Principals' Staff Committee

Location: *CBPO Office Conference room, 1750 Forest Drive, Annapolis Md. 21403.*
**Please feel free to join in person or virtually

Meeting Link: Click here to join the meeting
Meeting number: 237 088 655 555; **Password:** j9g2G3
OR
Join by phone: +1-202-991-0477; **Access code:** 174 020 979#
Meeting materials: https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/principals-staff-committee---december

December 8, 2023
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Purpose: To identify and agree upon top-tier PSC priorities and how to accomplish them in preparation for the 2024 Executive Council meeting.

AGENDA

I.   **Welcome and Introductions**   (12:00 p.m. – 12:10 p.m.)
Principals' Staff Committee Chair, Josh Kurtz, will open the meeting, welcome PSC members, and review the agenda and actions/decisions from the September 2023, PSC meeting.
Materials:
I. Actions/Decisions from July 21, 2023 PSC meeting

II.   **PSC Vision and Norms for the Coming Year**   (12:10 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.)
Discussion about what the PSC and partnership hope to accomplish in the coming year. Also, a discussion about meeting preferences (length of meetings, virtual vs. in person, decision making processes, etc.)
Presenter: PSC Chair Josh Kurtz
Materials:
II.a. Chesapeake Bay Program Governance Document
II.b. Presentation: PSC 2024

III.   **Celebration of 40th Anniversary of Partnership**   (1:10 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.)
Time to reflect on the successes, accomplishments and challenges of the past 40 years of the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership.
Presenter: PSC Chair Josh Kurtz

IV.   **The Road Ahead for the Partnership: Beyond 2025**   (1:15 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.)
The Executive Council, at its October 2022 meeting, charged the PSC with recommending a path forward that prioritizes and outlines the next steps for meeting the goals and outcomes of the Watershed Agreement leading up to and beyond 2025. The Beyond 2025 Steering

committee has held several meetings and continues to make progress towards meeting the Executive Council's charge. Five small groups have formed to focus on specific issues while a program evaluation is being developed by a contractor. This session is an opportunity to hear about recent work, plans for public and stakeholder input, and to ask questions, and provide PSC direction to the Steering Committee in preparation for the 2024 EC meeting.
Requested decision: Approval of proposed strategy to meet "Beyond 2025" charge.
Presenter: Anna Killius (CBC) and Martha Shimkin (EPA), Steering Committee Co-Chairs
Relevant Outcomes: All
Materials:
IV.a. Presentation: Beyond 2025 Decision Document
IV.b. Charting a Couse to 2025 Backgrounder
(https://d18lev1ok5leia.cloudfront.net/chesapeakebay/documents/Backgrounder_Reaching-2025.pdf)

V.   Creation of an Action Team to Research the Creation of an Agriculture Advisory Committee
(1:40 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.)
On July 28, 2023, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on behalf of the six state agriculture department secretaries/commissioners, submitted a letter to EPA Regional Administrator Adam Ortiz recommending the creation of an Agricultural Advisory Committee. In September, the PSC agreed to support the pursuit of an EC Directive to establish an Agricultural Advisory Committee. This idea was presented to the EC during its October 19 meeting. This session is a discussion about the creation of an action team and path forward for full consideration of the recommendation.
Requested decision: Seeking agreement on the creation of an Ag Advisory Committee Action Team and on team membership, key issues to research, and timelines for recommendations.
Facilitator: Dave Campbell, MB Chair
Relevant Outcomes: multiple
Materials:
VI.a. State Ag Secretaries Letter (July 28, 2023)
VI.b. Decision Document: Agricultural Advisory Committee Action Team charging document

VI.   Planning for the 2024 Executive Council Meeting   (2:05 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.)
Discuss lessons learned from the 2023 EC meeting and how we can work to get better member participation.
Also, a discussion about timing and greater participation of members at the 2024 EC meeting. Pursuant to the Executive Council's charge on Beyond 2025, the Beyond 2025 Steering Committee has set a target of October 2024 to present a set of recommendations to the EC. Because both federal and state elections will be in high gear in October 2024, the PSC will be asked to make a recommendation on shifting the date of the next EC meeting.
Requested action: PSC feedback on the creation of a 2024 EC Action team, a new target date for the Fall 2024 EC meeting, and actions to realize greater EC attendance at the 2024 meeting.
Presenter: Adam Ortiz, EPA Region 3 Administrator and Josh Kurtz, PSC Chair
Relevant Outcomes: All
Materials:
VI. Presentation: Lessons learned from 2023 EC meeting and lessons applied to 2024 EC Meeting.

VII. **Overview of the CBPO budget and CBARA Submission**   (2:25 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.)
A high-level overview on the 2024 Chesapeake Bay Program budget.
Requested decision: none; update only
Presenters: Autumn Rose (EPA) and other partnership representatives
Relevant Outcomes: All
Materials:
VII. Presentation: 2024 CBP Budget

VIII. **Final Resolution of PSC Charges and Next Steps for Release of CAST 2023** (2:40 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.)
A final set of recommendations in response to the Principals' Staff Committee's August 2022 charge to resolve actions related to the updates to the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST)2023 were presented and approved by the EC at its September meeting. This session is a brief overview of the final resolution and general plans for implementing them.
Requested action: None; informational only
Presenter: Lee McDonell (EPA)
Relevant Outcomes: Water Quality and multiple others

IX. **Business Meeting**   (2:55 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
PSC Chair Josh Kurtz will facilitate a discussion on the following topics:
- Review Actions/Decisions
- Partner Updates
- Future Agenda Items

X. **Concluding Remarks – Adjourn**   (3:00 p.m.)