



Beyond 2025: GIT 6 July Meeting

July 2nd, 2025
2:00 – 4:00 PM EST

[Visit the meeting webpage for meeting materials and additional information.](#)

Purpose: The purpose of this meeting is to share updates to Beyond 2025 work for GIT 6, review proposed changes to meeting best practices, and explore governance insights from geographic program reviews.

Attendees:

- Doug Austin (EPA)
- Katie Ayers (EPA)
- Petra Baldwin (CRC)
- Keith Bollt (EPA)
- Sarah Brzezinski (EPA)
- Maura Christian (VA DEQ)
- Cassie Davis (NY DEC)
- Elliott Campbell (MD DNR)
- Gina Hunt (MD DNR)
- Emily Heller (EPA)
- Ashley Hullinger (PA DEP)
- Ken Hyer (USGS)
- Jess Blackburn (ACB)
- Arianna Johns (VA DEQ)
- Julia Fucci (CRC)
- Keisha Sedlacek (CBF)
- Kevin Du Bois (DoD)
- Marel King (PA CBC)
- James Martin (VA DCR)
- Meredith Lemke (CRC)
- Natahnee Miller (PA DEP)
- Natalie Snider (MD DNR)
- Wendy O'Sullivan (NPS)
- Lucinda Power (EPA)
- Rachel Felver (ACB)
- Rick Mittler (ACB)
- Erin Sonnenburg (CRC)

Minutes

I. Meeting Overview and Important Updates

Lead: Lucinda Power, EPA CBPO and James Martin, VA DCR.

Report out from June 12 Management Board and June 27 PSC meetings.

Discussion Notes:

- Governance and Accountability small team will be formed to develop recommendations for Management Board approval based on top priorities identified by GIT 6.
 - Identified team members are Natahnee Miller (PA DEP), Julia Wakeling (DC DOEE), Kevin McLean (VA DEQ), Adrienne Kotula (CBC), Natalie Snider (MD DNR), Ken Hyer (USGS), Kevin Schabow (NOAA), Marty Qually (Adams County, PA and LGAC), Sara Ramotnik (Choose Clean Water and SAC), Erin Letavic (Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. And STAC), Keisha Sedlacek (CBF).
 - No representative for the Agricultural Advisory Committee has been identified. STAC will provide rotating representatives.
 - Team coordinators will be Doug Bell (EPA), Sarah Brzezinski (EPA), and Eric Hughes (EPA).

II. Report Out from Workgroups

Lead: Elliott Campbell, MD DNR.

Brief update on the status of the Budget and Finance Workgroup.

Discussion Notes:

- STAC is hosting a 2-day workshop on Advancing Market-Based Approaches in the Agricultural Sector to Support Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration on July 8-9, 2025.
- The Budget and Finance Workgroup has not met regularly in the past year, and the role of the group has historically been mostly educational.
- Consideration for eliminating the workgroup as part of the Beyond 2025 restructuring conversation, as it does not serve a decisional purpose nor does it have active staffing and coordination. Potential for incorporating components of the workgroup into another partnership group.

III. Meeting Best Practices Appendix

Lead: Katie Ayers, EPA CBPO.

Discussion on proposed changes or comments in draft meeting best practices appendix. Appendix to be adopted into Chesapeake Bay Program Governance and Management Framework.

Discussion Notes:

- Katie Ayers will be reviewing feedback received from GIT 6 members, coordinators, and staffers and incorporating comments to the Meeting Best Practices appendix, standard agenda template, and minutes template.
- GIT 6 intends to share a completed draft of the appendix and templates to the Management Board for review in July and solicit feedback from the Management Board at their August 14 meeting.

IV. Report Out on Geographic Program Reviews

Lead: Lucinda Power, EPA CBPO.

Insights learned on structure, governance, and process topics from other regional program partnerships.

Discussion Notes:

- Review of other geographic program partnerships is ongoing. The small group assigned to review programs requested more time to conduct research and hold conversations with other partnership contacts through the summer.
- A report out on synthesized findings will be presented to the Management Board at their August 14 meeting.

V. Wrap-Up

Lead: Katie Ayers, EPA CBPO.

SharePoint site and GIT 6 web page contain supporting resources and running notes for structure, governance, and process issues overseen by GIT 6.

Actions:

1. Katie Ayers will send a poll to request input on future meeting agenda items and scope of work for GIT 6 moving forward. GIT 6 will be returning to quarterly meetings.

VI. Adjourn

Next Meeting: October 1st, 2025, 2:00 – 4:00 PM