

2013 Summer Study  
Performance Measures Subcommittee  
9:00 am to 11:00 am

**Participants**

Jack Bricker, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)  
Deanna Fehrer, Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)  
Jack Frye, Chesapeake Bay Commission  
Darryl Glover, Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)  
Adrienne Kotula, James River Association  
Darrell Marshall, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS)  
Martha Moore, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation  
Kendall Tyree, Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (VASWCD)  
Michelle Vucci, DCR  
Rick Weeks, DCR  
Michael Fletcher, DCR

Mr. Glover called the meeting to order and thanked participants.

Mr. Glover said that the Cost-Share policy that would not be a topic of discussion for this meeting. He said that at the June 6 meeting of the Soil and Water Conservation Board the decision had been made to seek additional comments from Districts.

Mr. Glover said that folders provided contained the information requested at the May 30 meeting with the exception of the cost share information. He said that the bulk of the meeting would be spent reviewing Attachment C of the Operations and Administration grant agreement, which was provided to the group.

Mr. Glover said that proposed changes to Attachment C would be sent out with notes from this meeting. He said that the subcommittee would take up the issue of cost share at the July 8 meeting.

Mr. Glover asked participants to review the meeting notes provided to them from the May 30 meeting. There were no recommended changes.

Mr. Glover reviewed the Subcommittee Work Plan and Calendar, which was provided to the group. It was noted that the next meeting will be on July 8 at the DEQ Piedmont Regional Office in the Air Building at 4949-C Cox Road.

Mr. Glover reviewed the Grant Assessment questionnaire (related to the fiscal year 2012-2013 operational grant) used by the Conservation District Coordinators (CDCs) and which was provided to the group. He suggested further review of this questionnaire be held off until after the subcommittee had addressed Attachment C.

Mr. Glover referenced the SWCD Strategic Plan Review documents provided by Ms. Tyree.

Ms. Tyree said that the VASWCD examined four districts; Shenandoah Valley, Northern Neck, Hanover-Caroline and Piedmont. She said these were chosen to give a broad view of the plans. Ms. Tyree said that the four districts share a common mission and format.

Ms. Tyree said that the following common themes and goals were identified:

- Agriculture – Reduce non-point source pollution and improve resource management
- Urban – Reduce non-point source pollution and improve resource management
- Flood Control management and Dam Safety
- Education
- Staff and Board Member Development
- Outreach and Awareness of SWCD

Ms. Tyree said that these were the big picture goals for each of the districts. She said that there were similarities although the mechanisms varied.

Mr. Frye said that the Code has specific goals for the districts but that also there were generic goals such as conservation issues that had been there since districts were established. He said that accounted for some of the diversity between districts.

Ms. Tyree said that there needs to be flexibility among districts.

Mr. Glover asked if there were goals that had been omitted or that should be changed.

Ms. Fehrer said that the list appeared to be complete. She said that some districts may have different goals or strategies in terms of dealing with their localities or other agencies.

Mr. Glover referred to Attachment C of the Grant Agreement. He began discussion at Deliverable #4.

After discussion, the last sentence of the goal was recommended for rewording as follows:

*This plan should contain at a minimum a discussion of district goals or objectives and include strategies or action items to achieve each of those goals to implement the applicable programs and initiatives covered in this agreement.*

Deliverable #5. Annual Plan.

Ms. Tyree reviewed a summary of district annual plans.

Deliverable #5 of Attachment C was recommended for rewording as follows:

*Prepare and follow an annual plan of work that demonstrates how the district will implement specific strategies or action items in support of its long term plan.*

There were no changes to Deliverable #6. However under the deliverable for #7, it was recommended that the requirements be edited to show a single budget for each district, not multiple budgets.

There were no changes to Deliverable #8.

Deliverable #9 was recommended for rewording to specify annual reviews.

There were no changes to Deliverables #10 and #11.

Mr. Glover turned to a review of Deliverable #2. The word “actively” was recommended to be added to the beginning of the first sentence of this deliverable.

There were no changes to Deliverable #3.

Mr. Glover turned to a review of Deliverable #1.

Following discussion, the committee recommended that this item be divided into two separate deliverables.

It was noted that Resource Management Plans needed to be included in Deliverable #1.

The section was divided and revised as follows:

*Deliverable #1 Demonstrate leadership by promoting nonpoint source pollution reduction and related conservation efforts through support and reporting for and/or implementation of the following programs:*

- *The Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost-Share program*
- *The Virginia Agricultural BMPs Tax Credit program*
- *BMP Revolving Loan Program*
- *Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program*
- *Voluntary BMP installation*
- *Agricultural Stewardship Act*
- *Nutrient Management Plans*
- *Resource Management Plans*

*Deliverable #2 Where applicable actively participate in the local development and implementation of the following programs and initiatives:*

- *The Water Quality Improvement Act*
- *Chesapeake Bay and Virginia Waters Clean-up Plan actions*
- *The Chesapeake Bay TMDL*
- *Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act*
- *Virginia Healthy Waters Initiative*
- *Local TMDL (Total Daily Maximum Load) development implementation process*
- *Land conservation initiatives*
- *Sound land use and watershed planning*

- *Environmental Education programs*

Mr. Bricker asked if, in Deliverable #2, funding should be referenced.

The scoring criteria for Deliverable #2 was recommended for rewording to address programs “applicable to the District” in order to address funding concerns.

Mr. Weeks noted that funding could also be addressed with a footnote.

Mr. Glover said that staff would distribute an edited version of Attachment C to the subcommittee before moving ahead with related changes to Attachment A.

Ms. Moore asked if the committee would address the questionnaire.

Mr. Glover said that his preference would be to finalize work on the grant agreement and allow the CDCs to amend the questionnaire as necessary.

The next meeting of the Performance Measures Subcommittee is July 8, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the DEQ Piedmont Regional Office, in the Air Building Conference Room.