



Principals' Staff Committee

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June 25, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Purpose: To identify and agree upon top-tier PSC priorities and how to accomplish them in preparation for the 2024 Executive Council meeting.

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introductions** (9:00 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.)
Principals' Staff Committee Chair, Josh Kurtz, will open the meeting, welcome PSC members, and review the agenda and actions/decisions from the March 12, 2024 PSC meeting.
Materials:
I. Actions/Decisions from March 12, 2024 PSC meeting
- II. Beyond 2025: Update on Steering Committee Work and Next Steps** (9:10 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)
This session is an update on the work of the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee, including a report out from the Steering Committee's May meeting, the draft Steering Committee recommendations, the final ERG report and its recommendations regarding partnership structure and organization. This also provides an opportunity for members to ask questions and to provide PSC direction to the Steering Committee in preparation for the December 10, 2024 Executive Council meeting.
Relevant Outcomes: All
Requested decision: The Beyond 25 Steering Committee Report is, remains, and will be clearly and publicly presented as a product of the Steering Committee until informed by the public input process and subsequently presented and accepted by the PSC.
The Steering Committee will make every effort to present a final draft for PSC acceptance at the September 17 PSC meeting. At that meeting, the PSC may choose to either accept the Steering Committee Report or return it back to the Steering Committee for further work. Once accepted by the PSC, the PSC may make further revisions prior to submission to the EC, which must occur 30 days prior to the EC's 2025 meeting. As per current plans, this means that the PSC will need to make near final decisions at their October 25 meeting in order to submit the final Report and any resulting Directive, Charge, Affirmation etc to the EC in early November.
Presenter: Anna Killius (CBC) and Martha Shimkin (EPA), Steering Committee Co-Chairs
Materials:
II.a. Beyond 2025 Steering Committee Recommendations to EC

II.b. Presentation: Beyond 2025

III. Agriculture Action Team Recommendations for New Agricultural Advisory Committee

(10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.)

The Agriculture Action Team has developed a draft workplan/bylaws document and is expected to make its formal recommendation for establishing a new Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Relevant Outcomes: Water quality

Requested decision: 1) Agreement on sending forward a recommendation to the Executive Council to create a new Agricultural Advisory Committee; and 2) agreement on the development of a draft Executive Council directive to establish the Agriculture Advisory Committee.

Presenters: Kevin Atticks, Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary and Agriculture Action Team Chair

Materials:

III. Draft Agricultural Advisory Committee Bylaws

IV. Update on 2024 Executive Council Meeting Planning

(10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.)

An update on planning activities in preparation for the December 10 (tentative) Executive Council meeting.

Relevant Outcomes: All

Presenter: Rachel Felver, CBP Communications Director

Requested action: none; informational only.

Materials:

IV. Presentation: EC Planning

V. Conowingo Phased Approach

(10:50 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.)

During its July 2022 meeting, the PSC reached consensus that the Susquehanna jurisdictions (PA, NY, and MD) can address the Conowingo nutrients loads through the actions outlined in the Conowingo WIP using a *phased approach* that extends beyond 2025. This session is an update from the Steering Committee co-chairs on the latest developments on pay for performance/funding and other issues.

Relevant Outcomes: Water quality

Presenters: Matt Rowe (Md.), Jill Whitcomb (Pa.), Conowingo Steering Committee Co-chairs

Materials:

V. Presentation: Conowingo Updates

VI. Update: Partnership Monitoring Program

(11:05 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.)

This session is a follow-up to the PSC Monitoring report from 2023 and will include a status update with the partnership's newest efforts. Partners will also discuss the current trajectory of funding and the need (in about two years) to jointly find funding solutions to sustain our efforts moving forward.

Relevant Outcomes: Water quality and multiple others

Presenters: Ken Hyer (USGS) and Lee McDonnell (EPA)

Requested decision: Assign a team to develop a Phase II funding strategy that addresses vulnerabilities and protects investments in CBP monitoring networks, through assessment and partner coordination.

Materials:

VI. Presentation: Partnership Monitoring Program

VII. Update: TMDL Indicator and METRIC tool (11:20 a.m. – 11:35 p.m.)

The TMDL Indicator combines monitored and modeled data to estimate the progress of annual pollution loading rate reductions since 1995 in response to implemented management practices. The partnership recently updated the indicator and posted it to Chesapeake Progress. The indicator helps compare progress between different sources and locations and also facilitates communication of the progress to the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership and the public.

The Monitored and Expected Total Reduction Indicator for the Chesapeake (METRIC) is an application designed for visualizing the monitored load trend and CAST-estimated load trend for the Chesapeake Bay Non-Tidal Network (NTN) stations.

Relevant Outcomes: Water quality

Presenters: Gary Shenk (USGS)

Requested decision: None; informational only.

Materials:

VII. Presentation: TMDL Indicator

VIII. Business Meeting (11:35 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

PSC Chair Josh Kurtz will facilitate a discussion on the following topics:

- Review actions/decisions from today
- Partnership Updates
 - Update: Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week (10 min)
 - Update on Forest Buffers and Wetlands (with a more robust discussion at a future PSC meeting) – (10 min)
 - Update on Jurisdictions' Milestones (5 min)
- PSC Member Updates
 - Budget updates?
- Future Agenda Items for September PSC Meeting (per planning calendar)

IX. Concluding Remarks – Adjourn (12:00 p.m.)