

# Regional Water Supply Planning Kickoff Meeting

## Southeast Virginia & York and James River 2

Regional Boardroom  
723 Woodlake Drive,  
Chesapeake, VA 23320

April 2, 2025  
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

### MEETING SUMMARY

Regional Planning Unit (RPU) Members Present	
George Bains – Gloucester County (Alternate)	Mike Youshock – James City County (Primary) & James City Service Authority (Primary)
Karlyn Owens – James City County (Alternate) & James City Service Authority (Alternate)	Marcela Giraldo – York County (Primary)
Rose Zavaleta – York County (Alternate)	Jason Mitchell – City of Hampton (Primary)
Jack Reed – City of Williamsburg (Primary)	John Marr – City of Williamsburg (Alternate)
Whitney Katchmark – Hampton Roads PDC (Primary)	Ivy Ozmon – Hampton Roads PDC (Alternate)
Jamie Mitchell – Hampton Roads Sanitation District (Primary)	Kevin Parker – Hampton Roads Sanitation District (Alternate)
Mike Lang – New Kent County (Primary)	Thomas Corner – New Kent County (Alternate)
Uwe Weindel – Isle of Wight County (Primary)	Horace Wade III – Surry County (Primary)
Erin Trimyer – City of Chesapeake (Alternate)	Ryan Maslyn – City of Norfolk (Alternate)
Johnnie Godwin – City of Portsmouth (Alternate)	Mark Notheis – City of Portsmouth (Alternate)
Paul Retel – City of Suffolk (Primary)	Don Piron – City of Virginia Beach (Primary)
David She – City of Virginia Beach (Alternate)	Danny Williams – Town of Courtland (Primary)
Debra Lambert – Town of Courtland (Alternate)	Edward Heide – Town of Smithfield (Primary)
William Saunders, IV – Town of Windsor (Primary)	

*The following RPU members were absent from the meeting: Katey Legg (Primary for Gloucester County), Virginia Deptola (Alternate for Gloucester County), Mike Bowry (Alternate for City of Hampton), Ron Harris (Primary for City of Newport News), Bruce Utne (Alternate for City of Newport News), Robert Howell (Alternate for City of Newport News), Sean Crawford (Primary for City of Poquoson), Garret Feagans (Alternate for City of Poquoson), Jackie Rickards (Primary for Middle Peninsula PDC), Lewis Lawrence (Alternate for Middle Peninsula PDC), David Forsythe (Alternate for Isle of Wight County), David Howell (Primary for Southampton County), Patricia Davis (Alternate for Southampton County), Lorenzo Turner (Alternate for Surry County), Mike Kearns (Alternate for Surry County), Alex Echols (Primary for City of Chesapeake), Chad Edwards (Primary for City of Franklin), Steve Watson (Alternate for City of Franklin), Robert Carteris (Primary for City of Norfolk), Gina Shaw (Alternate for City of Norfolk), Shonia Holloway (Alternate for City of Norfolk), James Wright (Primary for City of Portsmouth), Adam James (Alternate for City of Suffolk), Lisa Bass (Alternate for City of Virginia Beach), Jackie Robertson (Primary for Town of Boykins), Clete Lassiter (Alternate for Town of Boykins), Nick Kitchen (Primary for Town of Capron), Jennifer Justice (Alternate for Town of Capron), Tara Kea (Primary for Town of Ivor), Brian Freeman (Alternate for Town of Ivor), Damian Dwyer (Primary for Town of Newsoms), Neil Drake (Alternate for Town of Newsoms), Jessie Snead (Alternate for Town of Smithfield), Kenny Sims (Alternate for Town of Windsor), Phil Yerby (Town of Claremont), Louise Hansch (Alternate for Town of Claremont), Wallace Faison (Primary for Town of Dendron), Bennie Savedge (Primary for Town of Surry), & Molly Rickmond (Alternate for Town of Surry).*

VA Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Staff Present	
Hannah Somers	Andrew Noyes
Cecil Byles	

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## Meeting Notes

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### Welcome and Introductions:

Andrew Noyes (DEQ) convened the meeting at approximately 1:30 PM. He welcomed members to the Regional Water Supply Planning Kickoff Meeting for the Southeast Virginia and York and James River 2 Regional Planning Areas.

