

LGAC Members Present: Jim Barnhart, Richard Baugh, Patty Bubar, Ed Bustin, Daniel Chao, Jake Day, Sheila Finlayson, Leo Lutz, Andria McClellan, Brianne Nadeau, Don Phillips, Ann Simonetti, James Wheeler, John Thomas, Bruce Williams, Emeritus Phil Briddell representing Leo Lutz, and LGAC Staff - Ola-Imani Davis, Jennifer Starr

Speakers/Guests Present: Katherine Antos (DC DOEE), Carin Bisland (CBPO), Malcolm Derk (Susquehanna University), Justin Eby (Lancaster County Housing and Redevelopment Authority), Donna Enrico (PA DCED), Marcus Kohl (PA DEP), Megan Lehman (PA DEP), Matthew Pennington (WV), Tuana Phillips (EPA), Kathy Stecker (MDE), James Sullivan (DNREC), Emily Trentacoste (CBPO), Jessica Trimble (PA DCED)

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Call to Order

Chair Ann Simonetti called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. She welcomed members and guests, and gave a special welcome to Malcolm Derk, former Commissioner of Bradford County, PA and former LGAC member. Ann also welcomed Patty Bubar and Jake Day, LGAC's newest members to its Maryland delegation. Jennifer Starr finished that the Laurel Star newspaper wrote a front page article of LGAC's last meeting in Laurel, DE.

Chesapeake Bay Program Updates

Carin Bisland

Carin shared her new title of Branch Chief for Partnerships and Accountability at EPA. She updated members on Chesapeake Bay Program's EPA funding and explained that the Local Government Implementation Fund is intended to support local government implementation. Each state determines how these funds are divided either through a CBIG or CBRAP grants and EPA distributes. EPA then provides grant guidance, suggesting ways of spending the money. Members appreciated the deep dive into funding allocations and suggested an information piece be developed for local officials detailing this information to help in determining future projects.

Action: Staff will provide Carin's presentation detailing FY 15- 18 funding allocations and state by state award summaries.

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Data Dashboard

Emily Trentacoste

Emily provided a live demo of the Chesapeake Bay Data Dashboard; an interactive database that consolidates much of the information from ChesapeakeBay.net including recorded source pollution, best management practice (BMP) recording, smart growth opportunities, etc. CBP will continue to develop ways that this information can be directly downloaded and add climate changes to the mappings as well.

Action: Staff will share the link to the Chesapeake Bay Data Dashboard and invite LGAC members to be a part of the review process. Staff will also reach out to local conservation districts, PDCs or other state agencies to offer Chesapeake Bay Data Dashboard training opportunities.

2019 Local Government Forum - Workforce Development

Jennifer discussed the 2019 Local Government Forum focused on Workforce Development. She referenced the many training opportunities available in DC yet actual job placement is low. Members provided input on local workforce development opportunities and efforts to help in the planning of the Forum.

Action: Staff to continue to develop the Forum for September 11th.

Turtle Creek Story Map

Megan Lehman

In partnership with the PA North Central Regional Office, Bucknell University, Susquehanna University, members of the local farming communities, and many more, PA DEP has launched the restoration initiative of the Turtle Creek Watershed off the Susquehanna River. Megan Lehman presented the storyboard concept of this project detailing the history, present condition and the anticipated future of the watershed.

Action: Staff will send a link of this storyboard to members.

Using Community Development Block Grants for Addressing Water Quality

Leo Lutz, Justin Eby, Donna Enrico, Jessica Trimble

Leo and Justin talked about the opportunity to use Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to address local water quality needs. CDBG is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) to rebuild green infrastructure practices such as flood drainage, water/sewer, and street improvements. In the case of Lancaster County, CDBG funds are distributed from the federal government, to the state, then county, then transferred directly to the Lancaster Redevelopment Authority. The funding is flexible and local leaders provide guidance on its allocation.

Tour of Local Practices: Turtle Creek Watershed

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Jurisdiction meetings convened over breakfast.

Jurisdiction Breakfast Meeting Report-Outs and Member Updates

Chair Ann Simonetti called the meeting to order at 8:27 am.

Pennsylvania is currently experiencing pushback on the description of accounting for their WIP and creating workforce development strategies as the demand is unknown. Otherwise, PA reported development on a new training program, similar to the MOST Dig Once Course, and that the upcoming Stormwater 101 session developed by PSABS will be held in early June 2019.

Maryland was pleased to have a full delegation. They discussed the Conowingo WIP and how it can affect funding in other areas, the circuit rider program on the Eastern Shore, and workforce

development initiatives through the Employment Advancement Right Now (EARN) Maryland grant program.

Delaware is continuing Phase III WIP outreach involving the EPA and encouraging working with landowners and churches to help engage them in local restoration efforts. The Ramble was also recognized and received the [Governor's 2019 Agricultural and Urban Conservation Award](#).

West Virginia reported many capital improvements around Berkeley County and Martinsburg including integrating stormwater features and moving county officials around.

