



Drinking Water PFAS Task Force

Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2025 – Harford County Water & Sewer Administration Building

Introductions:

Present in the Room:

- Bill Bettin – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Larry Slattery – Harford County Water & Sewer
- John Resline – Harford County Health Department
- William Smith – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Rick Hanzevack – Harford County Public Schools
- Dan Pazdersky – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Jeff Schoenberger – Harford County DPW
- Carole Coakley – Harford County Water & Sewer

Teams Participants:

- Hayden Anthony – Harford County Facilities
- Erin Schaeffer – Harford County Facilities
- Jonathon Ely – City of Aberdeen DPW
- Nick Muzaca – City of Havre de Grace DPW
- Chris Lawson – Maryland Water Service
- Patti Jo Beard – Harford County Public Schools
- Amber Capwen – Maryland Water Service
- Robert McCord – Harford County Government
- Matt Lapinsky – Maryland Environmental Service
- Ezgi Kurdoglu – Maryland Environmental Service
- Jeff Barton – American Water

Welcome:

Bill Bettin: Welcome and thank you for being here. It's important to repeat why we are here.

Review of Task Force Objectives:

- Coordinate government outreach and align efforts with other local utilities.
- Share knowledge and expertise.
- Establish web page (exists.)
- Identify sources of public funding.

Review Previous Minutes:

- Correct typo to properly reference Synagro.

John Resline: Updates to legislative session.

Update from Maryland Legislative Session:

The current year's legislative session is now closed.

- Bill SB732 and HB909
Requires removal of PFAS from sludge. The bill failed, however, expect it to come back around in the future.
- SB96 and SB277
Regarding water fountain refilling stations beginning October 2025. Required MD Dept of Labor to carry it out. Might feed into "heat stress" legislation.
- HB1466 and SB791 passed. State established promotion of extra dwelling units or accessory dwellings. Will affect all water and sewer utilities due to the lack of ability to accurately estimate demand for existing infrastructure. Will affect school capacities as well.

Erin Schafer (Harford County): As relates to legislation for heat index. Risk Management is working on it now. Directed to John Resline: "would you like to be connected with her contact"? Looking for heat stroke plan and training log.

MOSH said you can't use weather sites to determine heat index, especially for indoor areas that might be much hotter than the exterior.

Rick Hanzevack: Schools have been using water bottle filling stations for at least 5 years already. It is part of the design plan. There is a filter in the system, but it won't treat for PFAS. MDE prefers the use of bottled water.

Matt Lapinsky: There's a phone app that does a good job. PFAS and biosolid bill did not pass so breathing a sign of relief, but the bill will be back. Virginia just has a case regarding land application and PFAS. These issues will not dissipate. The final

resolution has to include getting PFAS out of the waste stream completely by restricting its use.

Bill Smith (Harford County): Harford County biosolids already meet the most stringent of PFAS levels.

Matt Lapinsky: Requiring all biosolids that come in be PFAS tested to be sure there are no extraordinary PFAS levels. 1ppb would be a hard level to meet. Tim Ford; MES has been involved in testing.

Rick Hanzevack: Created a policy where they purchased 1 gallon water coolers. Rely on supervisors to encourage breaks as needed – to use vehicles and buildings for shade.

Updates from Members:

Note: Comments grouped by organization rather than individual per Bill Bettin's suggestion.

Harford County Water & Sewer:

Bill Smith: The LCMS system we have installed at Harford County Water & Sewer that measures PFAS is drawing attention. Outside groups are requesting a tour of the equipment, including MDE. The MDE tour may include 20 members. June 25th and July 23rd will offer if anyone else is interested in a tour they can be included. Equipment includes solid phase extraction, processing and measuring ppt. Will be doing a presentation at Tricon.

Bill Bettin: What is the timeline for becoming state-certified?

Bill Smith: Full certification by September. WSSC is purchasing the same machine.

Bill Smith: Been using instruments on Perryman wellfield. Helped identify break through on GAC columns. Helpful in applying technology to pinpoint developing problems rather than waiting to respond. That allows us to get out in front of issues.

Larry Slattery: Class action lawsuits are filed for Harford County – last date to apply to be a participant was in August of 2024 so that time has passed. There are two actions; one involves 3M/Dupont, the other BASF/Tyco. The settlement on the 3M/Dupont suit has been determined and Harford County's potential settlement would be \$119 million. The BASF/Tyco potential suit is much smaller at approx. 10% of 3M/Dupont.

Harford County Facilities: Nothing to report.

Harford County Engineering: Nothing to report.

Harford County Environmental Services: Nothing to report.

Director of Administration, Robert McCord: Nothing to report, but I want to thank everyone for collaborating. Also, thanks for the hard work done on the class action suit.

City of Aberdeen: Nothing to report.

Town of Bel Air: Nothing to report.

City of Havre de Grace: Nothing to report.

HCPS: Received proposal from MES that was sent to purchasing. Committed to Harford Tech as a start, and then going on from there. Thinking will have this done by next fall.

Harford Community College: Nothing to report.

Maryland Environmental Service: Project for PFAS removal at Harford Tech has started. Will eventually include additional schools. May consider Harford Tech as a non-profit which would put it in a position to apply for low-interest loans.

Health Department: Nothing to report.

Maryland America Water: Nothing to report.

Maryland Water Services:

Oversees two systems in Harford County:

- Greenridge Subdivision
- Lakeside Vista

Both tested at PFAS levels. Have engineering plans (GHD) in place and have already submitted those plans to the state seeking funding.

Next Task Force Meeting

Bill Bettin: Looking for presentations from participants or from the state, etc. Anything that provides information about PFAS. Any suggested topics?

Matt Lapinsky: Interested in the new PFAS system with the Harford County Water & Sewer lab.

- Looking at GAC for removal.
- Working on design.
- Everything must be approved by MDE.

John Resline: Propose a field trip to Harford County Water & Sewer PFAS lab.

Bill Smtith: Maybe include the Perryman plant. Looking at an acting system that is operational.

Bill Bettin: Any final word from Rob McCord?

Rob McCord: Continued success with grant funding. We might consider a short documentary film on the Perryman GAC process rather than a field trip. Thanks for sharing best practices and being a part of the task force.

Bill Bettin: Any alibis? None

Meeting is adjourned.

References:

References:

- EPA Fact Sheet: PFAS NPDWR Monitoring and Reporting
https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/pfas-npdwr_fact-sheet_monitoring_4.8.24_0.pdf
- MDE: PFAS in Private Drinking Water Wells
https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Documents/PFAS%20Private%20Well%20Factsheet_March2023.pdf
- EPA SDWIS Search <https://enviro.epa.gov/envirofacts/sdwis/search>
- MDE – Consumer Confidence Reports, Harford County
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/water_supply/ConsumerConfidenceReports/Pages/harford.aspx
- Harford County Task Force Site <https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/3781/Drinking-Water-PFAS-Task-Force>
- Harford County PFAS letter to customers
<https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/26650/PFAS-letter-to-Harford-Co-water-customers>