A-NPDC
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301
(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3808 • FAX (757) 787-1221
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1. **Call to Order**
   Vice Chairman Washington called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. **Public Participation**
   Elaine Meil has spoken with Senate Member District #22, Bill DeSteph, regarding an amendment to use the Columbia down to a minor amendment. He agreed to carry this request.

   Elaine Meil has also spoken with Delegate Robert Bloxom Jr. regarding a larger piece of legislation regarding ponds being put into their own organized piece of the code. They would no longer be regulated by two different pieces which was making it impossible to actually maintain them. Delegate Bloxom has agreed to carry this legislation request.

3. **Minutes of the June 17, 2025 Meeting & Committee Attendance**
   Approval of the minutes for June 17, 2025 and the Committee Attendance Record were requested.

   Member Grossman moved to approve the amended minutes from the June 17, 2025 meeting and the Committee Attendance Record. Seconded by Member Walker, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

4. **Financial Status Report**
   The June Financial Status Report was presented.

   Member Grossman moved to approve the June Financial Status Report as presented and to also approve the budget amendment to address the Staff Support overage of $4,864.43, with $1,063.34 to be absorbed by Member Fees, and $3,801.09 by Project Implementation. This was seconded by Member Walker, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

   Member Grossman made a motion to approve payment of the Final invoice for the Well Testing Program for $5,879.49. Member Walker seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

   Member Grossman moved to adopt the annual budget which was presented in our packet. This was seconded by Member Walker. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

5. **September 16, 2025 Staff Report**

   <u>Old Business:</u>

   <u>County Letter Regarding Term:</u>

   - Janice Williams responded for Northampton County that the Board was amenable to the change, but that an amendment to the Joint Resolution should be considered.

- Accomack County responded that they were amenable to the change and did not think it was necessary to amend the Joint Resolution to complete the change.
- Charles Kolakowski and Mike Mason did talk regarding the above matter concerning the change of the Joint Resolution. Mike Mason left it up to Charles Kolakowski which way they wanted to proceed.

Water Supply Planning:

- Two proposals were received for the RFP for Annual Professional Services for a Hydrology Consultant and are being reviewed by the selection committee.

New Business:

Eastern VA Ground Water Management Advisory Committee

- Morgan Emanuel, DEQ Regulatory Analyst, accepted the request that Rita Chandler be appointed to the committee, replacing Kellen Singleton.
- Member Grossman moved to appoint GWC McMillan to be the alternate for the Eastern VA Ground Water Management Advisory Committee. This was seconded by Member Walker. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

6. **August 19, 2025 Ground Water Consultant Report**

Surficial Aquifer Testing

GWC McMillan wanted to share an update on Surficial Aquifer Testing. Previously when the poultry house permits were being processed there was a lot of discussion over whether the surficial aquifer could be used for cooling and or water for the poultry houses. During this process DEQ made statements in agreement with the GWC's position. There were some areas within the Eastern Shore, the surficial aquifer did yield water of sufficient quantity or suitable quality for production at some locations.

DEQ required completion of surficial aquifer investigations as a Special Condition of the permit. To date, 27 permits were required to submit reports for the surficial aquifer investigation to DEQ. None of the permits have submitted the required reports and six of these permits are over two years past due.

On August 8, 2025, an update from DEQ reported they had not received any reports from the surficial aquifer investigations / alternate source investigations. Only three facilities have drilled wells for the investigation and several facilities have contacted drillers/consultants to initiate the investigation. The three facilities that have drilled wells coordinated with the DEQ Ground Water Characterization team. There has been no revised schedule for the facilities to submit these reports.

Discussion ensued regarding ways to get DEQ enforcement from these facilities for compliance of the special condition permits. Caitlin Kelly from DEQ will talk with Eric Seavey to give some feedback as to the ways to enforce the compliance of these permits.

Draft Permits

There are two draft permits for review. They are: Jones 2 Farm (Fern Point Ltd. Partnership), Bayford Rd., Franktown, a reissuance for agricultural farming crop irrigation., and Highway Farm (Ray Newman), Lankford Hwy, Machipongo. This is a reissuance of permit request to supplement withdrawals from an on-site pond for crop irrigation.

Ground Water Level Trends

Ground water levels at individual well and well clusters which are part of the State Observation Well (SOW) Network are routinely monitored by DEQ and the USGS. Water level records from these wells maintained by the USGS are available to the public at :

https://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/usa/nwis/gwlevels

These wells measure water levels at specific locations and depths. Some measure water levels frequently (daily or more often) through automated sensors and others are periodically manually measured. Wells that have automated recording often transmit the data (telemetry) for real-time measurements.

Water levels measured in wells are limited to providing information for that specific location and depth. The while the measurements are accurate, they do not directly provide water levels at a distance from the well. The best method to extrapolate water levels for areas where wells are not located using the Eastern Shore model. In interpreting this data, it is important to understand the difference between water levels measured from wells and water levels simulated by the model.

7. **Attachments**

8. **Other Matters**

There were no other matters presented at this time.

9. **Scheduled Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting for the Groundwater Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce's Boardroom in Melfa, Virginia.

10. **Adjournment**

Member Grossman made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Member Walker, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

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The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

John Coker, Chairman

Elaine K. N. Meil, Secretary/Treasurer