**CAC Quarterly Meeting - May 2022**

**Speaker Biographies in Order of the Agenda**

**Peggy Kirk Hall**

**Director, Ohio State University Agricultural and Resource Law Center**  
Peggy Kirk Hall is an associate professor and field specialist in agricultural and resource law. Hall is a graduate of The Ohio State University (B.S., M.S., Natural Resource Policy) and the University of Wyoming College of Law (J.D.), where she served on the Land & Water Law Review. She is a Past President and Board Member of the American Agricultural Law Association (AALA); Past Chair of the Ohio State Bar Association Agricultural Law Committee and served as an Advisory Board Member for the National Agricultural Law Center. Hall has received the AALA's Distinguished Service Award (2018) and Excellence in Agricultural Law Award (2016), and in 2018 received Ohio's Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. Hall currently teaches Agribusiness Law, AEDE 3170, in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University and directs research and outreach projects for OSU's Agricultural & Resource Law Program.

**Aaron Berryhill**

**Solar Program Manager, VA Energy**

Aaron Berryhill serves as the Solar Program Manager at the Virginia Department of Energy. In this role, Aaron provides outreach and technical assistance to localities focused on all scales of solar siting and local government renewable energy procurement. Aaron also partners with the Virginia Solar Initiative at the UVA Weldon Cooper Center to develop research-based resources, tools, and guidance for local governments. He recently earned a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Commonwealth University where he conducted research on the current land use trends of utility-scale solar facilities in Virginia.

**Melanie Davenport**

**Director, Water Permitting, VA DEQ**

Melanie Davenport is the Director of the Water Permitting Division of the DEQ. Programs in this division include stormwater, erosion and sediment control, wetlands, biosolids, animal operations, wastewater, nutrient trading and compliance. Melanie has been the division director since 2011. Previously she was the director of enforcement at DEQ. She also worked for 10 years at a large law firm. She has a BA from Boston University in Marine Biology and a law degree from the College of William and Mary.

**Chris Beck**

**Deputy Manager, MDE Climate Change Program**

Chris Beckis the Deputy Manager of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Climate Change Program. He has over 20 years of experience in environmental health science with over 10 years working at MDE. Chris' current focus includes GHG mitigation and adaptation and resiliency in Maryland. He holds a graduate degree in environmental health engineering.

**Robert Young**

**Energy Program Specialist, PA DEP**

Robert Young, is an Energy Program Specialist at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. At DEP, he works to support initiatives in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency, particularly around the deployment of grid-scale solar installations in order for Pennsylvania to achieve a 10% in-state solar generation goal by 2030. Additionally, he led the development of a food waste to renewable energy assessment for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He spent his early career as an analyst in the local government sector for the City of San Antonio, TX, and the City of Alexandria, VA. He is a certified Climate Change Professional (CC-P) through the Association of Climate Change Officers. Mr. Young received his B.S.E. in Civil Engineering from Duke University and his M.P.Aff. from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas.

**John Miller**

**Director of Development, Chaberton Energy**

John Miller is the Director of Development at Chaberton Energy, a leading developer of distributed generation and community solar projects headquartered in Maryland, primarily focused in the Mid-Atlantic region. At Chaberton Energy, John leads commercial origination, as well as public affairs, community relations, and marketing. John has over 12 years of experience in the solar energy industry across multiple market sectors, overseeing the successful implementation of over 60 MW of completed distributed generation solar projects, including a large portfolio of residential & commercial rooftops the mid-Atlantic, ground mounted net metering projects, and community solar projects (including the first completed community solar project in Connecticut).

**Fred Tutman**

**Patuxent Riverkeeper**

Fred Tutman founded Patuxent Riverkeeper in 2004 and is a grassroots community advocate for clean water in Maryland’s longest and deepest intrastate waterway. A large amount of Fred’s work has been in the field of environmental justice. Most notable is his litigation on behalf of Eagle Harbor, a Maryland municipality in Prince George’s County, that has experienced a long history of environmental injustice. Fred serves on the Board of the Environmental Integrity Project, as a Governor appointed Commissioner on the State’s Patuxent River Commission and on the Board of Waterkeeper Alliance, the international group that licenses Waterkeepers. Prior to his work as a riverkeeper, he spent more than 25 years as a journalist, covered the Falkland Wars in the mid 1980s, and ran a project for the Ford Foundation in West Africa.

**The Honorable Sarah Elfreth**

**Senate of Maryland**

**Chair, Chesapeake Bay Commission**

Elected in 2018 to represent Annapolis and southern Anne Arundel County, Senator Sarah Elfreth is the youngest woman ever elected to the Maryland Senate. She is passionately committed to serving her constituents both in the State House and in the community. Sarah worked with colleagues across the aisle and around the State to pass over 65 bills - all with bipartisan votes - she sponsored in her first term. These new laws range from the largest investment in Maryland’s State Parks, creating Maryland’s first Office of Statewide Broadband, providing treatment to veterans living with PTSD, investing in libraries, small businesses, and critical prenatal care for healthy Maryland mothers, and protecting oysters and clean water. Sarah serves on the Budget & Taxation Committee, Chair of the Anne Arundel County Senate Delegation, and as one of two senators representing Maryland on the multi-state Chesapeake Bay Commission. In January, 2022, Sarah was elected by her colleagues in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania to serve as Chair of the Chesapeake Bay Commission. Despite serving in her first term, the Senate President has also given Sarah the leadership roles of Chair of the Pensions Subcommittee, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Administrative, and Legislative Review, as a member of the Senate President’s Workgroup on Equity & Inclusion, and as the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on the Chesapeake & Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area.