# POTOMAC WATERSHED ROUNDTABLE Quarterly Meeting – January 12, 2024 Held Online on Teams Meeting Summary

# **Voting Members/Alternates**

Dierdre Clark, John Marshall SWCD

Charlie Grymes, Prince William Conservation Alliance

Woody Hynson, Westmoreland County SWCD

Chuck Koch, Tri-County/City SWCD Will Lintner, Prince William SWCD

Jerry Peters, Northern Virginia SWCD

Greg Prelewicz, Water and Wastewater Utilities

Kelsi Steele, John Marshall SWCD Nancy Vehrs, Prince William SWCD Willie Woode, Northern Virginia SWCD

# Advisory Members/Alternates (Non-Voting)

Renee Bourassa, ICPRB

Kirsten Conrad, Virginia Cooperative Extension

Daniel Moore, Virginia DEQ Rebecca Shoemaker, DEQ

Jacob Zielinski, VDOF

#### **Presenters**

Andrew Borocco, Area 2 Farms

Scott Cameron, Northern Virginia SWCD

# **Interested Parties**

Melissa Allen, John Marshall SWCD

Carly Aubry, Fairfax County

Nicki Bellezza, Fairfax Water

Rhonda Bitterli, Northern Virginia SWCD Stacy Evers, Northern Virginia SWCD

Trish Feth, Northern Virginia SWCD

Joe Gorney, Fairfax County

**Penny Gross** 

Brianna Heath, Northern Neck PDC

Elizabeth Lonoff

Duane Mohr, Prince William SWCD

Rebecca Murphy, NVRC

Kayli Ottomanelli, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Ashley Palmer, Northern Virginia SWCD Iohn Peterson, Northern Virginia SWCD

Paul Reynolds, Fairfax County

Heather Shackley, Northern Virginia SWCD

Ashley Studholme, PW Conservation Alliance

Veronica Tangiri, Prince William SWCD

Elizabeth Ward, PWC Sustainability Commission

# Welcome, Call to Order, and Introductions

Mr. Hynson called the meeting to order at 10:01 am and welcomed all to the meeting. He then called on Mr. Peterson to act as chair for the remainder of the meeting.

#### Minutes—October 6, 2023

The minutes of the October 6, 2023 meeting of the Potomac Watershed Roundtable (PWR) had been distributed in advance of the meeting. Mr. Peterson asked if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none and following a **motion** by Ms. Clarke and seconded by Mr. Hynson, the minutes of the October 6, 2023 meeting were approved by voice vote.

# **Updates from the Potomac Council Chair**

Mr. Koch stated that the council met this morning. Mr. Peterson said that a new Potomac Watershed Roundtable Chair would need to be appointed. He noted that the PWR bylaws recommend roundtable members and alternates hold the position of Chair of their county's Board of Supervisors or are at least members of their county's Board of Supervisors.

A **motion** by Mr. Koch and seconded by Mr. Hynson that members would come to the April 5, 2024 PWR meeting with names of potential candidates for the positions of chair and vice-chair of the roundtable passed by voice vote.

DRAFT COPY: TO BE APPROVED APRIL 5, 2024

# **Presentation: Breeding for the Future**

Andrew Borocco, Area 2 Farms

Mr. Borocco used a PowerPoint to present Area 2 Farms' vertical farming technique which can increase crop production per square foot and eliminate the need for pesticides and herbicides.

Mr. Peterson thanked Mr. Borocco for his presentation and opened the floor for questions from roundtable members.

# **Presentation: Environmental Considerations with Respect to Industrial Utility Scale Solar in Virginia** *Scott Cameron, Northern Virginia SWCD*

Mr. Cameron used a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the environmental challenges associated with the exponential growth of utility scale solar in the Commonwealth, including loss of forest cover and prime farmland.

Mr. Peterson thanked Mr. Cameron for his presentation and opened the floor for questions from roundtable members.

#### **Announcements**

Mr. Peterson opened the floor for announcements from those present. Information on upcoming programs or items of interest was shared.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:52am.