

Attachment 1A
MEETING SUMMARY
JOINT MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE AND
HEALTH DIRECTORS
November 2, 2016
Chesapeake

1. Summary of the October 5, 2016 Meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee

There were no comments on, or revisions to the summary of the October 5, 2016 Committee meeting.

ACTION: The summary of the October 5, 2016 Directors of Utilities Committee meeting was approved.

2. Summary of the May 4, 2016 Joint Meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee and Health Directors

There were no comments on, or revisions to the summary of the May 4, 2016 joint meeting.

ACTION: The summary of the May 4, 2016 joint meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee and Health Directors was approved.

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. VDH Update

The HRPDC staff provided the following updates:

- Mr. John Aulbach retired from the VDH Office of Drinking Water and is now president of Aqua Virginia. Mr. Drew Hammond is serving as the Office of Drinking Water's Acting Director.
- The VDH Office of Epidemiology staff has indicated that the VIMS predictive modeling study for beach advisories is on hold until more data is gathered to evaluate the feasibility of such modeling efforts.

Regarding the VIMS study, the Peninsula Health District staff shared that additional sampling was completed, no follow up report is available yet, and the Health District has not been notified of any new data needs.

ACTION: No action.

5. Microbial Source Tracking

Mr. Raul Gonzalez, HRSD, briefed the group on microbial source tracking projects to improve local water quality in the Nansemond River (Suffolk), Elizabeth River (Chesapeake), and at Hilton Beach (Newport News). A copy of his presentation is included as Attachment 1C.

Mr. Gonzalez provided background information on the development of HRSD's adaptive in-pipe microbial source tracking (MST) approach that incorporates the most recent advances in host-specific research and knowledge of infrastructure. MST provides another investigation tool for utilities, along with smoke testing and CCTV. At Hilton Beach, private-side wastewater lateral leaks and a wastewater gravity main leak were identified upstream of "hot spots" in the stormwater collection system where field sampling showed poor water quality. Following City repairs to the wastewater collection system, HRSD was able to document the immediate improvement in stormwater water quality. Mr. Gonzales related how the methods developed during the Hilton Beach project were applied to an MST project in Shingle Creek (Nansemond River, Suffolk). HRSD is currently cooperating with localities and non-profit organizations to execute similar MST projects in Knitting Mill Creek (Lafayette River, Norfolk) and Indian River (Elizabeth River, Chesapeake).

In response to a question from the group, Mr. Gonzalez clarified that stormwater pipe sampling after the completion of wastewater pipe repairs shows non-detect fecal indicator bacteria or low-level (baseline) fecal indicators that are associated with sediments.

When asked about the City of Newport News's repairs to the wastewater collection system in the Hilton Beach area, Public Works Director Reed Fowler confirmed that the City handled the repairs and was able to reduce costs by isolating the area in need of repairs. He complimented HRSD's program and the extensive community outreach and education work done by Mr. Gonzalez to facilitate the project.

HRSD General Manager Ted Henifin noted that the program was put in place to assist localities, and that MST is an effective use of resources to achieve water quality benefits. The types of issues identified through MST are unlikely to be found through the RWWMP work. Another use for MST is in spill response; same-day results indicate the concentration of bacteria in the water and the extent of the impacted area.

Mr. Peter Pommerenk, Virginia Beach, clarified that MST methods are good for tracking human bacteria sources, but are limited in that the results do not differentiate between live or dead cells and do not indicate the relative abundance of different sources (e.g., 5% human, 10% dog).

ACTION: No action.

6. Regulatory Update

Mr. Dan Horne, VDH Office of Drinking Water (ODW) Southeast Virginia Field Office Director, provided an update on regulatory issues, including the Revised Total Coliform Rule implementation, revisions to the Waterworks Regulations, and future regulatory actions on the Lead and Copper Rule Long-Term Revisions and the Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule. A copy of his presentation is included as Attachment 1D.

- **Current Regulatory Actions:** The direct incorporation of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) into the state regulations is complete; the rule takes effect November 2, 2016. VDH will continue implementing the rule. New Bacteria Sampling Siting Plans for all waterworks is 80% complete. New Seasonal Sampling Siting Plans for those that are seasonal or have seasonal components are 100% complete. It was clarified that the triggering of a Level 1 Assessment is not a violation and does not require public notification. Level 2 Assessments require public notification and systems should note the requirements for E. coli testing.

