

**Chesapeake Bay Program  
Wastewater Treatment Workgroup (WWTWG)**

**Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

10:00 AM to 11:40 PM

[Meeting Materials](#)

**Summary of Actions and Decisions**

**Decision:** The WWTWG approved the February Meeting [Minutes](#).

**Action:** Please read the workgroup's mission statement and share any comments with Jamie, Justin, Ashley, and Sushanth.

**Action:** If you have any questions about the Boat Pump-out BMP report, please email Sushanth and Ashley who will compile questions to be sent to Lew.

**Action:** Justin Carl will share Alexandria's annual report and flow data table for reference.

**Action:** Workgroup members should inquire within their jurisdictions before the August WWTWG meeting to find out what data is available for CSOs in their communities that could be utilized for updating CSO loads in the Phase 7 model.

**Action:** If you have any questions about the sanitary sewer exfiltration proposal, please email Joseph Delesantro ([jdelesantro@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:jdelesantro@chesapeakebay.net)).

**Action:** The background information on the Small Group topics will be shared with members. Please review it as you consider which groups you would like to be on. WWTWG leadership will follow up for organizing the list of volunteers and first meetings of these small groups.

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**Meeting Minutes**

10:00 **Introduction and Announcements** – Ashley Longrie, EPA

Ashley Longrie, EPA introduced herself as additional coordination alongside Jeremy Hanson, CRC as well as Sushanth Gupta, CRC as the new WWTWG Staffer since Jackie Pickford is moving onto a new role at CBP.

**Decision:** The WWTWG approved the February Meeting [Minutes](#).

10:05 **Follow Up Discussion on WWTWG Outlook & Goals** – Justin Carl, AlexRenew and Jamie Mitchell, HRSD

Justin gave an overview of the draft goals and main tasks for the workgroup, including Identifying mechanisms for providing on-going load updates (including consideration of climate change), updating loads associated with CSOs, addressing the WQGIT's comments on the boat discharge BMP report, exploring the feasibility of incorporating SSOs and exfiltration into the model, and evaluating the feasibility/occurrence of WWTP TSS discharges for possible inclusion in the model.

**Action:** Please read the workgroup's mission statement and share any comments with Jamie, Justin, Ashley, and Sushanth.

10:10 **Boat Pump Out BMP Discussion**– Lew Linker, EPA via recorded presentation

Lew [presented](#) (via recording) an overview of the boat discharge Expert Panel's recommendations from 2018 for the Phase 6 model, which was not able to be included (given timing and recognition of the relatively small contribution to total loads) and was suggested to be revisited for Phase 7 to improve the representation of loads in the model and provide credit for no discharge zones and boat pump-out stations. Lew summarized the Expert Panel report including the regulatory background of boat discharges in US waters, the charge for the panel, the baseline load estimation as a function of six key factors, draft loads for Maryland and Virginia based on this method, and the estimated distribution across the tidal bay.

**Discussion:**

- Liz McKercher, VADEQ asked if the expert panel would be reconvened for this review. It was clarified that group would not meet again, acknowledging the contractor is no longer active as well. Instead, the WWTWG will be tasked with picking up where they left off.
- Jamie Mitchell, HRSD noted that detailed reference materials from the WQGIT on the expert panel report are posted to the [calendar page](#) for people to review.
- Liz asked for clarification on the workgroup's task. Ashley elaborated that the WWTWG will look at the report recommendation to see if the load estimation method and credit for no discharge zones and pump-outs can be incorporated into Phase 7.

**Action:** If you have any questions about the Boat Pump-out BMP report, please email Sushanth and Ashley who will compile questions to be sent to Lew.

10:30 **CSO Data Discussion**– Justin Carl, AlexRenew and Ashley Longrie, EPA

Justin gave an overview of recent discussions on updating loads from CSOs and the CSO Data sources that may be available from jurisdictions. Justin shared Alexandria, VA's annual reporting to VADEQ as an example for what would be helpful to source from jurisdictions for updating CSO loads in the model.

Discussion:

- Grace LeRose shared that Richmond, VA has similar data to what Justin showed from Alexandria.
- Justin shared that he assumed Lynchburg, VA has similar data, too, and possibly other jurisdictions given the 9 minimum controls reporting requirements that could typically include flow data.
- Dave Montali shared that WV doesn't have comprehensive monitoring or modeling of CSOs, only an annual report. Dave will follow-up with his team before the next meeting to see if there is anything else.
- Dylan Burgevin, MDE and Sarah Ryan, PA shared that they each didn't know if this data was readily available but would inquire internally and share with the workgroup afterwards.
- Moussa Wone, DC Water confirmed they have data that could be used for this.
- Ed Cronin, Brown & Caldwell shared he knew reporting formats and requirements for a few areas outside the bay watershed but the group would need to see what the case is for communities in the bay watershed.

**Action:** Justin Carl will share Alexandria's annual report and flow data table for other jurisdictions to reference.

**Action:** Workgroup members should inquire within their jurisdictions before the August WWTWG meeting to find out what data is available for CSOs in their communities that could be utilized for updating CSO loads in the Phase 7 model.

10:45 **Sanitary Sewer Exfiltration Proposal** – Joseph Delesantro, EPA ORISE (15 min)

Joseph provided background on how/why sanitary sewer exfiltration occurs and the importance of accounting for it. He shared a rough estimate on the contribution of exfiltration to the Bay from literature values. While it is not a large load in total, it is a much more significant load as a percent of urban loads and as a percent of loads from individual catchments. Joseph then went over potential proposed methodologies with varying levels of complexity and time/data required for how to characterize loads from exfiltration in the Phase 7 model. He also shared how sanitary sewer rehabilitation could be credited and an outlook to how any methodology adapted for now could continue to be improved and built upon in the future.

**Action:** If you have any questions about the sanitary sewer exfiltration proposal, please email Joseph Delesantro ([jdelesantro@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:jdelesantro@chesapeakebay.net)).

**10:55 Small Group Discussion and Sign Up**— Ashley Longrie, EPA (15 min)

Ashley will facilitate a discussion on addressing the Boat Pump Out BMP, CSO, and Sanitary Sewer Exfiltration topics via small groups, and who should be involved with the small groups. Members will have an opportunity to sign up to serve on a small group.

**Discussion:**

- Dave Montali asked whether an SSO small group would be former. Ashley responded that it likely would at the August meeting. The three groups outlined today were the ones most needed to be formed now to meet before August.
- Ashley mentioned that while no small group is needed at this time, there is an open call to update wastewater point source data with location specific information for discharges to ensure data is accurate.
- A few members on the call shared initial interest verbally and via chat for participation on small groups.

**Action:** The background information on the Small Group topics will be shared with members. Please review it as you consider which groups you would like to be on. WWTWG leadership will follow up for organizing the list of volunteers and first meetings of these small groups.

**11:00 Recap of Actions and Decisions** (5 min).

**11:05 Adjourn**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.**

**Acronym List**

BMP: Best Management Practice

CBP: Chesapeake Bay Program

CSO: Combined Sewer Overflow

HRSD: Hampton Roads Sanitation District

EPA: [U.S] Environmental Protection Agency

MSD: Marine Sanitation Devices

ORISE: Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

SSO: Sanitary Sewer Overflow

TSS: Total Suspended Solids

WWTP: Wastewater Treatment Plant

WWTWG: Wastewater Treatment Workgroup