



## Principals' Staff Committee

**Location:** *\*\*This meeting will be virtual,  
but some staff will be on-site if you'd like to attend in person.  
CBPO Office Conference room, 1750 Forest Drive, Annapolis Md. 21403.*

**Meeting Link:**

**Meeting ID:** 287 286 338 82; **Passcode:** TdjvjQ

**OR**

**Join by phone:** +1-202-991-0477; **Access code:** 469 114 562#

**Meeting materials:** [www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/principals-staff-committee-meeting---december-2024](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/principals-staff-committee-meeting---december-2024)

**December 20, 2024**

**1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

- I. **Order of the Day and Introductions** (1:00 p.m. – 1:05 p.m.)  
*Secretary Josh Kurz, PSC Chair, will kick-off the meeting and facilitate agenda topics.*
- II. **Report out from Executive Council Meeting: Key Actions/Decisions** (1:05 p.m. 1:15 p.m.)  
*Josh Kurz, PSC Chair, will provide a report-out from the December 10 Executive Council meeting on December 10.*  
Requested action: Charge Management Board with drafting responses to the three Advisory Committee reports and submit to PSC within 60 days (Jan 29). Final responses are due from PSC on March 10.  
*Presenters: Secretary Josh, PSC Chair*  
Materials:  
I. Letter from Sec. Josh Kurtz to MB and PSC
- III. **PSC process and timeline for reviewing, evaluating and modifying the Watershed Agreement** (1:15 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.)  
This session is an overview of the process and timeline to be used by the PSC for reviewing, evaluating and modifying the foundational parts of the Watershed Agreement (vision, principles, preamble, goals).  
Requested action: Agreement on the timeline and process for PSC review and potential edits to the foundational sections of the current Watershed Agreement.  
*Presenter: Josh Kurtz (PSC Chair), and Anna Killius (Ches Bay Comm Executive Director)*  
Materials:  
II. Presentation: Process for modifying foundational language  
III. Document: Draft for PSC: 2024 EC Charge Timeline and Deliverables
- IV. **Confirming the process, timeline and decision-making framework for the outcome review process and governance** (1:35 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.)

The CBP Executive Council's is directing the PSC to complete revisions to the 2014 Watershed Agreement with modifications to the existing goals and outcomes by December 1, 2025. To address this charge, the CBP goal teams, outcome workgroups, and Advisory Committees will conduct internal assessments of each outcome and report their findings and recommendations to the partners during three review meetings in February and March of 2025. This session is intended as an overview of the process and timeline to be used by the Goal Implementation Teams (GITs) and Advisory Committees for reviewing and proposing possible changes to the outcomes, structure and governance. The PSC will also discuss when the PSC will be brought into the process and how they will participate in the conversation.

Requested action: Agreement on process, timeline and structure for the goal teams and workgroups, Management Board, and Advisory Committees to provide advice to the PSC on potential changes to the current outcomes, and recommendation to structure and governance, and do so with appropriate public engagement.

*Presenter: Anna Killius, Chesapeake Bay Commission and Lee McDonnell (CBP)*

Materials:

III. Presentation: outcomes, structure and governance

V. Document: Draft for MB: 2024 EC Charge Timeline and Deliverables

**V. Public Engagement Strategy** (2:10 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.)

The Executive Council and the Principals' Staff Committee have directed the partnership to engage the partners and "informed public" in Beyond 2025 efforts in a clear, understandable manner. This session will seek the PSC's feedback on who our audiences will be and what the objective is in engaging with these groups. This presentation will also begin to share preliminary ideas for an engagement strategy.

Requested action: Feedback on proposed approach; Identification of federal/state leads to assist in engagement process.

*Presenter: Rachel Felver, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay*

Materials:

Presentation: Starting the conversation

**VI. Introduction to CESR Report's Proposed Approach to Tiered Implementation of the TMDL** (2:25 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.)

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee's Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response (CESR) report found that achieving 100% of Chesapeake Bay water quality standards is both uncertain and remains in the distant future. A "tiered implementation of the TMDL" establishes interim pollutant reduction goals to maximize living resource impact while still pursuing the TMDL and Bay water quality standards. The tiered approach recognizes that water quality improvements in different regions of the Bay have different impacts on living resources and that water quality improvements can be achieved in these habitats without full attainment of the WQS. This is an introduction to the foundational concepts of this approach.

Requested action: Informational and for initial responses back from PSC..

*Presenter: Denice Wardrop, Chesapeake Research Consortium*

Materials:

VI. Presentation: Tiered Implementation

**VII. Next steps for establishing an Agriculture Advisory Committee** (2:45 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.)

This session is follow-up on the Executive Council Directive to establish an advisory committee for agriculture including a discussion on next steps for standing up the committee, identifying leadership, confirming appointments/members, possible charge for first actions.

Requested action: Seeking PSC concurrence on next steps for standing up the new advisory committee.

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

Materials:

VII. Final Ag Advisory Committee Directive

**VIII. Advisory Committees** (2:55 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.)

This standing session is intended to provide time for a check-in with each of the Advisory Committees on their recent recommendations to the Executive Council as well as a discussion on possible priority questions/assignments for the committees.

Requested action: none; discussion only

*Presenters:* Secretary Josh Kurtz and advisory committee chairs

Materials: none

**IX. Business meeting** (3:10 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.)

- Farewell to outgoing PSC members
- Update on Report to Congress
- Update on the Federal Leadership Committee and FLC-Designees
- Partnership Updates

**X. Wrap-up and Adjourn** (3:15 p.m.)