**Attachment 1A**
**MEETING SUMMARY**
**JOINT MEETING OF DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE AND HEALTH DIRECTORS**
**December 7, 2018**
**Chesapeake**

## 1. Summary of the November 7, 2018 Meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee

There were no comments on, or revisions to the summary of the November 7, 2018 Committee meeting.

**ACTION:** The summary of the November 7, 2018 meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee was approved.

## 2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

## 3. VDH Office of Drinking Water Program Update

Mr. Dan Horne, VDH-ODW Southeast Virginia Field Office Director, presented a regulatory update. He focused on the state and federal bills that have been introduced to address the testing of lead in drinking water in schools and the new lead service line replacement program.

Though the issue has received more attention lately, testing the drinking water in schools is not a new topic. The Lead Contamination Control Act of 1988 focused on identification and resolution of lead problems in schools' drinking water. It was designed to repair or remove water coolers with lead-lined tanks. However, the program was voluntary and had no associated funding.

The ODW partnered with the Virginia School Plant Managers Association in 2017 to develop an approach for lead testing. They agreed to follow the "Three T's Program", which includes training school officials, testing drinking water, and taking action to communicate results and remediate issues. Some school districts have completed some sampling; others are still developing their plan.

There are two new national programs to fund lead testing for drinking water in schools. In September 2018, EPA announced a new grant program, funded through the WIIN Act, which will include lead testing in public schools and childcare facilities. The three-year program will provide $20M a year to be used nationwide. Virginia is interested in applying for a grant and is preparing a Notice of Intent to Participate letter. In October 2018, the Water Infrastructure Act became law. The Act authorizes $25M in FY20 and FY21 for lead testing in schools and educational facilities.

VDH's lead service line replacement (LSLR) rebate program provides grant funding to waterworks that do complete LSL replacement, from connection to main and all the way to the building. Three projects were funded in FY18 and more were submitted for FY19.

The waterworks regulations have been revised. The Board of Health is expected to approve the proposed regulations at their meeting on December 13, 2018. New regulations will likely be effective in 2021.

**ACTION: No action.**

**4. DEQ SSORS Volumes**

At the Capacity Team meeting a couple of months ago, the DEQ Tidewater Regional Office made a request for localities to estimate the volume of overflows and avoid reporting a "-1". Ms. Katchmark noted that this request was initially made when the SSORs database was created. DEQ requested that "-1" only be used in extreme situations where the quantity is truly unknown.

Typically the sewer volume can be fairly easily estimated; however, the stormwater volumes are more challenging to gauge. It was recommended that dry-weather flow estimates be included. The following example statement was provided, "wastewater diluted with stormwater/groundwater; estimated wastewater component based on typical dry weather flows and spill duration is 395 gallons."

Ms. Katchmark presented data detailing the number of SSOS reported as "-1" from 2004 to 2018 across the region and by locality. The last few years have ranged from 12 to 17, except for 2016 which was 168. The spike was attributed to Hurricane Matthew.

Ms. Katchmark asked the DUCs to consider ways to improve reporting. Several localities use a reference sheet that shows example photos for estimating sewer spills from overflowing sewer maintenance holes.

**ACTION:** HRPDC staff will distribute the regional SSORS reporting data and also a separate spreadsheet for each locality.

**5. HRSD Research – SWIFT Water Quality and PFAS**

Ms. Jamie Mitchell, Technical Services Director at HRSD, provided an update on the operation of the SWIFT Research Center with a focus on the water quality data collected. Ms. Mitchell highlighted the SWIFT water quality targets for total nitrogen, turbidity, total coliform, E. coli, contaminants of emerging concern, and total dissolved solids. HRSD tests the SWIFT treatment process in real time so that water can be diverted from the injection well if need be.

There are four monitoring wells installed at the Research Center. The first is located 50 feet from the injection site; while the furthest is 500 feet away. It takes the SWIFT water about three days to reach the closest well. Elevated levels of nitrite were detected in the closest monitoring well in early August. Before the levels reached the MCL, backflush of the process was initiated. After continued analysis, it was suspected that the nitrogen came up because of temporary reducing conditions in the groundwater. Recharge was resumed a couple of weeks later after the nitrite levels had declined.

Dr. Dana Gonzalez, Chemist at HRSD, presented her most recent work which has centered on perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS are a suite of 3,000 to 4,000 chemicals that are used to make Teflon, firefighting foam, and stain resistant coatings. This emerging contaminant of concern has been associated with health issues including cancer and endocrine disorders. PFAS with eight carbons or longer are considered to be long chain. Some studies have indicated that only the long chain chemicals bioaccumulate, but there are conflicting studies.

One of the more common PFAS chemicals is AFFF, which is commonly used at airports and military facilities for fire suppression. With supporting research dating back to the 1970s, HRSD cannot treat AFFF with current treatment processes. When facilities deploy AFFF, it has to be collected, contained, and hauled to a hazardous waste treatment facility.

**ACTION:** No action.

**6. PAH Research**

Dr. Mike Unger was unable to attend the meeting. His presentation will be rescheduled.

7. **Utility Directors and Health Directors Roundtable Discussion**

There were no updates.

**8. Staff Reports**

- **JCSA data call for mission critical emergency work –** Ms. Katchmark noted that the deadline for submitting responses was December 5, 2018.

- **Water Supply Plan Update –** Ms. Katchmark has been communicating with Mr. Trevor Lawson at DEQ and explaining that our local data does not always fit well into the state database. He provided a list of remaining data needs, which was distributed to the attendees. Ms. Katchmark noted that NN Waterworks and NO need more data. The goal is to receive a memo that indicates we complied.

- **HRSD Integrated Plan – First Amendment to the 2014 MOA:** Ms. Katchmark noted that we need signatures from IW, GL, and CH. Mr. Jurgens anticipated having CH's ready next week.

- **Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment –** The Emergency Managers are collecting data that is required for the UASI grant. They want to state the ongoing efforts but also describe the gaps and funding needs. Ms. Katchmark reviewed the questions listed on the handout, and the DUCs provided input. Though there is no regional COOP, most localities do have their own. Most localities have plans that describe the points of distribution (PODs) when handing out water during emergencies, but many of these do not include prioritization. The region relies on the members of the WARN to assist in providing services and maintaining the network.

**9. Other Business**

There was no additional business, and the meeting was adjourned.