

# Local Government Advisory Committee Actions and Discussion September 26-27, 2024

Call to Order: Greatings and	LGAC DC Vice-Chair Brianne Nadeau	Mosting called to order at 10:04 am
Call to Order: Greetings and Introductions	LGAC DC VICe-Chair Brianne Nadeau	Meeting called to order at 10:04 am.
Welcome to West Virginia	James Barnhart, WV LGAC Member	J. Barnhart provided welcoming remarks.
Presentation on Clean Water Regulatory Landscape	Dr. Lara Fowler, Director of Penn State Sustainability and Chief Sustainability Officer, Penn State Contact: <a href="mailto:lbf10@psu.edu">lbf10@psu.edu</a>	Dr. Fowler shared a brief history of major environmental legislation in the U.S., described the Clean Water Act and interpretations of the "Waters of the United States" in detail, and summarized the evolution of regulations in regards to the Chesapeake Bay.  Action: Staff will share Dr. Fowler's presentation.
Panel: Impact of Relevant Supreme Court Decisions	Moderator: Frank Dawson, MD LGAC Member  Panelists:  • Evan Isaacson, Senior Attorney & Director, Chesapeake Legal Alliance Contact:  evan@chesapeakelegal.org  • Lisa Ochsenhirt, Vice President, AquaLaw Contact: Lisa@AquaLaw.com  • McKaia Dykema, Legislative Research Manager, National League of Cities Contact: dykema@nlc.org	Panelists shared different perspectives on how the Sackett and the Loper Bright Supreme Court decisions have impacted local governments and the clean up of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.  Action: Staff will remain in touch with panelists and share any relevant updates with LGAC.
What Is Regulatory Sandboxing?	Phoebe Higgins, Director of Nature and Markets, Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC) Contact: phiggins@policyinnovation.org	P. Higgins defined "regulatory sandboxes," summarized the process of developing and operating a sandbox, and provided examples from the fisheries and energy efficiency industries.  Action: Staff will share the "Sandboxing Nature" report that clarifies the differences between pilot projects and regulatory sandboxes on page 11.

### Workshop: Exploring Regulatory Sandboxing Opportunities

- MS4 Municipal Pollutant Reduction Requirements (Mitchell)
- Reducing Inspection Requirements for MS4 Permit BMPs (Dawson)

Facilitator: Harry Huntley, Agriculture Policy Lead, Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC)

Contact:

hhuntley@policyinnovation.org

#### Speakers:

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- Supervisor Jeffrey Mitchell, East Cocalico Township Contact:
  - JeffreyMitchell@ect.town
- Frank Dawson, MD LGAC
   Member
   Contact:
   <u>frankwdawson116@gmail.co</u>
- J. Mitchell shared an innovative strategy and possible regulatory sandboxing opportunity in East Cocalico Township, PA; which entails utilizing crop residue to help reduce soil loss and meet MS4 municipal sediment and nutrient reduction requirements.
- F. Dawson shared a regulatory sandboxing opportunity in Montgomery County, MD, which entails using a sampling approach to Best Management Practice inspections in order to reduce inspection costs and meet MS4 verification requirements.

Following each speaker's presentation of their sandboxing opportunity, LGAC members explored the following discussion questions:

- What are the benefits/challenges of this sandbox opportunity?
- Who could grant approval for this sandbox?
- Who would do the work as part of this sandbox?
- What guardrails (location, time, etc.) would be needed?
- How would success be demonstrated?
- How could we learn from this sandbox?

#### **Actions:**

- Staff will keep in touch with the EPIC team as they continue their work on Sandboxing in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- LGAC will continue to work on regulatory sandboxing in 2025, perhaps in partnership with the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC).

## **Bus Tour: Clean Water Practices in West Virginia**

#### Presenters:

- Josephine Saikali, Eastern Panhandle Planning and Development Council, WV Contact:
  - jsaikali@region9wv.com
- Mayor James Gatz, Shepherdstown, WV Contact:
  - igatz@shepherdstown.us
- Jared Tomlin, Martinsburg, WV
   Contact:

LGAC members and invited WV local officials toured clean water practices in Shepherdstown and Martinsburg, and heard from WV local governments about their strategies for successfully having met or being on track to meet all of their TMDL goals (nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment reductions) by the 2025 deadline.

	JTomlin@cityofmartinsburg.or g	
Jurisdiction Meeting Report-Outs and Member Updates	<ul> <li>DC Report-Out: Brianne Nadeau</li> <li>DE Report-Out: James Sullivan</li> <li>MD Report-Out: Bruce Williams</li> <li>PA Report-Out: John Thomas</li> <li>VA Report-Out: Richard Baugh</li> <li>WV Report-Out: Jim Barnhart</li> </ul>	DC - The DC Delegation is preparing for a peer-to-peer tour for Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners later this fall.  DE - The DE Delegation would like to meet with state leaders in early 2025, instead of November/December of 2024. Discussion focused on the continued need for local government technical assistance and the opportunity to work more closely with the Delaware League of Local Governments.  MD - The MD Delegation has decided to pass in the rotation for First Vice-Chair. Members also expressed interest in requesting a statement from the Principal Staff Committee at the next Executive Council Meeting to reaffirm the value of the advisory committees.  PA - The PA Delegation discussed Marty Qually as their nomination for Acting First Vice-Chair until the position can be voted on at the March 2025 Annual LGAC Meeting. Members expressed interest in highlighting the importance of the advisory committees having a substantive role in future Beyond 2025 efforts and reiterating the need for local liaison/technical service providers in LGAC's 2024 annual recommendations.  VA - Members debriefed their second quarterly meeting with the VA Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources. The VA Delegation also expressed interest in requesting a statement from the Principal Staff Committee at the next Executive Council Meeting to gain further clarity on LGAC's role and direction.  WV - Long-time member James Barnhart will be retiring from office and LGAC at the end of the year. WV has been successful at meeting or being on track to meet all of their TMDL goals (nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment reductions) by the 2025 deadline; in large part due to implementing green infrastructure and stormwater plans with local municipalities.