**Presentation Summary:** A summary of presentation topics is included below. A generic copy of the presentation is available on the DEQ Water Supply Planning [Resources webpage](#).

- 1) **Program Background:** The [Water Supply Planning program](#) was created after the 2001-2002 drought. Its goal is to ensure adequate and safe drinking water is available to all Virginians, while encouraging, promoting, and protecting aquatic life, recreation, and other beneficial uses.
- 2) **Water Supply Planning History:** The original Local & Regional Water Supply Planning Regulation (9VAC25-780) was made effective in 2005, followed by the submission of 48 local and regional water supply plans by local governments in Virginia. The final compliance date of these original plans was 2013. The water supply planning process is a long-term collaborative effort involving a variety of state and local stakeholders.
- 3) **Amendments to Regulation:** The [amended WSP Regulation](#) was made effective on October 9, 2024, and required water supply plans be developed regionally (HB452), with increased encouragement of stakeholder involvement, and an added look at risks relevant to each region's water supply. Amendments also allowed for a local government to request to be reassigned to a neighboring regional planning area.
- 4) **Navigating the Regulation:** To utilize the [WSP Regulation](#) in development of a regional water supply plan consider the following highlights: Section 50 includes a listing of all submission requirements for a regional water supply plan; Section 55 is a new section describing required public participation; Section 90 requires description of existing water resources information; Sections 70, 80, and 100 include data accounting and analysis on water sources, uses, and projected demands; Section 125 is a new section requiring identification of water supply risks and proposed strategies to address risks.
- 5) **Roles and Responsibilities:** To aid in regional plan development, DEQ has clarified intended roles for Regional Planning Units (RPUs), local governments, Planning District Commissions (where relevant), and DEQ staff. The roles and responsibilities table can be found at the end of the presentation on our webpage. Roles will be further clarified in the associated Guidance document that will be available once approved.
- 6) **Resources:**
  - a) [DEQ Water Supply Planning Resources webpage](#) – This webpage includes a series of resources associated with each section of the regulation as well as an updated Regional Planning Area map and a list of all Regional Planning Unit representatives.
  - b) **DEQ Water Supply Planning Meetings webpage** – This webpage is the landing page for regional water supply planning kickoff meetings. It includes a copy of the kickoff meeting presentation as well as a list of all Regional Planning Unit representatives.
  - c) **Guidance document** – The Guidance document is currently under review and will be posted on Virginia Town Hall for a formal public comment period as soon as possible.

Updates will be provided on DEQ's webpage and communicated directly to Regional Planning Unit representatives.

- d) **70-80-100 Excel Workbook** – This Excel workbook will be provided to Regional Planning Unit representatives in June of 2025 (estimated). The workbook will be partially pre-populated with 2024 data to be reviewed, updated, and submitted by Regional Planning Unit representatives alongside regional water supply plans by October 9, 2029 deadline.
- e) **Local & Regional Water Supply Planning Summaries** – This resource is under development, planned for Summer 2025 delivery to Regional Planning Unit representatives, and will include figures and tables to assist in regional plan development.
- f) **Funding for Regional Plan Development** – The Virginia General Assembly appropriated \$462,000 in grant funds to be allocated over two years for eligible activities proposed by the 26 Regional Planning Units designated by 9VAC25-780-45. Out of the amount appropriated, \$231,000 is available for FY2025 and \$231,000 is available for FY2026. Applications for FY2025 have closed and contracts are under development. FY2026 funding applications are expected to be available in the Fall of 2025. Updates will be provided on DEQ's webpage and communicated directly to Regional Planning Unit representatives.

### Questions:

DEQ staff fielded a series of questions on topics including DEQ resources, permitting, the Regional Planning Area (RPA) reassignment process, Planning District Commission (PDC) responsibilities and coordination, project deadlines, and funding. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is under development and will be posted on the [Water Supply Planning Resources webpage](#) when finalized.

### Adjournment:

Andrew Noyes thanked all of the members of the RPU and the interested public and closed the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 PM.

For questions regarding this meeting, please contact Andrew Noyes, Water Supply Planner, [Andrew.R.Noyes@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Andrew.R.Noyes@deq.virginia.gov).