

October 31, 2019

Memorandum #2019-165

TO: Regional Environmental Committee Members

BY: Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC Principal Water Resources Engineer

RE: Regional Environmental Committee Meeting – November 7, 2019

The next meeting of the **HRPDC Regional Environmental Committee** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 7, 2019** in the **Veterans Conference Room, Ruppert Sargent Building, 1 Franklin Street, Hampton**. The agenda and related materials are attached.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Attachments

**AGENDA
MEETING OF THE
HAMPTON ROADS REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 7, 2019
10:00 A.M.**

1. Summary of the October 3, 2019 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Regional Environmental Committee (REC).

The summary and attendance sheets of the above meeting are attached.

Attachments: 1A – October REC Meeting Summary
1B – October REC Meeting Attendance

ACTION: Accept the Meeting Summary

2. Public Comments

3. Featured Stormwater Management Technique – Biochar as a Stormwater Soil Media Amendment

Biochar can be used as a soil amendment in stormwater best management practices (BMP) to increase soil water content and to promote nutrient retention. Ms. Sunderland will review the advantages and challenges with using biochar to enhance stormwater BMPs, as documented in studies by the University of Delaware and field experiences by Howard County Ecoworks in Maryland.

ACTION: None required

4. Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program Coastal Needs Assessment

The Virginia CZM Program receives funding from NOAA for program changes or enhancements that help the state make improvements in areas such as wetlands, coastal hazards, ocean resources, and impacts of development. Every five years, the Virginia CZM Program develops a Coastal Needs Assessment to assess changes, progress made, and new issues of focus. The Virginia CZM Program has begun the process of developing its next Coastal Needs Assessment, starting with stakeholder engagement. Ms. Laura McKay, Virginia CZM Program director, will brief the Committee on this process and lead a discussion of issues that the Virginia CZM Program should focus on for FY21-25.

ACTION: None required

5. The STEM Curriculum and Community Engagement at Norfolk State University

Dr. Ashley Haines, Associate Professor of Biology at Norfolk State University (NSU), has established relationships with the City of Norfolk and The Elizabeth River Project to further environmental research and engagement regarding the Elizabeth River watershed. Dr. Haines will brief the Committee on a new initiative at NSU that combines inclusiveness in STEM programs with community impact. The relationships formed outside of NSU combined with a new biology curriculum will encourage students to participate in STEM fields, allow students to focus on real-world issues through hands-on experience, and create an engaged workforce.

ACTION: None required

6. Executive Order 6

On April 3, 2018, Governor Northam signed Executive Order Number Six (EO-6): *Supporting the Critical Role of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality in Protection of Virginia's Air, Water, and Public Health*. The purpose of EO-6 was to begin a process to thoroughly assess the Department of Environmental Quality's ability to carry out its mission, and identify areas where additional funding or authorities are necessary to protect Virginia's environment. HRPDC staff will highlight a few of the recommendations and budget requests associated with the EO6 report.

ACTION: None required

7. One Water Summit 2019

HRPDC staff had the opportunity to attend to the One Water Summit in Austin, TX. The Summit is a national conference hosted by the US Water Alliance that is focused on integrated approaches to managing water. Ms. Whitney Katchmark and Ms. Jill Sunderland will review the highlights of the conference, including some of the perspectives shared by municipalities across the country in regards to water infrastructure challenges, resiliency efforts, and policy implementation.

ACTION: None required

8. Department of Environmental Quality's Training Committee

DEQ recently established an External Training Committee to facilitate better communication between DEQ staff and practitioners in regards to the state Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management training courses. As a first step, DEQ distributed a survey to the Training Committee members, including HRPDC staff, to seek feedback on the existing training resources and to identify future training needs. Ms. Sunderland will ask for input from the Committee members.

ACTION: None required

9. Other Matters

Regional Environmental Committee – Voting:

Chesapeake

Barbara Brumbaugh

James City

Toni Small
Michael Woolson

Smithfield

Wayne Griffin
William Saunders

Windsor

Vacant
Vacant

Franklin/Southampton

Donald E. Goodwin
Beth Lewis

Newport News

Vacant
Allison Watts

Suffolk

Erin Rountree

York

Joseph Brogan
Anna Drake

Gloucester

Mike Hudgins
Kevin Landry

Norfolk

Justin Shafer
June Whitehurst

Surry

Vacant
Vacant

Hampton

David Imburgia
Greta Hawkins

Poquoson

Dannan O’Connell
Ellen Roberts

Virginia Beach

Melanie Coffey
Diana St. John

Isle of Wight

Kim Hummel
Melissa Lindgren

Portsmouth

Meg Pittenger
Thomas Quattlebaum

Williamsburg

Heather Markle
Aaron Small

Regional Environmental Committee – Non-Voting:

HRSD

Jamie Mitchell
Kevin M. Parker
Jennifer Reitz
Jaime Mitchell

NAVY

Sarah E. Diebel
Tara Fisher
Brian Powell
Phillip S. Winslow, Jr.

SWCD

Stacey Bradshaw
Tara Outland-Williams
Jim Wallace

VDEQ

Noah Hill
John Kennedy

VDOT

Jennifer Dail
Andrew B. Scott

VDOF

Molly O’Liddy

USGS

Mark Bennett

NOAA

Andrew Larkin

James City

Trevor Long

Virginia Beach

Shawn Fluharty