

# CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION Virginia Delegation Meeting

Wachapreague, VA July 11, 2025 8:00 A.M. – 9:45 A.M. Agenda

**Attire:** Casual

Virginia Institute of Marine Science's Eastern Shore Laboratory Seaside Hall

40 Atlantic Ave

Wachapreague, VA 23480

8:00 A.M. Call-to-Order & Roll Call

#### 8:05 A.M. Virginia Director's Lightning Round Updates

- Blue Crab Winter Dredge Survey Results
- Voluntary Agricultural Best Management Practice Survey
- Enhanced Nutrient Reduction Certainty Program Funding Needs
- Chesapeake Bay Agreement Public Comment Period

#### 8:30 A.M. A conversation with Virginia's Chief Resilience Officer

Gregory C. Steele, P.E. Chief Resilience Officer Commonwealth of Virginia

- 9:15 A.M. Adoption of Virtual Meeting Policy
- 9:30 A.M. Public Comment
- 9:45 A.M. Adjourn to Joint Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee Retreat

\*\*\* Next Meeting: Full Commission, September 4th - 5th in State College, Pennsylvania \*\*\*



Gregory C. Steele, P.E. Chief Resilience Officer

Gregory comes to the Commonwealth with over 31 years in Army Civilian Service, including 24 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk District, where he served as Chief of the Water Resources Division and Chief of the Planning Branch, overseeing nationally significant initiatives in water and land resources and the execution of significant storm resilience projects in the Commonwealth. Most recently, he served as the Engineer Director for HQ U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, leading a team to manage engineering and environmental facilities activities for Army Modernization, supporting troop resilience and readiness. He is a Licensed Professional Engineer and holds a Civil Engineering degree from Old Dominion University.



# CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION Virginia Delegation

# Virtual Meeting Policy Draft for Consideration July 11, 2025

The Code of Virginia § 2.2-3708.3 requires public bodies using all-virtual public meetings and remote participation by members to at least once annually adopt a policy by recorded vote at a public meeting. In accordance with these provisions, the Virginia Delegation of the Chesapeake Bay Commission hereby adopts the virtual meeting policies stated in this memo. These policies shall be applied strictly and uniformly, without exception, to the entire Virginia Delegation membership.

## **All-Virtual Meetings**

It is the policy of the Virginia Delegation of the Chesapeake Bay Commission that the Delegation may hold all-virtual public meetings pursuant to subsection C of § 2.2-3708.3 of the Code of Virginia. Whenever the Delegation holds an all-virtual public meeting, Delegation members and staff must comply with the following statutory requirements:

- 1. An indication of whether the meeting will be an in-person or all-virtual public meeting must be included in the required meeting notice along with a statement notifying the public that the method by which a public body chooses to meet shall not be changed unless the public body provides a new meeting notice in accordance with the provisions of § 2.2-3707;
- 2. Public access to the all-virtual public meeting is provided via electronic communication means:
- 3. The electronic communication means used allows the public to hear all members of the public body participating in the all-virtual public meeting and, when audio-visual technology is available, to see the members of the public body as well. When audio-visual technology is available, a member of a public body shall, for purposes of a quorum, be considered absent from any portion of the meeting during which visual communication with the member is voluntarily disconnected or otherwise fails or during which audio communication involuntarily fails:
- 4. A phone number or other live contact information is provided to alert the public body if the audio or video transmission of the meeting provided by the public body fails, the public body monitors such designated means of communication during the meeting, and the public body takes a recess until public access is restored if the transmission fails for the public;

- 5. A copy of the proposed agenda and all agenda packets and, unless exempt, all materials furnished to members of a public body for a meeting are made available to the public in electronic format at the same time as such materials are provided to members of the public body;
- 6. The public is afforded the opportunity to comment through electronic means, including by way of written comments, at those public meetings when public comment is customarily received:
- 7. No more than two members of the public body are together in any one remote location unless that remote location is open to the public to physically access it;
- 8. If a closed session is held during an all-virtual public meeting, transmission of the meeting to the public resumes before the public body votes to certify the closed meeting as required by subsection D of § 2.2-3712;
- 9. The public body does not convene an all-virtual public meeting (i) more than two times per calendar year or 50 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater, or (ii) consecutively with another all-virtual public meeting; and
- 10. Minutes of all-virtual public meetings held by electronic communication means are taken as required by § 2.2-3707 and include the fact that the meeting was held by electronic communication means and the type of electronic communication means by which the meeting was held. If a member's participation from a remote location pursuant to these requirements is disapproved because such participation would violate the policy adopted pursuant to subsection D of § 2.2-3708.3, such disapproval shall be recorded in the minutes with specificity.

Additionally, the policy of Virginia Delegation of the Chesapeake Bay Commission is to not hold votes during all-virtual public meetings. When necessary, votes will be held at in-person public meetings of the Virginia Delegation when a quorum is present.

If all the appropriate procedural requirements are met, members may conduct all other business of the Virginia Delegation of the Chesapeake Bay Commission during all-virtual public meetings, including but not limited to receiving staff briefings, hearing public comments, and discussing draft recommendations. This policy applies to public meetings held by all committees, subcommittees, and advisory groups of the Delegation.

### **Remote Meeting Participation by Individual Members**

The allowance in statute for individual members of the Delegation to use remote participation instead of attending a public meeting in person shall not be used by the Virginia Delegation of the Chesapeake Bay Commission.