



CALVERT COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

205 Main Street
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678
410-535-2348 • 301-855-1243 • Ext. 2728
Fax: 410-414-3092
www.calvertcountymd.gov

Board of Commissioners
Christopher J. Gadway
Earl F. Hance
Mike Hart
Kelly D. McConkey
Steven R. Weems

Calvert County Environmental Commission May 23, 2022—Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Jim Levin (Chair), Amanda Knobloch (Vice Chair), Kevin Britt, Dave Hardy, Mike Rooney, Neil Smith
Staff: Colleen Anglin, Christine Finamore, Will Hager, Amalia Pleake-Tamm

1. Will Hager (P&Z Planner III) gave an update on the Naval Research Lab - Chesapeake Bay Detachment (NRL-CBD): "Report on November 10, 2021 NRL-CBD Restoration Advisory Board Meeting." Hager discussed water sampling in that area for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Of 42 wells sampled in 2018, only three tested positive for PFAS, but they were below EPA recommended levels. Stream tests in autumn of 2020 found PFAS concentrations ranging from 42–5,000 parts per trillion. Further surface-level tests were conducted Sept. 2021; results are expected later this year. Kevin Britt (who also sits on the RAB) clarified that no PFAS was found in drinking-water supplies. There were questions about how aware the local community was of the PFAS testing.
2. *With the addition of latecomers during Mr. Hager's talk, a quorum was reached and Mr. Levin called the meeting to order at 6:12pm.*
3. [May 23 agenda](#): No changes were suggested; Mr. Hardy moved to approve; Mr. Britt seconded; it was unanimously approved.
4. [January 22 minutes](#): No changes were suggested; Mr. Hardy moved to approve; Ms. Knobloch seconded; it was unanimously approved.
5. Strategic Initiatives, [radon](#) and [water quality](#): Mr. Levin asked for comments on the prospective initiatives. Ms. Knobloch suggested contacting CHESPAX for outreach in local schools.
6. Pump for the Bay: Ms. Pleake-Tamm asked for date and sponsor clarifications for updating the brochure to have available at the June 4th GreenLife Festival. Sponsors include Lusby Hardware and Dream Weaver. Ace in Lusby has not been asked; no reply from Chesapeake County.
 - a. Further advertising ideas: Calvert County Facebook page and copy it to community groups (e.g., Ches. Ranch Estates, Prince Fred., St. Leonard); Mr. Smith can contact the County broadcast office
 - b. Ms. Anglin suggested educating people on the cost-savings and increase in property value gained through joining a sewer system versus a septic system.
7. Website: Updates and improvements continue. Mr. Levin asked for members to contribute any photographs.
8. Draft BOCC Proclamation to declare January radon-awareness month: Ms. Pleake-Tamm confirmed this is with the County administrator office and she'll ping them in Oct. to get on the agenda for late December.
9. Subcommittees
 - a. Guest speakers: Mr. Levin and Mr. Smith will meet to brainstorm guest speakers. A PEARL representative will speak in August.
 - i. Cove Point LNG; Lora Harris (CBL: freshwater marshes); Bob Boxwell in June, July or September (Cove Point Heritage Trust); P&Z update on the recent MD Gen. Assembly session;

DPW update on the Prince Frederick sewer capacity study; Calvert Cliffs nuclear plant; LPPRP/Parks & Rec re: natural spaces (Ms. Anglin will contact Karyn (P&R)).

- b. FAQs: Mr. Levin drafted a yard waste disposal FAQ; Mr. Hardy drafted a composting FAQ; Andy Rogers drafted a wildlife FAQ. Mr. Rooney and Mr. Hardy will review these in the next few weeks so they can go on the June agenda.
 - i. Ms. Knobloch suggested an FAQ on alternatives to grass (pollinator friendly, requires less mowing, nitrogen fixators). Mr. Hardy will look into this.
- c. Outreach: Ms. Knobloch will be tabling at the June 4th Green Life Festival and is looking for tabling volunteers for the following shifts: 8–10; 10–noon; and noon–2:30.

10. New members: Mr. Levin encouraged advertising EC's three vacancies.

11. Subcommittees: Mr. Levin attached the current subcommittee list.

12. In-person meetings: The EC decided to look into hybrid virtual and in-person meetings in the Duke room in the old library.

13. General Announcements:

- a. Mr. Hardy asked for a county map of EV charging stations. He has photos to contribute.
- b. Mr. Britt is happy to join a subcommittee.
- c. Ms. Knobloch is doing oyster reef balls with 5th graders. Today was the last build for the County, casting a total of 240 reef balls. They'll continue this project next year and will need volunteers.
- d. Ms. Pleake-Tamm has shirts for EC members.

14. Adjournment: Mr. Hardy moved to adjourn; Mr. Smith seconded; it was unanimously approved at 7:18pm.

Meeting Minutes for the May 2022 Environmental Commission Meeting were prepared by Amalia Pleake-Tamm (EC Secretary).