



2020 Executive Council Meeting

Communications Workgroup

August 5, 2020

Logistics



August 18, 2020



Virtual



11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

(One-hour private meeting, 15-minute
break, one-hour public meeting)

Attendees

Confirmed:

- Tommy Wells, Director, DC Dept. of Energy of Environment
- Larry Hogan, Governor, Maryland
- Jim Tierney,
- Pat McDonnell, Secretary, PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
- Ralph Northam, Governor, Virginia
- Austin Caperton, Secretary, WV Dept. of Environmental Protection
- Chesapeake Bay Commission Chair Gene Yaw (PA)
- CAC Chair Matt Ehrhart
- STAC Chair Andy Miller
- LGAC Chair Ann Simonetti

Unknown:

- Delaware Governor John Carney
- EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler



Theme

Healthy Bay,
Healthy
People,
Healthy
Economy



Member Asks

- Address individual challenges resulting from the pandemic.
- Participate in a larger discussion on how Bay restoration can help with public health, the environment and the economy.
- Sign DEIJ statement.
- Recognize updated Forest Restoration Strategy.

Speakers

One speaker will...

Acknowledge that a lack of diversity exists within not only within the Chesapeake Bay Program, but the entire Bay restoration movement.

Discuss the importance of involving all communities and individuals in Bay restoration.

Inspires future solutions that address Bay restoration, our people and the economy.



A healthy environment is critical to our physical and mental well-being and contributes to a strong economy.


Speaker

Dr. Janice Underwood
*Chief Diversity, Equity
and Inclusion Officer
Commonwealth of
Virginia*





DEIJ Strategy

- Grow racial and ethnic diversity from 13% to 25% (including 15% of leadership).
 - Help partners to develop as DEIJ leaders who understand, respect and embrace cultural diversity.
 - Provide partners with the tools to continually assess progress towards diversity goals.
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DEIJ Statement

- Strengthen and improve diversity, equity, inclusion and justice in our organizational structure, leadership, policies, strategic goals, restoration and conservation activities, workplans and program delivery, including guidance on including DEIJ and environmental justice criteria in grant targeting and evaluations.
- Engage, recruit and retain leadership, staff, appointees, interns and volunteers that reflect the diversity of people living within the Chesapeake Bay region.
- Foster a culture of inclusion, respect and mutual learning within the Chesapeake Bay Program by leading organizational change and empowering new voices and perspectives in our outreach, engagement and internal decision-making.
- Following consultation and coordination, determine how to best include federally recognized tribes in the Bay watershed in partnership activities.

DEIJ Statement

- Develop long-term relationships, partnerships and increased collaborative planning with organizations led by and primarily serving communities of color and other underrepresented populations that result in informed and mutually beneficial decisions and outcomes.
- Ensure the benefits of our science, restoration and partnership programs are distributed in a fair and equitable manner without adverse, disproportionate impacts on vulnerable populations, especially those of lower economic status, indigenous, historically underrepresented communities and people of color.
- Continue to learn and share best practices as an organization in our evolving understanding of how best to promote diversity, equity, inclusion and justice.

Questions?

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