

Attachment 2A
MEETING SUMMARY
DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
June 7, 2017
Chesapeake

1. Summary of the May 3, 2017 Meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee

There were no comments on, or revisions to the summary of the May 3, 2017 Committee meeting.

ACTION: The summary of the May 3, 2017 meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee was approved.

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

There were no comments on, or revisions to the summary of the November 2, 2016 joint meeting.

ACTION: The summary of the November 2, 2016 meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee was approved.

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. Beach Monitoring Update

The HRPDC staff summarized information provided by the Office of Epidemiology related to the VDH's decision not to pursue the development of a predictive model for beach advisories with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (see Attachment 1C). Concerns that contributed to this decision included the data types and significant amounts of data necessary for long term support of the model, applicability and usability of the model's outputs for beach advisory management, staffing requirements for sampling, and potential EPA funding cuts.

Over the next year, the VDH Coastal Beach Monitoring Program will be evaluating the potential use of [Virtual Beach](#), a software package primarily designed for managers responsible for making decisions regarding beach closures due to pathogen contamination. The software can be used to develop site-specific statistical models to predict pathogen indicator levels at recreational beaches.

ACTION: No action.

5. Onsite Wastewater/Septic Sector Update

Ms. Angela Redwine, VDH Office of Environmental Health Services (OEHS), provided an update on the onsite septic sector activities with respect to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan (see Attachment 1D). Her presentation included information on the following topics:

- Onsite sewage sector progress towards the Chesapeake Bay TMDL: Since 2016, nitrogen inputs to the Bay have increased from the urban stormwater sector and the septic sector. Septic sector loads are well above both the 2017 interim target and the 2025 planning target. Population growth and conventional onsite septic systems are believed to be the cause of the increase in nitrogen from the septic sector. BMPs that can reduce loads from the septic sector include public sewer connections, septic tank pump outs, and nitrogen-reducing alternative onsite sewage systems. As only some BMPs are reported to the VDH, the OEHS is working to improve BMP data collection and reporting methodology to maximize nutrient reduction credits. The VDH reports septic tank pump outs for properties outside areas protected by the Bay Act, while localities report pump outs for properties within Bay Act areas.
- Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model updates for onsite sewage: Changes reflected in the Phase 6 model include the incorporation of variable soil attenuation rates based on the findings of the expert panel; estimates of sewer service areas based on updated land cover data; and updated load calculations that identify loads contributed by large onsite systems. Most of the large onsite systems have enhanced nitrogen treatment; system loads will be reported from annual sampling.
- 2017 Mid-Point evaluation and Phase III WIP development: As the EPA is emphasizing local outreach for the Phase III WIP development, the DEQ has commenced meetings with localities. EPA's final Phase III WIP expectations are anticipated in June 2017. The Phase III strategies for the onsite sector will be similar to that of Phase II and focused on feasible and attainable goals like funding for system repairs and upgrades, expanding the 5-year pump out requirement to the entire Bay watershed, and encouraging community systems with advanced nitrogen treatment.
- Status of funding for onsite sewage: Very limited funding is available to the onsite sector. Funds are primarily from DEQ's Nonpoint Source Water Quality Improvement Fund. The VDH may pursue potential funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Southeast Rural Community Assistance Program.
- Upcoming programmatic changes within the onsite sewage program: The VDH has formed a new data division that will support other programmatic goals including increasing data collection and analysis, completing 100% of system inspections, eliminating design services, and focusing on VDH's regulatory role to increase compliance.

Ms. Redwine clarified that the OEHS is working toward a complete digital inventory of septic systems and private wells. She also noted that the VDH is promoting SepticSmart week, September 18-22, through partnerships with localities and non-profit organizations to encourage homeowner awareness of proper septic system maintenance.

ACTION: No action.

6. VDH Office of Drinking Water Regulatory Update

Mr. Dan Horne, VDH Office of Drinking Water (ODW) Southeast Virginia Field Office Director, provided an update on administrative staff changes. He noted that Mr. Jim Moore, VDH ODW Lexington Field Office Director, is serving as the ODW Acting Director. Former Acting Director Drew Hammond is now with the Department of Environmental Quality.

Mr. Horne provided an update on regulatory issues including the Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, revisions to the Waterworks Regulations, the Lead and Copper Rule Long-Term Revisions, VDH's pilot program for lead service line replacement, and concerns regarding exposure to perfluorinated chemicals. A copy of his presentation is included as Attachment 1E.

