

CHESAPEAKE BAY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE WEBINAR SUMMARY-DRAFT

May 21, 2021

LINK TO ALL MEETING PRESENTATIONS AND MATERIALS:

<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2021/5/21/chesapeake-bay-and-water-resources-policy-committee/>

DECISIONS & ACTIONS:

- Based on the presentations by WEF, Chair Sayles recommended a CBPC letter to Congress asking for continued water infrastructure funding. The letter was sent to COG's Congressional delegation on June 22.
- Members approved the FY '22 RWQM Work Program and Budget.
- Members were asked to complete the "return to COG" survey sent via email after the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Sayles called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. CBPC MEETING SUMMARY APPROVAL

The draft summary of the March 2021 CBPC meeting was approved.

3. WATER INFRASTRUCTURE & WORK FORCE

Karyn Riley, WSSC Water's Intergovernmental Relations Office, and Steve Dye, Legislative Director, Water Environment Federation provided insights on the national infrastructure bills, water workforce development programs, and a new low-income water utility assistance program (LIWAP), and what they meant locally--for infrastructure and work force development investments, and residents.

Member Discussion:

- Chair Sayles said that the CBPC would like to follow up with WEF about the InFlow program for workforce development and its partnerships with regional universities, which could apply to the CBPC's paper competition. COG staff will follow up.
- A member pointed out that the process for getting the Covid relief funding is cumbersome; in particular, the paperwork, and asked if there are any jurisdictions or organizations that have streamlined the process.

4. FY 2022 REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET APPROVAL REQUEST

Steve Bieber presented the FY '22 RWQM Work Program and Budget for approval, which members approved.

Member Discussion:

- Chair Sayles shared comments on behalf of Councilmember Dyballa. Namely, to encourage climate resiliency to be called out in the work program as a cross-cutting issue with CEEPC.

5. LOCAL LEADERSHIP WORK GROUP EDUCATIONAL MODULES

Shannon Moore, Manager, Frederick County Office of The County Executive, Sustainability and Environmental Resources & Chair of the Chesapeake Bay Program's Local Leadership Work

Group (LLWG) presented the newly released Local Leadership Work Group's Educational Modules for local governments. A link to the modules is provided in the General Updates.

6. MEMBER AND STAFF UPDATES

A. Member Updates

1. This year's CBPC Paper Competition did not receive any submissions. Chair Sayles stated that she is looking forward to partnering with WEF and working to cultivate relationships with regional professors this year, so that there will be more participation next year. Councilmember Stehle said he thought Covid changed dynamics. He had a good conversation with representatives from Bowie University, which he will share with COG staff, and he is confident that we can resume the competition next year.
2. Matt Ries announced that he serves on the Board of the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) and they are looking for a new President. Anyone with interest in advancing the fishable/swimmable goal and doing education and outreach is encouraged to apply: <https://www.anacostiaws.org/about-us/employment-and-internships.html>

B. Staff Updates

1. Ms. Bonnaffon announced the "return to COG" survey will be emailed, to gauge member comfort with returning to COG for meetings, as well as workshops and outside events.
2. Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week is June 5-13, and the theme is recreation. A social media kit will be forthcoming, and COG will be promoting Anacostia's trails network during the week.
3. COG has a series of salts webinars starting on May 28 and then in June. The first will be focused on education and outreach, the 2nd on reaching private properties, and the third on monitoring.
4. There will be a joint FARM and CBPC webinar this fall focused on farming and land access for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.

7. ADJOURN MEETING

Laurie-Anne Sayles, CBPC Chair, adjourned the webinar and reminded members that the next meeting will be joint with CEEPC on July 28.

ATTENDANCE

Members and Alternates:

Amy Jackson, Vice Chair, Alexandria
Craig Rice, Montgomery County
J. Davis, City of Greenbelt
Jon Stehle, City of Fairfax
Kate Kennedy, City of College Park
Kenny Boddye, Prince William County
Laurie-Anne Sayles, Chair, City of Gaithersburg
Maria Mackie, College Park
Thomas Ross, City of Fairfax
Carla Reid, WSSC Water
Frank Dawson, Montgomery County DEP
Heather Gewandter, Rockville DEP

Joel Caudill, WSSC Water
Karen Pallansch, Alexandria Renew
Enterprises
Matt Reis, DC Water
Michelle Russell, Prince George's County DEP
Nasser Kamazani, Montgomery County DEP
Norm Goulet, NVRC
Shannon Moore, Frederick County DEP
Steve Shofar, Montgomery County DEP
Tiffany Wright, City of Bowie

Guests:

Bill Pugh

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Jesse Maines, Alexandria
Karyn Riley, WSSC Water
Kathie Hoekstra
Matt Gallagher, DOEE
Steve Dye, Water Environment Federation

COG Staff:
Ata Adeel

Christine Howard
Heidi Bonnaffon
Lisa Reynolds
Steve Bieber
Tom Gates
Wyetha Lipford