

**MEETING OF THE  
DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE  
AND THE  
DIRECTORS OF HEALTH**

The joint meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee and Directors of Health was held on December 5, 2013. The following items were addressed during the meeting:

- Mr. Dan Horne, Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Office of Drinking Water (ODW), updated the Committee on the development of proposed revisions to the VDH Waterworks Regulations and the EPA's publication of the final revised Total Coliform Rule effective April 1, 2016. He also noted the January 4, 2014 effective date of the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act of 2011, and the EPA's October 2013 determination that fire hydrants must meet the new definition of "lead-free." The Committee discussed support of legislation currently moving through Congress to exempt fire hydrants from the new requirements.
- Mr. Peter Pommerenk, planning and analysis bureau manager for the City of Virginia Beach Department of Public Utilities presented a review of drinking water fluoridation, including regulation and common practices, peer reviewed literature, commonly cited health benefits and concerns, and a summary of other issues related to ethics and risk.
- Director Tom Leahy, Virginia Beach Department of Public Utilities, briefed the Committee on the study being conducted in partnership with the City's Sheriff and Public Safety Department for providing back-up water supplies for jails in the event of an emergency. The effort is intended to assist Public Safety in assessing alternatives to support sheltering of inmates in place.
- During the roundtable portion of the meeting, the VDH Office of Drinking Water clarified recent changes for public notification requirements for localized water main breaks.
- The Committee discussed sewer system consolidation and the December 3, 2013 draft of the Memorandum of Agreement for HRSD implementation of the regional wet weather capacity improvements. HRSD General Manager Ted Henifin reviewed locality comments and items addressed through revisions to the MOA. The Committee noted issues that require more discussion. A follow-up conference call between the MOA partners is scheduled for December 6, 2013.
- HRPDC staff reports included the forthcoming HRPDC Groundwater Permit Summary Map for 2013 and the Committee meeting schedule for 2014.
- The Committee complimented HRPDC's askHRgreen.org "value of water" radio commercial and noted the availability of a new EPA report entitled, "The Importance of Water to the U.S. Economy."