The final Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) was published on December 20, 2016. Mr. Horne noted that the 800 randomly-selected large waterworks will include both producers and consecutive waterworks. He provided an overview of the finished water sampling requirements, the monitoring framework, and the UCMR4 implementation timeframe. Assessment monitoring will commence in 2018. The EPA is developing a list of approved laboratories; large systems will be responsible for laboratory costs. During the discussion, it was noted that laboratory availability maybe an issue for the analysis of some compounds.

The review/revision of the Waterworks Regulation, which had been postponed, will begin in 2017 again. It will follow the full APA process and will result in the replacement of the existing regulations. The next step in the 18- to 24-month process is to develop the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action.

The proposed Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) Long-Term Revisions (Part 1) is expected to be published later in 2017; if placed on an accelerated schedule, the final rule could be published as early as late 2018. While the effective date is typically two years after publication of the final rule, this could be accelerated as well. The EPA continues to focus greater scrutiny on sampling procedures and to emphasize water quality parameter monitoring and public information needs. There are privacy concerns regarding the EPA's guidance to waterworks to publish information on the location of lead service lines, copper plumbing with lead solder, and the locations of action level

exceedances. The LCR is expected to be very different, and will reflect three basic principles:

- i. There is no “safe” level of lead in drinking water
- ii. Plumbing materials containing lead pose a health risk at all times.
- iii. Lead-containing materials should be removed from the water system.

Day cares and elementary schools will probably be included in the sampling pools. Some northern Virginia schools have commenced sampling; VDH is working with the Department of Education to provide guidance.

The LCR is expected to stipulate full service line replacement as the utility’s responsibility. It is unclear how the federal law will address work on private property, the portion of the service line owned by the homeowner, and interior plumbing components. Implementing the new LCR will require a concerted effort between the EPA, waterworks, local governments, and communities.

The VDH is offering a new [Lead Service Line \(LSL\) Replacement Program](#) funded through the DWSRF. Waterworks that complete full lead service line replacements from the main to the building will be reimbursed up to \$5,000 per line. VDH developed guidance for this pilot project with assistance from a few large waterworks. VDH expects to issue reimbursements totaling \$5 to \$6 million, based on applications already accepted or under consideration. VDH hopes to expand the use of this program.

There is growing concern regarding exposure to perfluorinated chemicals, which have been found in groundwater sources in numerous parts of the country. EPA has issued health advisories for some perfluorinated chemicals to protect the most sensitive populations. Exposure pathways include ingestion and inhalation. Perfluorinated chemicals are common in clothing, food wrappers, non-stick coatings on cookware, and products applied to protect carpet and furniture from stains. These compounds concentrate in fin fish and shellfish, and some vegetables. It is estimated that approximately 20% of a person’s total intake of perfluorinated chemicals comes from drinking water. The VDH is currently working with the Town of Chincoteague, NASA, and DEQ to address groundwater contamination that has resulted in the shut-down of three of the Town’s wells at Wallops Island. UCMR3 testing showed the presence of perfluorinated chemicals in only one water system in Virginia, located in the western part of the State.

ACTION: No action.

7. Water Quality Response Plan Emergency Contact List

The first biannual update of the [Water Quality Response Plan](#) Emergency Contact List was distributed to the Committee and Health Directors on June 6, 2017. The HRPDC staff briefed the group on efforts to enhance the list with contacts for railways, oil and gas pipelines, electric transmission lines, and major roadways located in designated

Source Water Protection Areas (see Attachment 1F). The new contacts will be added to the second biannual Emergency Contact List update (November 2017). During the discussion, several Committee members offered to assist staff with identifying contacts. Staff will follow-up with those Committee members via email.

ACTION: No action.

8. Affordability of City Services

The HRPDC staff summarized the preliminary results of the data call conducted as a follow-up to the May 3, 2017 meeting, where the Committee agreed to share statistics on water shut offs due to nonpayment. As responses from a few localities are pending, the final results and a discussion of the data's usefulness in illustrating affordability concerns will be taken up at a future meeting.

ACTION: No action.

9. Utility Directors and Health Directors Roundtable Discussion

The Code of Virginia [§15.2-2119, part D](#) allows water service to be turned off for accounts that are 60 days past due "unless the health officers certify that shutting off the water will endanger the health of occupants of the premises or the health of others." The group participated in a roundtable discussion of how health departments and utilities would coordinate in such cases.

