - Michael Regan, Administrator
  - CBC - MD Senator Sarah Elfreth, Chair
  - MD - Larry Hogan, Governor
  - VA - Glen Youngkin, Governor
  - LGAC Chair – Jasmine Gore
  - STAC Chair – Kathy Boomer
  - CAC Chair – Julie Lawson
- Unavailable:
  - Tom Wolf, Governor
    - Cindy Adams Dunn, Secretary DCNR will attend in his place.
- TBD:
  - NY - Kathy Hochul, Governor
  - DE - John C. Carney Jr., Governor
  - DC - Muriel Bowser, Mayor

- Only EC members and EC member representatives will be seated in the front of the room for the public meeting. Only EC members will be invited to speak.
- **Plus-one RSVP:**
  - VA - Andrew Wheeler, Senior Advisor
  - CBC - Ann Swanson, Executive Director
  - PA - Greg Hostetter, Deputy Secretary for Animal Health and Food Safety, Department of Agriculture
  - If additional members of your team are attending the meeting, you will be able to go to the EPA Map room (public meeting room) during the private meeting. If you have additional staff attending, send Marisa Baldine an email at [mbaldine@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:mbaldine@chesapeakebay.net) so she can track attendance and reserve seats.
- **Logistics document**
  - Lodging and transportation information: [https://www.chesapeakebay.net/documents/ecbrief/45069/2022\\_ec\\_lodging\\_and\\_transportation\\_\(1\).pdf](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/documents/ecbrief/45069/2022_ec_lodging_and_transportation_(1).pdf)
  - Instructions for parking for EC members will be provided in the future.
- **Theme**
  - Roadmap to 2025 and Beyond: Maintaining Momentum for an Inclusive and Healthy Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- **Interactive activity**
  - Only 10 minutes for an activity.
  - DC DOEE has a connection with Anacostia High School.
  - There weren't any suitable award winners from the Virginia Governor's award.
  - The EPA Administrator's office was interested in the idea of a tree planting, but there isn't a good location for a tree planting near the meeting location.
    - In the past, EPA has used a photo backdrop and placed saplings near the speaking area to show that tree plantings are a priority for the speakers.
  - The EPA Administrator's office is interested in the idea of an activity with students but concerned that we won't be able to represent the full watershed especially since the meeting will take place during school hours. They were wondering if it would be beneficial to have a virtual discussion with students.
    - This might not be an option since we were considering having the students walk with the EC members between the private meeting and the public meeting.
  - Would it be more beneficial to use this extra ten minutes for the private meeting?
    - Yes, this time should be used for informal discussions between EC members or to catch up if we fall behind schedule.
- **Prepping for 2025**
  - For the Chesapeake 2000 Agreement, the Executive Council requested the CBP to complete an evaluation based around a few questions they wanted answered. Rather than getting into the details of things, this year we can stay high-level and ask the CBP to oversee a process that answers a specific set of questions.
  - Overarching questions

- How do we engage with the partnership to create recommended next steps for 2025 and beyond?
  - How will climate change affect our ability to meet our restoration goals/vision?
  - Are there threats to meeting our goals that we need to consider?
- The CBP logo has the tagline “Science. Restoration. Partnership.” Can we use these three words to guide our questions?
- **2025 and beyond: Science**
  - What have we learned that could change our approach, goals or outcomes?
  - Literature synthesis on impacts of climate change.
    - Temperature—are there species that will not be able to tolerate expected increases in water temperature? If so, what are they? How do we manage for that?
    - Flooding—what specifically do we need to consider to make the Bay and watershed more resilient to more frequent flooding?
    - Sea level rise—what are the expected impacts on marshes (high and low) due to sea level rise and what management approaches should we consider?
    - More frequent and heavier rainfall—how might that impact species, pollution, etc. and how might we manage for that?
- **2025 and beyond: Restoration**
  - What progress have we made in achieving our Outcomes?
  - Which will likely be met, which won’t and why?
  - What are the implications (risk of not achieving, urgency, etc.)
  - How do we prioritize our time until 2025?
  - Start/stop/continue exercise based on criteria developed from current progress, priority for the partnership’s assistance, science results
- **2025 and beyond: Partnership**
  - Are we organized correctly?
  - Do we have all voices represented? How?
  - Who will continue to be a principal partner and what does that mean?
  - How do we more formally determine who is a partner?
- **2025 and beyond: Process**
  - How do we include what we are already doing in the process?
    - Executive Council meetings for 2022—2025
    - Strategy Review System biennial meeting in spring 2023
    - 40th Anniversary of the Chesapeake Bay Program in 2023
    - Our existing GITs, MB, PSC meetings.
    - Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement—time for a new agreement or to update?
- **Discussion**
  - Can we ask the EC members to come with their questions that fit under the categories of science, restoration and partnership?

- Based on the PSC CAST discussion, we need clarification on if the PSC actions are related to the full *Watershed Agreement* or if they are specific to water quality.
  - There are some underlying themes from this discussion that could inform the EC meeting discussion.
    - Important things to consider would be the accuracy of the data informing the partnership and prioritization of the goals.
      - The streamlining of the goals can be part of the partnership discussion. As a partnership, we need to think about what we're committing to doing and how we're committing to doing it.
      - Every time we talk about prioritization, it leaves some people feeling like they have been left out or like their work is being minimized. It might be beneficial to reframe this conversation around co-benefits or optimization of our work. If we focus on one goal (ex: water quality), how do we create an approach where we create benefits for the other goals.
- The program needs to look at how progress is being evaluated, especially with regards to water quality. There might need to be a better balance between monitoring and the model.
- Is our work helping the right communities and people around the watershed?
  - What can we leverage from what we are learning from them?
- Can we ask what they see as the top three challenges getting to 2025? This could create an interesting discussion and have relevance to each jurisdiction.
  - EC members would need a briefing to be prepared for this discussion.
  - It is also important to focus on the greatest successes and discuss what we are learning and how we might be able to leverage things that are working.
- Lifting the discussion to a higher level and not focusing on the tagline might be the best approach. Many of the things we talked about combine the partnership question of how we make the partnership more inclusive, with the restoration question of how we prioritize our time and the science aspect asking are we doing the right things to evaluate our progress.
- These would not be questions for the EC to answer, but questions they might ask the CBP partnership to respond to. At the 2023 EC meeting, the PSC can attend and present their answers to these questions.
- We need time at the meeting to have a two-tiered approach discussion: getting to 2025 and looking beyond 2025.
  - What are we committing to and by when?
  - Can we better organize our goals to be coordinated—perhaps come up with a smaller set of priorities?
- Is there an opportunity to have someone from USDA to participate to discuss the [Chesapeake Bay States' Partnerships Initiative](#)? If not, can the EPA Administrator discuss this program?

- We will need to see if this is an option and to decide if we would like to do this as part of the public or private meeting.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, September 7, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm**