

## **Maryland Commission on Climate Change**

June 20, 2016 12:30 – 2:30

Maryland Department of the Environment

### **Commissioners (or representatives) in Attendance:**

Ben Grumbles - Chair of Commission and Secretary of Environment;  
Stuart Clarke - Town Creek Foundation;  
Mike Powell – Private Sector Representative;  
Tad Aburn – Maryland Department of the Environment;  
Donald Boesch - University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES);  
Lori Arguelles - Alice Ferguson Foundation;  
Mike Tidwell - Chesapeake Climate Action Network;  
Sue Briggum - Waste Management, Inc;  
Peter Zadoretzky - Bozzuto Group;  
Jason Dubow - Department of Planning;  
Dana Stein – Maryland General Assembly;  
Matt Fleming - Department of Natural Resources;  
Colby Ferguson - Farm Bureau;  
Paul Pinsky - Maryland General Assembly;  
R. Earl Lewis - Department Transportation;  
Chuck Fry - Maryland Farm Bureau;  
Bruce Riegel – Maryland.gov  
Kevin Conroy – Maryland.gov  
Charles Deegan – Maryland.gov  
Anne Linder – Exelon Corp  
Jim Strong – USW  
Larry Kasecamp – Labor (Building and Construction)  
Dorothy Morrison – MDOT  
Russell Dickerson – UMCP  
Mark Belton – DNR  
Qubilah Huddleston – Exelon Corp  
Jane Kirschling – UMD School Nursing

### **On Phone:**

Rebecca Rehr - Maryland Environmental Health Network;  
Tom Walls - Department Housing Community Development

### **In Attendance:**

John Fiastro; Chris Rice; Deborah Wagner; Chloe Ahman, Ashley Sebonowski, Tom Ballentine, Les Knapp, Dan Engelberg, Kate Charbonneau, Kathy Selle, Brian Ambrette, Ben Hobbs, Alicia Moran, Jim Doyle, Catherine McCall, Liz Entwisle, Dave Nemazie , David Costello, Megan Ulrich, Lisa Nissley, Scott Zacharko, Chris Hoagland, Chris Beck, Eli Brown, Jess Herpel, Pam Kasemeyer, Gwen Dubois (public comment), Margaret Flowers (public comment)

## **I. Introduction**

Meeting was called to order at 12:30. Secretary Grumbles invited each attendee to introduce themselves.

No Questions or Agenda updates were offered.

## **II. Update on 2016 Priorities**

- No voting today, just a review of Workplan and priorities
- Tad presented slides about Workplan, recommendations, and schedule – see attached

## **III. Working Group Updates**

### **A. Adaptation and Response Working Group (ARWG)**

Matt Fleming presented the status of the ARWG. Points are as follows:

- ARWG has 2<sup>nd</sup> quarterly meeting for 2016
  - Presentations from SHA, Sagamore Development Corp, and DNR's CoastSmart
- 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting will focus on:
  - reviewing 4 focus areas and initiatives included in MCCC legislation
  - Memo provided that includes 4 priorities and innovative ideas
- Prioritize serving vulnerable communities, and determining economic impact
- Developing performance metrics
- ARWG will share SHA vulnerability study

### **B. Education, Communication, and Outreach Working Group (ECO)**

Lori Arguelles presented status of the ECO. Points are as follows:

- ECO still seeking a co-chair
- ECO meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month
- “intra” communication has been important
- Website platforms have been reviewed and discussed
- Question: how can we be more responsive to the public?
- ECO will engage in public outreach representing MCCC – the law requires it

### **C. Science and Technical Working Group**

Donald Boesch from UMCES presented the status of the STWG. See attached materials. Points are as follows:

- Modified the STWG committee – 2 individuals departing and 2 joining
- Adding an Agriculture expert
- 2016 STWG tasks and 2016 goals included in attached powerpoint
- Sea-level rise figure need further review and discussion
- TMDL mid-point assessment will focus on climate change impacts

### **D. Mitigation Working Group (MWG)**

Tad discussed the progress of the Mitigation Work Group. Slides attached. Points are as follows:

- For more info about 2016 priorities see attached slides
- Monthly meetings will include extra time for discussion

- Planning webinars will begin soon (information sessions)
- Potential recommendations
  - 40 by 30 goal and progress tracking
  - Methane leakage (inside and outside of MD)
  - Enhanced Econ Analysis and EJ Issues
  - EV's – outreach, partnerships, and infrastructure
  - Clean Energy Strategies – EE/RE

Review of the MCCC Steering Committee (12 members)

- Purpose: keep MCCC on-track
- Monthly meetings
- Work Plans were created under Steering Committee recommendations
- Need to develop process, schedule, and plan for 2016 Report
- 2015 Law requires reports from State agencies. Steering Committee has to define what the reports look like

#### **IV. Bylaws of the Commission**

- Worked with Steering Committee to form small group to draft MCCC by-laws
- One remaining issue: Voting (majority or super-majority)
- Goals is and always has been consensus
- Proposal: MCCC votes on all issues after Steering Committee reviews all issues?
  - MCCC vote not necessary for all issues
- Steering Committee role is to review all language (and tone)

#### **V. Proposal for Working Group Funding**

Dave Nemazi provided update:

- Some Working Groups submitting joint requests
- 1-6 projects
- Goal is to have projects completed in 9 months
- All sectors represented on review committee
- MDE legal council recommended that UMCES process the procurement

#### **VI. Discussion Relevant Events/ Wrap Up**

- Veto of RPS bill
  - Proposal: MCCC provide feedback in the form of recommendations
  - Does the scope of the 2015 Law cover commenting to the General Assembly?
  - Governor Hogan's issue with the bill was electricity rates
  - MD has aggressive RPS already
  - Veto of RPS will call for reductions to be made elsewhere
  - Still possible that veto will be over-ridden

#### **VII. Public Comments**

- Short-lived Climate Pollutants and Methane leakage need further study by MCCC
- Cove Point LNG expansion and related Environmental Justice issues should be considered

**Meeting adjourned at 230PM**