

MINUTES

Thursday, June 6, 2013 Tremont Suites Hotel, Baltimore, MD

Members Present: Rick Gray (Chair), Dave Dunmyer, Sheila Finlayson, Penny Gross, Adriana Hochberg, Sheila Noll, Ann Simonetti, John Thomas, James Wheeler, Bruce Williams. *Staff Present*: Mary Gattis (Coordinator), Jessica Blackburn, Vickie Stinson, Al Todd. *Guests Present*: Carin Bisland (EPA CBPO), Pat Buckley and Rhonda Manning (PA DEP), Chris Aadland (MD DNR)

Call to Order, Introductions

Mayor Gray convened the meeting at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Membership Discussion

Members discussed status of committee membership and participation. Members no longer willing/able to serve should submit written resignation to the person that appointed them and copy the Chair and Coordinator. Per the Bylaws (Section 3.5), an Alternate shall be designated by the member.

Headwaters states should be represented on LGAC. Bylaws will need to be amended. Members agreed that this issue should be addressed as part of the new Bay Agreement. Additional funds will be needed if headwaters states are added to the committee. Coordinator will consult files for history on this issue and follow up with CBPO. A report will be provided to the Executive Committee prior to the next quarterly LGAC meeting.

Members asked that meeting notices be sent in writing and via e-mail.

New Chesapeake Bay Agreement

Carin Bisland, EPA CBPO, provided an overview of the new Bay Agreement. A draft was distributed to the committee for review. The LGAC Coordinator has been participating in meetings with Goal Implementation Team charged with drafting the Agreement (GIT6) and has submitted language for inclusion in the Agreement.

Consensus is that local governments are not adequately represented in the Agreement.

The following motion was made by Chair Gray and seconded by Dunmyer:

(1) A letter will be sent stating that the language related to local governments is inadequate as it stands; (2) A workgroup will be seated to provide input to the Bay Program on behalf of LGAC; and (3) the Coordinator will provide the full committee with regular reports on the status of the Agreement.

The motion passed unanimously. The following members agreed to serve on the Bay Agreement workgroup: John Thomas, Penny Gross, Dave Dunmyer, and Sheila Noll. Diane Davis will be asked to serve as well. Dave Dunmyer will represent LGAC at Bay Program meetings in Annapolis. If he is unavailable, the Coordinator will participate on behalf of LGAC.

Strategic Action #2.a Discussion

The Strategic Plan calls for LGAC to "convene workshops for local government officials to share resources and information, identify issues and needs, and gather feedback to bring back to the Executive Council (EC)."

Members agreed to focus initially on hosting roundtable discussions at state association conferences. The primary objectives are to raise awareness about LGAC and to listen to local government officials concerns and ideas. The Coordinator will contact municipal associations to schedule.

A list of relevant municipal associations with dates/locations for annual conferences has been distributed to all members (see list at end of these Minutes). Members should identify which conferences they plan to attend so that the Coordinator can make arrangements for member to host a roundtable. The Coordinator will prepare talking points for members to use and will participate as time/budget allow.

Strategic Action #1.c Discussion

The Strategic Plan calls for LGAC to "provide an annual report and specific recommendations for action to the Executive Council with particular attention to local needs in individual states."

Members brainstormed issues of concern and shared success stories. The following emerged as issues/obstacles common to all jurisdictions:

- Continuous and open communication process is lacking
- Streamlined permitting is needed
- Job training is needed to ensure sufficient supply of contractors qualified to carry out local restoration/protection projects
- Staffing of state agencies is insufficient leading to delays in grant awards
- BMP verification process is uncertain

The following were identified as jurisdiction specific issues:

Pennsylvania: Lack of authority to establish stormwater fee

Maryland: None identified Virginia: None identified DC: None identified

Members also discussed NFWF's role in advancing innovation, i.e. the Circuit Rider program, as a possible item for inclusion in the report to the Executive Council.

The Coordinator will provide a draft report for review in advance of the next Quarterly meeting.

Business Meeting

The April 2013 Minutes were approved as amended on a motion by Dunmyer and 2nd by Simonetti.

Communications Committee Report (Strategic Plan Priorities 1 and 2)

Chair Finlayson summarized outcomes of the June 5th Communications Committee meeting (attached).

Executive Committee Report

Chair Gray presented the draft Protocol for LGAC Member Communications (Handout #4). The protocol was approved on a motion by Gross and 2nd by Dunmyer.

Chair Gray informed the committee that a request for proposals for LGAC services is expected to be released in the near future. He will continue to follow and alert the committee when the RFP is released.

Strategic Plan Review/Update (Handout #5)

Members reviewed the Strategic Plan Implementation Chart prepared by the Coordinator and affirmed the following priorities for the coming months:

- Action Item # 2.a convene workshops. See notes above.
- Action Item # 2.b awards program to recognize local actions. Time/location of presentation to be determined. Suggested venues included the Alliance's Watershed Forum and the Choose Clean Water Conference.
- Action Item #3.d Leadership Training. Coordinator is working with the Environmental Finance Center to schedule a skill building training for 40-50 participants to be held in advance of the September LGAC meeting in West Virginia.

New Business/Announcements for the Good of the Committee/Future Agenda Items

Dunmyer raised the issue of the Conowingo Dam Relicensing and asked if there is an appropriate role for LGAC, e.g. helping get the word out to affected parties, raising awareness, etc. Pat Buckley confirmed that Pa DEP is responsible for issuing the 403 Permit for Muddy Run and Maryland Department of the Environment is responsible for the 403 Permit for Conowingo. Pa DEP is proposing off-site BMPs as a part of the permit. Thomas cautioned against LGAC becoming activists. Dunmyer and Williams will continue to monitor and provide additional information to LGAC as necessary.

The Coordinator clarified information regarding the WIP Implementation.

CAC would like to hold a joint meeting with LGAC. LGAC members responded enthusiastically and suggested a joint meeting in December 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m.

Upcoming Events/Meetings:

June 23-26, 2013	MML Convention, Ocean City, MD (S. Finlayson, B. Williams, R. Willey)
June 25-28, 2013	PML Annual Convention, State College, PA (Rick Gray)
June 27-30, 2013	PSATC Annual Conference, Lancaster, PA (John Thomas)
July 18-21, 2013	PSMA Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA
July 25-27, 2013	VAPDC Annual Conference, Wintergreen VA
August 4-7, 2013	CCAP Annual Conference, Erie, PA
August 14-17, 2013	MACo Annual Conference, Ocean City, Worcester County, MD
September 26-29	Leadership Training/Watershed Forum, Shepherdstown, WV
September 27	LGAC Quarterly Meeting