As a result of the periodic review of the Waterworks Regulations, the Office of the Attorney General had recommended amendments to align certain part of the regulation dealing with violations to match the Code. No public comments were received and the Agency's decision is pending.

- **Future Regulatory Actions:** The general revisions to the Waterworks Regulations, which had been postponed to coordinate better with the RTCR process, will commence again in Winter 2017. It will follow the full APA process and will result in the replacement of the existing regulations. The Regulatory Advisory Panel will be reconvened as part of the process.

The periodic review of the Waterworks Regulations addressing Waterworks Operations Fees is anticipated, although a schedule has yet to be determined. The public comment period ends on November 7, 2016. Under the current regulations, transient systems do not pay a fee, but require a significant amount of VDH oversight. VDH plans to issue a NOIRA, then develop draft and final regulations.

On the Lead and Copper Rule Long-Term Revisions (Part 1), EPA is reviewing the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC) [recommendations](#) to provide separate requirements for copper and to address lead in drinking water and other sources. Options include lead service line replacement, improving optimal corrosion control treatment requirements, consideration of a health-based benchmark, the potential role of point-of-use filters, clarifications or strengthening of tap sampling requirements, increased transparency, and public education requirements. Water systems should expect significant changes in the implementation of the rule.

The final Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) is expected to be issued as late as June 2017, and will include sampling requirements for all large waterworks, both producers and consecutive waterworks. The sampling protocol may require follow-up sampling of raw, finished, and distribution water. The sampling data provides the EPA with occurrence data to support the contaminants being regulated.

ACTION: No action.

7. Roundtable Discussion

The Utility Directors and Health Directors participated in a roundtable discussion on the impacts from high rainfall events, such as the September 2016 wet weather and the October 8-9 2016 rainfall from Hurricane Matthew. Rainfall statistics and maps were provided to as discussion aids (see Attachment 1E)

The group noted impacts across the region, with the most significant impacts occurring on the south side. In Suffolk, several sections of roadway were lost, a force main backup affected City Hall, and pump stations flooded in areas that do not typically flood. In Chesapeake, almost all pump stations were in alarm status during the storm, and Public Utilities estimates \$750,000 in damage and the need to partially replace about twelve pump stations. All pump stations in Portsmouth were in alarm status during the storm. The wet weather triggered City discussions on stormwater management and stormwater infrastructure funding. In Virginia Beach, there was damage to neighborhoods, roads, and pump stations. Approximately 2,000 homes were affected by flooding. About 220 pump stations were in alarm status. At the Stumpy Lake spillway, flows overtopped the wing walls and caused about four feet of erosion and stripped the asphalt from the bridge road. A log jam occurred at the Meherrin River crossing, but it was cleared without significant damage.

ACTION: No action.

BREAK (5 minutes)

The joint meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee and Health Directors concluded at the break. Upon reconvening, topics pertaining to the Utility Directors will be discussed.

8. Hampton Roads Regional Source Water Protection Plan

The HRPDC staff summarized the comments received to date on the draft Hampton Roads Regional Source Water Protection Plan and how the comments will be incorporated in a revised draft (see Attachment 1F). Staff reviewed the potential source water protections strategies and solicited feedback from the Committee.

Potential Source Water Protection Strategies:

1. Continuation of Current Regional Source Water Protection Activities (askHRgreen.org, water supply planning, groundwater mitigation, stormwater management, SSORS, etc.)
2. Source Water Protection Plan Local Advisory Committee Meetings (1 Directors of Utilities Committee meeting annually)
3. Potential Contamination Source Inventory Updates (check with VDH annually)
4. Sanitary Sewer Overflows Notices (add water utilities to SSORS distribution list)
5. Coordination with Roadway Operators (establish contacts; update annually; additional support per Committee direction)
6. Coordination with Railroad Operators (establish contacts; update annually; additional support per Committee direction)
7. Coordination with Gas Transmission Pipelines and Hazardous Liquid Trunkline Operators (establish contacts; update annually; additional support per Committee direction)
8. Location-Based Analyses (examples: mapping uses/unique conditions; further identify risks)
9. Policy Summary (source water protection provisions in local plans and ordinances; technical assistance for amendment/implementation)

Staff noted that items 1 through 4 can be completed as part of the existing work plan for the Regional Water Program, and items 5 through 7 can be added to the work plan and accomplished within existing budget and staff resources. Items 8 and 9 are potential strategies that the Committee may elect to pursue in the future.