Mr. David Jurgens, City of Chesapeake Public Utilities Director, noted that his department is drafting a policy and form, similar to [Dominion Energy's form](#), for customers to register with serious medical conditions. He shared his recent experience coordinating with Dr. Nancy Welch, Chesapeake Health Department Director. The Chesapeake Health Department applies an affordability evaluation process and requests documentation from a doctor to confirm the medical need for 24-7 water service. The Health Department then makes a determination as to whether the citizen is unable to pay or is choosing not to pay the utility bill.

Mr. Horn commented that the Crater Health District has also used a similar process in the past, and that each Health Director may develop their own assessment process. Ms. Amy Pemberton, Environmental Health Manager with the Peninsula Health District, noted that the VDH Central Office may also be examining this issue. Mr. Bob Montague, City of Virginia Beach Public Utilities Director, noted that the City requires customers with serious medical conditions to recertify annually to be eligible for extended payment time and delayed termination of service.

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 were discussed.

10. Groundwater Update

The HRPDC staff summarized recently issued groundwater permit allocations and conditions. The Committee's comments included corrections to be incorporated into the next draft. Staff will continue to update the permit summary as permits are issued.

The next meeting of the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 12, 2017. The meeting agenda and attachments are available on DEQ's website.

ACTION: No action.

11. Mission H2O Virginia Groundwater Subgroup FY18 Participation

The Committee discussed whether to participate in the Mission H2O FY18 Groundwater Subgroup and whether to expend \$10,000 of reserve funds to participate. The Committee members present agreed to participate in FY18. Staff will send a follow-up email to the Committee asking for an electronic vote on the proposed reserve fund expenditure.

ACTION: Electronic vote on the reserve fund expenditure of \$10,000 to participate in the FY18 Groundwater Subgroup.

12. Regional Wet Weather Management Plan Update

Mr. Richard Stahr, Brown and Caldwell Senior Vice President, presented the preliminary list of high priority projects for HRSD's Regional Wet Weather Management Plan (RWWMP) (see Attachment 1G). Mr. Stahr explained the drivers behind the high priority projects, budget constraints, and how the projects fit in to the integrated plan/RWWMP. He summarized the approach used to identify high priority projects, including the selection criteria, criteria weightings, the evaluation process, and project scoring.

The evaluation and scoring process identified 35 project elements in 6 project groups that can be accomplished with the \$200 million budget. Mr. Stahr reviewed the elements in each project group. Approximately 52% of the funding will be spent on HRSD assets and 48% on locality assets; it was clarified that spending on locality assets must be cash funded. The types of projects included in the preliminary list of high priority projects include infiltration and inflow reduction, locality and HRSD pump station capacity improvements, locality and HRSD conveyance, pressure reducing

stations, and storage. The Capacity Team subcommittee will be briefed on the preliminary high priority projects at the June 19, 2017 meeting.

HRSD anticipates finalizing the high priority project selection by June 30, 2017. Work on project sequencing is underway, and more information will be available in August. Locality consultation on the draft RWWMP will occur in September 2017. There will be regional participation in the development of a process to reset design standards for new development flows; in the interim, the existing policy remains in place.

ACTION: No action.

13. Staff Reports

- **Potential EPA Energy-Water Resilience Workshop:** As a follow-up to the May 3, 2017 Committee discussion, staff from Virginia Beach Public Utilities and HRPDC responded to the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies' request for host organizations and offered HRPDC meeting space and coordination support. The AMWA forwarded the HRPDC's offer to host a workshop to the EPA. However, on June 7, 2017, HRPDC staff received notice that the EPA selected workshop locations in Dallas, Texas and Phoenix, Arizona.
- **Roanoke River Basin Association (RRBA) draft MOA:** HRPDC staff summarized the draft MOA for the administration of proposed funding for the RRBA. The RRBA recently hired a new Executive Director. Coordination on the MOA will continue.
- **Hampton Roads Regional Construction Standards (HRRCS):** The recently launched new HRRCS website (www.HRRCS.com) allows users to view and access the Standards on any mobile device. It also includes a new custom search tool and interactive calendar.
- **Water Supply Plan Compliance:** Staff participated in the May 18, 2017 training for DEQ's VA Hydro pilot project. Access to the web application was given to HRPDC staff on June 1, 2017; staff is commencing with activities to validate and update data.

ACTION: No action.

14. Other Business

There was no discussion of other business.