

**CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION**  
**Annapolis, Maryland**  
**January 3, 2008**

The Chesapeake Bay Commission held its fourth quarterly meeting on Thursday, January 3, 2008, in Annapolis, Maryland.

The following Commission members and staff were in attendance:

Rear Admiral Mark Boensel  
Senator Mike Brubaker  
Assistant Secretary Jeff Corbin  
Delegate John Cosgrove  
Deputy Secretary Cathy Curran Myers  
Representative Russ Fairchild  
MD Citizen Representative Bernie Fowler  
Senator Brian Frosh  
Secretary John Griffin  
Senator Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.  
Representative Arthur Hershey  
Delegate James Hubbard  
Delegate Lynwood Lewis  
Representative Mike Sturla  
Senator Mike Waugh  
Delegate John F. Wood, Jr.

Staff: Ann Pesiri Swanson  
Suzan Bulbulkaya  
Marel Raub  
Matt Mullin  
Paula Hose

Members not in attendance:

VA Citizen Representative Irvine Hill  
Delegate Scott Lingamfelter (proxy)  
Senator Thomas "Mac" Middleton  
Senator Nick Rerras  
Delegate Mike Weir, Jr.  
PA Citizen Representative George Wolff

**WELCOME**

Chairman Jim Hubbard welcomed the members to the first quarterly meeting of the New Year and introduced the Commission's new navy liaison, Rear Admiral Mark Boensel. As a result of the Maryland Delegation's absence at the November meeting due to Governor O'Malley's Special

Session, Chairman Hubbard re-introduced Pennsylvania's newest member, Representative Mike Sturla. Representative Sturla previously served on the Commission in 1993-94.

### **MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

The business meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Hubbard at 10:05 A.M. Following roll call, the November 2007 meeting minutes and the agenda were adopted as proposed.

### **CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES**

- 2007 Executive Council Meeting– Delegate Hubbard and Ann Swanson gave the members an overview of the December EC meeting where the Commission agreed to champion: hosting the Cellulosic Biofuels Summit; assisting Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant obtain increased federal funding; and, further support for the Federal Farm Bill. The Executive Council officially recognized that we would not be making the 2010 water quality goals but held fast that they were the direct goals.
- Jeff Lape, Director of the US EPA Chesapeake Bay Program briefed the members on EPA's new \$6 million grant program and explained that the criteria for grants was still under development.

### **THE STATE OF BAY WATERS: A Progress Report**

Richard Batiuk, Associate Director of the US EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office, provided the members with an overview on the status of restoration efforts in the Bay, stressing that its health still remains degraded. Mr. Batiuk reported that we have made measurable progress with water quality and dissolved oxygen proving that even with seemingly slow progress the Bay is responding in a positive manner to our restoration efforts. He further explained that we are, however, losing ground with developing lands and much more needs to be done.

### **NEXT STEPS FOR CLEAN WATER**

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) transitioned discussion to the upcoming legislative sessions. First, Will Baker, President of CBF, introduced CBF's three state directors who each presented their legislative priorities for 2008. After CBF's State Directors spoke, Mr. Baker highlighted past Chesapeake restoration goals and noted that the public is becoming impatient with progress. Mr. Baker also noted the uniqueness of the Chesapeake Bay Commission as the only tri-state legislative body in the country and reiterated the potential CBC has in representing 85% of the watershed. Mr. Baker suggested the Commission work together "as a block" and seek additional federal support in the Bay restoration effort.

Matt Erhart, Pennsylvania Director updated members on the status of the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP). During the first day of the program, farmers signed up for \$6.7 million of the \$10 million allocated. Mr. Erhart also spoke of current initiatives in Pennsylvania, including increasing REAP to \$50 million, and a focus on supporting municipalities to upgrade wastewater treatment plants.

Kim Coble, Maryland Director, discussed the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund bill legislation passed during Maryland's November 2007 Special Session. Ms. Coble stressed the importance of making sure the expenditure plan for the fund is used for cost-effective, targeted packages in the

Bay restoration effort. Critical area reform, global warming and forestry initiatives Coble told the members would also be high priorities of CBF during the upcoming Maryland General Assembly.

Ann Jennings, Virginia Director, focused her discussion on the importance of the ongoing collaborative effort in Virginia to secure dedicated funding for agricultural best management practices funding needs. CBF will advocate full funding for five priority practices requiring \$100 million.

### **FORESTS FOR CLEAN WATER: Putting the Bay on the Ballot**

Ernest Cook, Senior Vice President of the Conservation Finance Program at the Trust for Public Land presented to the members possible alternatives for financing land preservation. Mr. Cook discussed a strategy to build state-local partnerships to further implement the forest and land conservation goals recently established by the Chesapeake Executive Council in response to Forest Directive, #06-1. He highlighted the three necessary attributes of such a strategy by highlighting case studies in Massachusetts, New Jersey and Florida. Dr. Cook also spoke specifically to preliminary research conducted by the Trust for Public Land in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Mr. Cook offered TPL to conduct similar research in the Bay watershed states. The decision was to be considered by the Commission members.

### **FARMING FOR CLEAN WATERS: Innovative solutions to accelerate agricultural water quality goals in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.**

Suzy Friedman, Project Manager and Eileen McLellan, Chesapeake Bay Project Coordinator for Environmental Defense briefed the members on a new Environmental Defense report, *Farming for Clean Water*. The report takes a state-by-state approach to analyzing progress thus far in accomplishing agricultural water quality goals in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and provides recommendations for cost-effective improvements to accelerate progress. As a result of their research, Ms. Friedman and Ms. McLellan outlined specific actions needed in each state to achieve the most cost-effective agriculture reductions.

### **ELECTION OF 2008 OFFICERS**

The following nominations were approved for 2008:

PA: Representative Arthur D. Hershey, Chair; Senator Mike Brubaker, Vice-chair

VA: Delegate John A. Cosgrove, Chair; Senator Emmett Hanger, Vice-chair

MD: Delegate John Wood, Chair; Citizen Representative Bernie Fowler, Vice-chair.

Delegate Jim Hubbard, as past Chairman, will also serve on the Executive Committee in 2008.

Representative Arthur Hershey was elected Commission Chairman for 2008.

### **OUTGOING/INCOMINGCHAIR REMARKS**

Delegate Hubbard thanked the members for a successful year and said it was an honor and a privilege to serve as Chairman of the Commission. Representative Hershey said he is looking

forward to chairing the Commission in 2008. Two of his main priorities for the year will be working together to coordinate a successful cellulosic biofuels summit and working towards achieving the tributary strategy goals that have been set out by the states.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

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The next meeting of the Chesapeake Bay Commission  
will be held at the Washington Plaza Hotel  
in Washington, D.C. on May 8-9, 2008