Chesapeake Bay Program Updates	Khesha Reed, Deputy Director, CBP Contact: reed.khesha@epa.gov Keith Bollt, Life Scientist, Chesapeake Bay Program Office Contact: Bollt.Keith@epa.gov	K. Reed provided updates on the CBPO's funding efforts from this fiscal year, shared the newly funded Technical Assistance Inventory and Gap Analysis project with the Local Leadership Workgroup, and informed members on the progress and current status of the Beyond 2025 process.
Annual Recommendations Breakout Discussions & Plenary Discussion on Annual Recommendations		Members self-selected into breakout groups to discuss possible annual LGAC recommendations to be submitted to the Executive Council later this fall. Breakout groups were divided by recommendation topics. Recommendation topics and discussion questions for each group were as follows:  • Beyond 2025 - Do we want some or all of LGAC's Beyond 2025 recommendations to be duplicated in our annual recommendations? Do we want to ask for a specific role in Phase II of the Beyond 2025 process? • Principals' Staff Committee  Statement - Do we want to recommend that the PSC adopt a statement clarifying/codifying LGAC's mission/purpose/interactions with the Partnership? • Regulatory Sandboxing - Do we want to have a recommendation that follows-up on LGAC's regulatory sandboxing recommendation from last year?  Actions: • Staff will work with the LGAC Chair and Executive Committee to draft LGAC's 2024 annual recommendations. • A full draft of the 2024 recommendations will be shared with LGAC members by the end of October.
Executive Committee     Report (Don Phillips, At     Large Vice Chair & DE     LGAC Member)     Coordinator's Report     (LGAC Coordinator)		D. Phillips shared updates about continued collaboration with the other CBP Advisory Committees, an upcoming opinion piece in the Bay Journal about LGAC's recommendations for Beyond 2025, and extensive efforts to deepen LGAC's collaboration with the Principal Staff Committee.

Local Leadership     Workgroup (LLWG)     Report (Vice-Chair)      LGAC Beyond 2025     Roundtables Summary     (LLWG Coordinator)	The LGAC Coordinator briefly recapped the Beyond 2025 roundtable discussions hosted by LGAC members in early July and August, shared LGAC's final comments on Beyond 2025 and next steps for the report, and provided updates on recent and upcoming local government engagement efforts.  The LLWG Coordinator and LLWG Vice-Chair shared about the newly funded Technical Assistance Inventory and Gap Analysis project, gave a quick update on the upcoming DC Wandering Waterways tour, and did a deep dive on the findings and figures from this year's Local Leadership survey.  The LLWG Coordinator provided an in-depth recap of the Beyond 2025 roundtable discussions hosted by LGAC members in early July and August, and shared several central themes and key takeaways that came up at all the roundtables this summer.  Actions:  Staff will share the results of the Local Leadership survey with LGAC members.  Staff will work with jurisdiction representatives to schedule November/December jurisdiction meetings.
Final Thoughts/Actions from this Meeting	Staff shared action items from the meeting.

LGAC Members Present: James Barnhart, Richard Baugh, Emeritus Member Phil Briddell, Frank Dawson, Amy Dubois, Cindy Dyballa, Jasmine Gore, Josh Hastings, Andria McClellan, Brianne Nadeau, Sheila Noll, Don Phillips, Kelly Porter, Marty Qually, Alternate Susan Ryan, John Thomas, and Emeritus Member Bruce Williams.

LGAC & LLWG Staff: Laura Cattell Noll, Kayli Ottomanelli, and Rick Mittler.

Speaker/Guests Present: Scott Arwood (PA DEP), Doug Austin (EPA CBPO), Marisa Baldine (Alliance), Greg Barranco (EPA CBPO), Carolyn Berndt (NLC), Jessica Blackburn (Alliance), Keith Bollt (EPA CBPO), Maura Christian (VA DEQ), Carrie Decker (MD DNR), McKaia Dykema (NLC), KC Filippino (Hampton Roads PDC), Lara Fowler (Penn State), Kate Fritz (Alliance), Phoebe Higgins (EPIC), Harry Huntley (EPIC), James Hutzler (VACo), Evan Issacson (CLA), Les Knapp (MDE), Jeffrey Mitchell (East Cocalico Township), Lisa Ochsenhirt (AquaLaw), Erin Penzelik (PA DEP), David Reed (CLA), Khesha Reed (EPA CBPO), Josephine Saikali (WV Region 9), Larry Sanford (UMCES), Kathy Stecker (MDE), James Sullivan (DNREC), and Suzanne Trevena (EPA).