



**CSPDC Chesapeake Bay TMDL
Watershed Implementation Plan
Stakeholder Meeting**
March 17, 2022 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Via Zoom Video Conference Call
Meeting Summary

In attendance:

Gabby Troutman, CBF	Hunter Moore, CSPDC
John Reeves, Rockingham County citizen	Rebecca Joyce, CSPDC
Sandra Stuart, NBSWCD	Kevin McClean, DEQ
Sara Bottenfield, DEQ	Morgan Shrewsbury, Augusta County
Bryant Thomas, DEQ	Greg Thomasson, HRRSA
Peter Kesecker, City of Staunton	Tom Roberts, City of Buena Vista
Keith Thomas, City of Harrisonburg	Gaither Hurt, Town of Elkton
Shayna Carter, City of Harrisonburg	Kent O’Donohue, Town of Bridgewater
Adam Schellhammer, VCC	

Welcome and Introductions

- Hunter Moore welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the call. She asked the group to introduce themselves through the video call or in the chat box and Rebecca Joyce started the meeting with an icebreaker.

State of the Bay Presentation

- **Gabby Troutman, Chesapeake Bay Foundation**

- Gabby Troutman gave a presentation on the Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s State of the Bay report. The CBF releases this report every 2 years.
- Gabby discussed the impacts of climate change on the Chesapeake Bay, including rising temperatures and increased frequency and intensity of storms which causes increased flooding and pollutants.



- The current grade of the Bay is 32 D+ (2020 health index). Their goal is to meet a 40 C+ by 2025 and ultimately getting to a 70 grade in the future, which is a fully restored Bay.
- Gabby broke down the scores of the report and took a closer look at the pollution, habitat, and fisheries categories of the report. These scores were compared to the scores from 2018 to see the positive or negative change.
- Gabby shared good news about the current federal and state interest in agricultural BMP funding. These BMPs have dual benefits for climate change and water quality.
- Gabby discussed implementing the State's WIP plan and continuing efforts to meet the 2025 goal.
- Morgan Shrewsbury asked a question about the CBF's wetlands analysis, and whether they look at the quality of the wetland. Gabby responded that their wetlands analysis is more about the amount in GIS than the quality of the wetlands. She mentioned that the Virginia Institute of Marine Science may have studies available for the quality of the wetlands.

CSPDC WIP Program Update

- Hunter gave an update on recent WIP activities and the CSPDC's regional deliverables for 2022. She discussed the Stormwater Toolkit that was created last year and the local examples section that will be added this year. She will also be creating a corresponding web app to go with this section. She hopes to reach out to localities soon to coordinate on the information and pictures needed for the section and map.
- Hunter also mentioned the continuation of hazard mitigation and flood prevention strategies and coordinating two trainings for 2022. The first training is scheduled for April 6th and will be an environmental communications training, called 'Water Words that Work'. The workshop will consist of 3, 90-minute sessions that are custom tailored for environmental professionals focusing on outreach and communication skills, such as messaging, and imagery used.
- Hunter asked the WIP group for input on the topic for the second training to be planned for later this year. Using a live poll, meeting attendees could vote on 4 options: Yards of Tomorrow, BMP Tour, Environmental Justice or Other (insert idea in the chatbox). Yards of Tomorrow and BMP Tour were the two most popular choices.

Funding Opportunities

- Hunter shared information on grant opportunities that were currently open. NFWF Small Watershed Grants are proposals due April 21, Environmental Grant Program applications are due March 31, and the Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund Grant applications for Round 3 are due on April 8.



- Rebecca updated everyone on the status of the Community Flood Preparedness Fund. The CSPDC has looked into updating the Hazard Mitigation plan so that localities can meet the resiliency plan requirements for the grant. This idea is on hold so that the match requirement can be determined. There will be a couple more cycles of this funding as long as the State is still in the RGGI.

Community Updates

- Morgan Shrewsbury shared about Augusta County's Spring Clean Event - April 9th through the 16th.
- Sandra Stuart announced that on May 5th the Forest Service will be having an Old Forest dedication in the Natural Bridge State Park area.
- Sara Bottenfield shared about two DEQ public participation opportunities, one for comments on the Water Quality Standards Review and the other for water monitoring nominations that are due April 30th. Sara provided links for each in the chat box.
- Sara also followed up on the inquiry from the last meeting about pulling data from the BMP warehouse to avoid double counting. Any user of the BMP warehouse can get a report of everything that organization has reported. The user can not query other user BMPs but can query their own.
- Hunter announced that the next CSPDC WIP meeting will be on June 15th and encouraged stakeholders to reach out to the PDC in the meantime about any assistance needed.

VIII. Adjourn

- With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming 2022 meeting dates:

June 15th
Sept 15th
Dec 7th