



Stakeholders' Advisory Committee

Meeting Agenda

September 18, 2025

Stakeholders' Advisory Committee

TO THE CHESAPEAKE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Virtual Meeting

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
9:30am - 4:30pm

Meeting Goal: Outline primary points of annual recommendations to the Executive Council due on November 10, 2025.

Meeting Objectives:

- (1) Briefing from the EPA on CBP budget including funding for the Advisory Committees.
- (2) Conversation with Region 3 EPA Administrator, Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey
- (3) Briefing on the Chesapeake Bay Program Beyond 2025 efforts:
 - (a) streamlining and reorganization, and
 - (b) public feedback on the draft revised *2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement* and Briefing on the CBP governance and restructure.
- (4) Subcommittee break-out sessions to articulate actionable annual recommendations.

9:30 a.m. Call to Order and Welcome.....Abel Olivo, Chair

- Member Introductions
 - Welcome New Members: Mary Sketch Bryant and Doug Faulkner
- Guests introduce themselves in the chat

9:40 a.m. Business Meeting

Chair's Opening Remarks

- Overview of meeting agenda and objectives
- Approval of draft May 2025 Meeting Minutes

Updates on the Agricultural Advisory Committee (Bill Fink)

- August 28th Quarterly Meeting

Brief Member Announcements (Open to All Members)

Coordinator's Report (Jess, 12-min)

- Recent and upcoming work
 - Membership & Governance Subcommittee
- Set 2026 meeting dates
- Preparations for December officer elections
- December Meeting Topics

Committee Discussion

10:30 a.m.	Chesapeake Bay Program Budget Updates.....	Khesha Reed, EPA CBP Office Deputy Director
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10-min briefing on CBP budget forecast and funding for the Advisory Committees ● Q&A with Khesha (10-min) ● Brief remarks from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Kate Fritz (5-min) ● Committee Discussion 	
11:00 a.m.	CBP Governance and Structure.....	Doug Bell, Senior Technical Advisor, EPA CBP Office

The [2024 Executive Council Charge to Chart a Course Beyond 2025](#) directed the partnership to create a “simplified and streamlined structure and process for the partnership that supports all partners as they work toward achieving their commitments in an effective, efficient, and inclusive manner. It is the expectation of the Chesapeake Executive Council that the revised partnership structure and processes will be more inclusive of all communities and more manageable for partnership staff.” The Governance and Accountability Team (GAT) is tasked with providing recommendations to the Management Board on Bay Program governance and structure.

- 10-min briefing on the GAT’s work to date
- Updates from member representative Sara Ramotnik (5-min)
- Q&A with Doug (10-min)

11:30 a.m.	Conversation with Region 3 Administrator.....	<u>Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey</u>
-------------------	--	--------------------------------------

In April 2025, Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey was appointed as the EPA’s Mid-Atlantic (Region 3) Regional Administrator to oversee the implementation of federal environmental laws and priorities of the President’s administration’s agenda in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, D.C., West Virginia, and the EPA’s Chesapeake Bay Program.

Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey was previously appointed as the first Agricultural Ombudsman in the state of Pennsylvania where she served as a crucial link to agriculture communities, addressing conflicts related to agriculture, land use, and environmental planning. She brings more than a decade of experience as a lobbyist for both state and federal agricultural interests and over 20 years of experience in finance and business management.

- Background and Vision of EPA Leadership for the Chesapeake Bay Program (10-min)
- Sharing of Stakeholders’ priorities (5-min, Abel)
- Q&A with the Amy (10-min)

Noon	Break (procure lunch)
-------------	------------------------------

12:30pm	Break-out Groups Working Lunch
	Executive Committee Members facilitate the discussion

- Topic: Discuss and share your reactions to the videos and article sent in advance as briefing materials:
 - 22-min video [Susquehanna River Story- What does the science say about water quality?](#)
 - 26-min video: [Every Acre Counts- Chesapeake Farmers at the Forefront](#)
 - Bay Journal Article: [Acid mine drainage cleanup a worthy goal, but will it help the Chesapeake Bay?](#)
 - 31-min video: [Briefing on Key Takeaways from the Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response \(CESR\) Report](#) (Sept 4, 2025)

1:15 p.m. Return to Plenary
Public feedback on the draft revised *Watershed Agreement*.....Rachel Felver, Communications Director, Chesapeake Bay Program
 Feedback on the draft revised *Watershed Agreement* was open from July 1- September 1. The public and partners offered their reactions to a streamlining from ten Goals to four and from 30 Outcomes to 21 with SMART Targets.

- Briefing on the overarching themes of feedback and next steps (15-min)
- Q&A with Rachel (10-min)

1:45 p.m. Topics and Strategies for the Management Board Retreat

- Review key decisions slated for the MB Retreat
- Committee Discussion

2:00 p.m. Stakeholders' Subcommittee Break-out Sessions

- Brief guidance for discussion (Jess)
- Members to formulate their annual recommendations
- Identify the information needed to finalize

3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Return to Plenary

- Subcommittees Chairs' Reports (10-min each)

3:50 p.m. Committee Discussion

4:20 p.m. Wrap up and Action Items

4:30 p.m. Adjourn

Remaining Stakeholders' Advisory Committee 2025 Meeting Date

December 11-12: *PENDING* Shepherdstown, WV- National Conservation Training Center

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay is honored to support the appointed volunteers of the Stakeholders' Advisory Committee. We are committed to serving as an unbiased convener so the members can achieve their mission through learning and discussion. Views expressed by the members and their guest speakers are not those of the Alliance.