



Water Quality Advisory Group

October 20, 2025, Meeting Notes

Meeting Location

Virtual Meeting on Teams

[Remote Teams Meeting link](#)

Attendance

Members Present (In-person and remote)

- Keith Brooks
- Phillip Mariscal
- Amy Stevens
- Mark Symborski
- Bob Buglass
- Travis Gorleski
- Linda Silversmith
- Tracy Rouleau
- Amanda Rockler

Members Not Present

- Allison Wright

Proof of Quorum

A quorum was not present, and no official business or voting was conducted.

Staff Present

- Ho-Ching Fong

Guests

- None

Guest Speakers

- Steven Bieber, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG)
- Thomas Hilton, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC Water)

Handouts

- Montgomery County Briefing 10.20.2025.pdf

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Welcome and Introductions

Tracy Rouleau and Travis Gorleski, co-chairs of the WQAG, welcomed the guest speakers, and each speaker and member present provided a brief introduction.

Review of Previous Meeting Notes

The group reviewed the meeting notes from the September meeting. Other than correcting the spelling of a member's name, there were no recommended edits or comments. As a quorum was not present, the meeting notes could not be formally approved. The review was conducted for discussion purposes only.

Review and Approve Meeting Agenda

The draft agenda for the meeting was reviewed. As a quorum was not present, the agenda could not be formally approved. The group proceeded with the proposed agenda for discussion purposes only.

Meeting Notes Agenda Items

1. Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area Backup Water Supply Feasibility Study, Steven Bieber, COG and Thomas Hilton, WSSC
 - a. The Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB), MWCOG, and WSSC Water are key partners.
 - b. Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area Backup Water Supply Feasibility Study (ongoing)
 - i. The Potomac supplies 78% of the region's supply
 - ii. D.C. and Arlington are 100% dependent on the Potomac
 - iii. Serves over 4.6 million people
 - iv. 21st Century Resiliency Issues
 1. 2 Main considerations: spill releases and unprecedented droughts. Since 1980 there have been 7 contamination events that posed a risk to the water supply
 - v. Opportunities
 1. Decrease dependence on the Potomac River
 2. Improve ability to respond to spills and droughts
 3. Infrastructure improvements
 4. Increase resilience to multiple types of disruption

5. Increase public understanding of water supply disruptions and responses
6. Increase resilience of water supply impacts for national security
- vi. MWCOC does water demand and availability forecasting
 1. Demand will start to increase
 2. There is a large uncertainty regarding climate change impacts on stream flows and water availability
 3. The existing system could become unreliable by 2050
 4. The Study is now considering identifying alternatives and costs
- vii. Non-structural measures that reduce risk and vulnerability are being considered
- viii. Structural Measures
 1. Direct or indirect wastewater use
 2. Enhanced interconnections, tunnels, and intakes
 3. New reservoir storage
- ix. Schedule for completion of the Study: TBD
 1. Will involve approximately 2 years of alternatives modeling
- c. Travilah Quarry as a future emergency water supply reservoir
 - i. The quarry can be mined until 2065, but the region cannot wait that long to find additional reservoir storage, so it is worth the investment to move forward now
 - ii. A 2014 study of the quarry concluded that it is suitable for a reservoir
 - iii. The owners of the quarry are amenable to acquisition, but the transaction will depend on the cost
2. Discussion on additional speaker topics, potential topics included:
 - a. A discussion was had on the possible benefits of creating a WQAG mailbox.
3. Reports of Officers, Boards, Standing Committees
 - a. None at this time.
4. Reports of Special Committees
 - b. None at this time.
5. Special Orders
 - c. None at this time.
6. Unfinished Business and General Orders
 - d. Discuss WQAG recommendations regarding water supply issues at the next meeting

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on November 10, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. Keith Brooks will be the notetaker for the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 P.M.