The District of Columbia reported actively working with the DOEE in continuing public outreach for the WIP and partnering with the Earth Conservation Core in Ward 6 and 8.

Virginia intended to partner with LGAC Staff to foster more dialogue about VA's Phase III WIP, meet with the Governor to talk about LGAC recommendations, and meet with bank commissioning members in regards to November elections.

LGAC's Coordinator intended to explore the possibility of a meeting between members of LGAC, CAC, and the CBC to discuss state, local, bay, and citizens' priorities.

Action: Jennifer will put this dialogue together.

Jurisdiction Updates on Phase III WIPs

District of Columbia - Katherine Antos shared that DC has implemented public outreach strategies as part of their WIP to encourage citizens to understand plans to implement green infrastructure projects, best management practices, invasive species control, and pollutant/rainwater/urban runoff control. Local engagement practices incorporated were to construct a new Citizen Monitoring program in partnership with DC Water (who has a wastewater treatment plan in place), hosting roundtables, and creating 5-part grant writing workshops (targeted at Ward 7 and 8 citizens and local leaders). Outreach was also achieved by holding public meetings cohosted by Chesapeake Partner Advisory Groups (i.e. Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, RiverSmart Homes, etc), and other notable organizations in order to share networks, or using SurveyMonkey to facilitate public comments about the WIP.

Maryland - Kathy Stecker reported that MD believes it has sufficient WIP funding. Wastewater and agriculture will receive the most reductions followed by stormwater and septic. The challenge is that while current reductions within the WIP can take MD to 2040, climate change cannot be thoroughly accounted for.

Delaware - James Sullivan explained how DE breaks its sectors down into developed, and agricultural within its WIP. DE will focus mostly on agriculture to reach the targeted goals including finding a solution to manure transport. James also reported that there is currently an RFA out for projects in which the WIP guarantees 2.5 million of the overall budget.

Pennsylvania - Marcus Kohl discussed WIP state-wide initiatives including assessing local planning goals by county to understand where the gaps exist, a strategy to reduce the 34 million pounds of runoff into the bay (currently 9 million less than what is needed to reduce according to the WIP), and restore Pennsylvania (an initiative to push a 4.5 billion dollar investment in infrastructure, flooding, etc)

West Virginia - Matt Pennington explained the successes of WV's Phase II WIP including the upgrading of 12 wastewater treatment plans, multiple tree plantings, and ordinance development including transforming agricultural ordinances, and the recycling of poultry litter as compost for depleted sites outside the watershed.

Watershed Education and Tree Canopy/ Local Leadership Curriculum

Jennifer asked LGAC members to give feedback on the development of the Watershed Education Handbook aimed at local newly elected officials. Members unanimously agreed that the target should not just be "newly" elected officials as the audience pool should be much larger and seasoned officials will be hesitant to use the handbook at all. Members also felt the handbook should take the direction starting from a local perspective then expanding watershed wide. Finally a few members liked the idea of LGAC serving as a mentor to those new elected officials by incorporating a quote of the first thing learned as an official. A list of BMPs would also give them contact for mentors or references (i.e. engineers, public works staff, etc)

Action: Staff to solicit comments from LGAC members.

Business Meeting

Approval of March 2019 Minutes - Bruce moved to approve the LGAC March 2019 meeting minutes, Richard seconded and passed unanimously.

Executive Committee Report - Ann shared her participation with MB and PSC 2019 meetings.

Coordinators Report – Jennifer updated LGAC on staff changes reporting herself as the new coordinator, Ola coming on as full time, and Laura Cattell-Noll starting as the LLWG Coordinator on July 1. She announced the release of the Bay Barometer. Finally she asked members to be contributors to the Bay Journal: Local Government Edition.

LLWG Report – Matt Pennington presented the main challenge facing the LLWG: How do we get the information needed to achieve the CBP 29 outcomes across the watershed? He explained the needs of each jurisdiction need to be identified and verify appropriate resources and content to use to encourage local governments to find what works for them and amplify that to see if it works elsewhere. Matt was interested in using LGAC as a sounding board to speak to targeted audiences regardless of party affiliation by holding conferences or even writing for the Bay Journal: Local Government Edition. LGAC members felt it was necessary to address budgets as well.

Action: Staff will provide link to LLWG Workplan, provide extra copies of Bay Barometer and Rack Card, and give more information about how to write for the Bay Journal: Local Government Edition.

LGAC Executive Council 2019 Recommendations

Jennifer presented LGAC's recommendations to the Chesapeake Executive Council and assured members that Ann will be discussing these recommendations with MD's Governor on June 11, 2019.

New Business/ Future Agenda Items

- 2020 LGAC meetings alternating Thursday, Friday and Wednesday, Thursday schedule.

- Have meetings including speakers who discuss more innovative case studies such as gaining credit for certain stormwater practices.
- Norfolk new zoning code.
- The ability to fly drones in order to understand stormwater issues.

Action: Staff will create a doodle poll to determine preferred LGAC 2020 Quarterly Meeting dates

Meeting Adjourned 11:45 am