

Maryland Commission on Climate Change  
8/8/19  
1-3 PM

### **Welcome from Secretary Grumbles and Introductions**

- Attendance: Mark Belton, Lori Arguelles, Michael Powell, Dana Stein, Charlie Deegan, Mary Beth Tung, Brian Hug, Ben Grumbles, Nancy Kopp, Matt Fleming, Earl Lewis, Rob Mccord, Gerald Jackson, Peter Goodwin, Jane Kirschling, Ian Ullman, Joe Bartenfelder, Donna Balado, Susan Payne, Spyros Papadimas, Steve Pattison, Suzanne Dorsey, Kim Grubert, Donald Goldberg, Tom Walz, Paul Berman, Dan Kreeger, Dana Cooper, Kim Drake, Cindy Osorto, Rebecca Bankard, Jim Frazier, Lisa Hoerger, Kate Charbonneau, Erick Thunell, Lisa Nissley, Joseph Lutz, Christopher Beck, Christopher Hoagland, Luke Wisniewski
- Introductions over the phone
  - Mike Bibb, Anne Lindner, Mike Tidwell, Larry Liebesmen, Susan Gore, Ashley Duckman

### **Agenda**

- Secretary Grumbles mentioned this meeting will focus on critical updates such as the GGRA plan and MDE is continuing to work on number crunching as well as interagency collaboration.
- He emphasized that the Hogan administration believes fighting climate change is a top priority in MD and that infrastructure is an important topic, along with resiliency.
- He then asked if any other commissioners had opening statements to make?
  - Treasurer Kopp noted that all agency heads got letters from budget management about state fleets going to hybrid electric or hybrid vehicles.
    - Earl Lewis believes this a good first step that shows the Governor putting actions behind words.
  - Mary Beth Tung mentioned that all of the state buildings will be audited (in terms of building energy) and the buildings which need the most help will be audited first. She also echoed the sentiments that the Governor is backing the executive order with action.
  - Secretary Grumbles highlighted the clean car promise from some state governors and emphasized the work with other states as well as the private sector in regards to state fleets as well as environmental infrastructure.

### **Public Comment**

- Don Goldberg questioned the public process for the GGRA. He put a plug out for the MD school system and net zero schools as he believes it is woefully underfunded. He would

like to see them receive more funding, along with more expansion. In regards to the state fleets he would like MD to look at EV school buses for the future.

### **Update and discussion: Working Group activities**

- Education, Communication, and Outreach Working Group - Lisa Nissley
  - Noted upcoming meeting in two weeks. Stated they are shifting the focus to getting recommendations and GGRA outreach. Would like to meet the public at existing meetings, if they have any suggestions, they are asking that they be shared.
- Scientific and Technical Working Group - Peter Goodwin
  - Highlighted the fact that the year 2019 has been one of the three warmest years on record and analysis by the EU showed that July of 2019 was the hottest month on record. He highlighted that not only were these temperatures peaking, but the peaks became plateaus which were maintained over multiple days. Also mentioned that the IPCC is working on four special reports and the STWG is planning a blue-carbon workshop. He noted that blue-carbon doesn't make up much of the inventory, but is important for carbon sequestration as well as to protect tidal areas which has other implications such as erosion control. He also emphasized the effect of climate change on human health and the fact that we need to look further into this issue. The next meeting is September 10th from 10-12.
- Adaptation and Resiliency Working Group - Matt Fleming
  - Stated that they are focused on the work plan and building financial resilience. Mentioned the major focus is on indicators such as how do they truly track measures of progress and that it has been ten years since Phase 1 to Phase 2 in comprehensive strategies.
  - Delegate Stein asked Matt Fleming to elaborate on the indicators.
    - He responded about possibly having report cards and exploring better options and the indicators are still yet to be determined.
  - Secretary Grumbles emphasized goals and measures of progress and how to identify measures to track and record progress.
  - Dan Kreeger proposed these questions - How do we track success? What is success? He also emphasized learning what other jurisdictions are doing to measure and track success, such as South Florida.
- Mitigation Working Group - Brian Hug
  - Mentioned that the consultants that helped with the analysis for the GGRA plan will provide more details.
  - Next meeting is August 13th and it will focus on transportation while the September meeting will focus on energy.
  - Mike Powell noted that last meeting was heavy on modeling and stated this can be rather boring, but is nonetheless extremely important. Stated that we need to know the full inventory and benefits from each measure.

- Treasurer Kopp asked if the full Commission would find out about recommendations which did not make the plan?
  - Mike Powell responded that this information can be found in the minutes and while the MWG may not list every idea brought forth, they would mention all those that are seriously considered.
  - He added that the point was to be secretive or withhold information
- Secretary Grumbles mentioned that Stuart Clarke has resigned and the Commission appreciates his efforts and commitment over the last four years.

### **Update and Discussion: TCI Update- Earl Lewis and Chris Hoagland**

- Please refer to slides from the PowerPoint.
- Question was asked , how does a fuel supplier lower their emissions?
  - Chris Hoagland responded by mentioning offsets and said vehicle electrification and state investment could help, as well as the fuel supplier diversifying. Mentioned the “ prime supplier” which helps with states having the same definitions and reporting systems. Highlighted that CA has more refining measures which helps with their version.

### **Update and Discussion : GGRA update - Secretary Grumbles**

- Mentioned the upcoming GGRA plan will include details to reach 40% by 2030 goal and he hopes to have it shared in upcoming weeks with more specific information to get comments and reactions. This will have more detail than the executive summary. Mentioned we are striving for 100% clean energy by 2040.
- Ian Ullman ( for Senator Pinsky) stated that the plan is already eight months behind and they want to make sure the plan reflects the urgency of today's changing climate. He feels as if we are losing time on measures which need to be implemented.
  - Secretary Grumbles responded that the plan is still being worked on in terms of modeling and numbers. He does not have a good sense of timing on when it will come out, but he recognizes the concerns of both Senator Pinsky and the public in releasing the plan soon.

### **Presentation : Climate Leadership Academy - Daniel Kreeger**

- Please refer to slides from the PowerPoint.

### **Wrap up**

- Mary Beth Tung mentioned that Tradepoint Atlantic has made an offshore wind announcement and that \$13 million will go towards a manufacturing area for offshore wind turbines off the coast of DE. They anticipate this will bring forth about 1700 jobs.
- Lori Arguelles noted that the IPCC will release a special report on oceans and the cryosphere on September 25th.

**Meeting adjourned 2:49 PM**