During the discussion, it was noted that Suffolk and Portsmouth already coordinate SSORS report distribution between the two utilities (item 4). Regarding items 5 and 6, Norfolk commented that the utility has already established contacts with roadway and rail operators. It was also suggested that the Bay Star Homes program and specific locality watershed protection programs be detailed in Section 4 of the Plan. HRPDC staff will incorporate these comments and distribute a revised draft a for a second round of review in mid-November; staff anticipates finalizing the plan in mid-December and seeking Committee approval of the document at the January 4, 2017 meeting.

ACTION: No action.

9. askHRgreen.org Annual Report

The HRPDC staff briefed the Committee on the [askHRgreen.org Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2016](#) and the public education and outreach activities for water awareness (HRWET) and fats, oils, and grease (HRFOG). A copy of the presentation slides is provided as Attachment 1G.

The askHRgreen.org FY16 combined media efforts generated a total of 20.1 million advertising impressions. The \$155,480 FY16 media budget yielded an exposure value of \$230,614 for a 1.48 to 1 return on investment.

The FY2016 campaign highlights included education committee strategic planning efforts, development of the 2015-2020 marketing plan and annual plans for each committee, the launching of the locality branding initiative, and a new website development plan in addition to the educational outreach and events completed through six themed media campaigns and a television campaign.

Staff provided a list of FY17 initiatives, which will include the mobile responsive website development and a rain-activated sidewalk messaging campaign. A search engine marketing campaign, 10 themed media campaigns, media relations, e-newsletters, events participation, and social media campaigns are also planned.

During the discussion, staff clarified that each education committee individually funds their respective advertising campaigns and promotional budgets; adjustments can be made according to priorities. Also, the HRWET committee shifted the messaging to focus on outdoor water use, fix-a-leak, and understanding the value of tap water.

Newport News noted that illegal dumping, especially of used tires, is a problem and asked if the HRCLEAN committee has discussed the issue. Staff replied that the committee expressed interest in outreach, but is not currently spending advertising dollars toward that effort. Staff will bring up the issue with the HRCLEAN committee; it is possible that messaging could be incorporated into the anti-litter campaign. It was clarified that the target audience would be small businesses that are not properly disposing of tires and not reporting the collection of disposal fees.

The HRPDC staff also provided an update on fundraising for the H2O – Help to Others – Program. Staff is exploring ways to increase the frequency of donation solicitations and prompt more regular donations. Locality-specific one-page outreach documents have been completed. Staff will provide additional status updates to the Committee as appropriate.

ACTION: No action.

10.Support for Roanoke River Basin Association

The HRPDC staff summarized the October 20, 2016 HRPDC Personnel and Budget Committee discussion of the proposed funding for the Roanoke River Basin Association (RRBA) (the proposal was referred to Personnel and Budget Committee at the [September 15, 2016 HRPDC meeting; video recording](#) begins at time stamp 16:50).

The Personnel and Budget Committee requested a report describing the HRPDC's approach to working with NGOs, goals for the RRBA, and a timeline. A recommendation to the HRPDC remains pending.

ACTION: No action.

11. Groundwater Update

The Committee discussed the upcoming JLARC briefing to the State Water Commission on the October 2016 report, "Effectiveness of Virginia's Water Resource Planning and Management." The Committee discussed the comments proposed by Mission H2O on the JLARC report recommendations. The Committee expressed concerns for HRPDC staff to convey to the Mission H2O Groundwater Subgroup and generally did not support the comment submittal. The Committee will have a discussion of each of the JLARC report recommendations at a future meeting.

ACTION: No action.

12. Other Business

Staff reminded Committee members to reply to the poll on potential dates for a meeting between public utilities, public works, and stormwater managers.

ACTION: No action.