INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN
SECOND QUARTER BUSINESS MEETING FY2026
JUNE 16, 2026

VIRTUAL MEETING, MICROSOFT TEAMS
Approved Minutes – September 22, 2026

Call to Order: Executive Director Michael Nardolilli called the Business Meeting to order at 9:45am on June 16, 2026. The following commissioners, staff, and guests attended the meeting in whole or in part.

Commissioners

District of Columbia
Willem Brakel (*)
Tiffany Potter
Hamid Karimi (a)
Kimberly Jones (a)

Maryland
Birthe Kjellerup
Dan Strodel (a)

Pennsylvania
Jason Minnich (a*)
William Willis
Chris Ann Kimple
Adam McClain (a)

United States
Darryl Madden

Virginia
Weedon Cloe (a*)
Del. Kathy Tran
Mark Peterson
Justin Carl (a)

West Virginia
Mindy Neil (a*)

(a) - Alternate Commissioner
(*) – Executive Committee

Staff

Michael Nardolilli, Executive Director
Sarah Ahmed, Associate Director of Spill Response
Renee Bourassa, Communications Director
Claire Buchanan, Director Emerita, Program Operations
Megan McClaugherty, Aquatic Ecologist I
Heidi Moltz, Director of Program Operations
Serena Moncion, Community Outreach Manager
Ernest Parker, Director of Finance and Administration
Garett Pignotti, Environmental Scientist
Cherie Schultz, Director Emerita of CO-OP Operations
Alimatou Seck, Director of CO-OP Operations
G. Mike Selckmann, Assoc. Director of Aquatic Habitats
Mary Stack, Water Quality Data Manager
Carlington Wallace, Assoc. Director of Water Resources
Emily Young, Habitat and Living Resources Data Manager

Guests

Duke Adams
Jayne Brown, DOEE
Greg Busch, MDE
Joe Chandler, USACE
Benjamin Hermerding, Office of Delegate Kathy Tran
Mik Hotha
R. Brian Paul

1. Virtual Roll Call and Quorum Certification

Executive Director Michael Nardolilli identified himself and asked Commissioners to add their names and affiliations in the Teams chat box. Ms. Renee Bourassa alerted participants that the meeting was being recorded and transcribed for note taking purposes and reminded the group that AI note taking services are not permitted and will be removed from the meeting. Mr. Nardolilli certified that a quorum was present and turned the meeting over to Chair Willem Brakel.

2. Welcoming Remarks

Chair Brakel introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the Third Quarter Meeting of FY26, noting that Vice Chair Lee Currey was not able to participate during this meeting. He highlighted some items from the last quarter, including that that the Washington Metropolitan Area (WMA) is under a drought watch per the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (MWCOG), that ICPRB received notice from EPA that the full FY26 Section 106 award can be drawn down, and that the federally appropriated Congressional Directed Spending check has been sent to ICPRB in the mail. Chair Brakel mentioned the fifth annual Potomac River Conference that Mr. Nardolilli will report on later in the meeting as well as the next in-person meeting at AlexRenew in Alexandria Virginia, courtesy of our newest Alternate Commissioner Justin Carl. Commissioner Carl shared that AlexRenew is the largest infrastructure project in Alexandria's history, and their "go-live" date is July 1. He thanked Chair Brakel for the introduction.

3. Public Comment

The Commission did not receive any requests for public comment.

4. Adoption or Modification of Agenda

Chair Brakel asked if there were any proposed changes to the agenda. Hearing none, **Chair Brakel asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Hamid Karimi made the motion and Commissioner Tiffany Potter seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the agenda was adopted as circulated.**

5. Minutes from March 17, 2026

Chair Brakel asked for any comments to the minutes from the Q2 FY26 meeting on March 17, 2026. Hearing none, **a request was made for a motion to approve the minutes as circulated. Commissioner Dan Strodel made the motion that was seconded by Commissioner Potter. All were in favor, and the minutes were approved as circulated.**

6. Notes from Executive Committee Conference Calls

Mr. Nardolilli reported on the conference calls of the Executive Committee on April 20, May 11, and on June 15, 2026. During the first meeting on April 20, the Committee discussed a template letter of support for increased funding for the ongoing United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Feasibility Study. The letter was similar to other letters sent to Congressional representatives and was sent out on April 24. During the meeting on May 11, the Committee discussed the receipt of the final SmithPilot compensation study. On June 15, the Committee discussed the framework budget and a proposed resolution regarding the Occoquan Reservoir, and they decided to postpone any discussion on this resolution to the September in-person meeting. The Committee also discussed the drafting of a letter to the editor related to the Washington Post article titled "Data centers should consider impacts to rural communities." In this letter, ICPRB asked for vigilance and transparency about data centers using the Potomac River as their water source. Chair Brakel shared that the

Executive Leadership will brief the full Commission on the proposed resolution regarding the Occoquan Reservoir by the next meeting, giving them enough time to review the topic.

7. Old Business

A. Executive Director's Report

Staff Changes: Mr. Nardolilli began his report by addressing some substantial staff changes over the last quarter. He introduced Ernest Parker, ICPRB's new Director of Finance and Administration. Along with the new reporting structure for Senior Accountant Wendy Wang and Administrative Coordinator Lily Bedwell, he announced Dr. Cherie Schultz's transition to Emerita Director of CO-OP Operations and that Dr. Alimatou Seck was promoted to the Director of CO-OP Operations position. He reported that a new position, the Associate Director of Spill Response, would be filled by CO-OP's Sarah Ahmed.

Feasibility Study and Section 203: Mr. Nardolilli reported on the narrowed scope of the USACE Feasibility Study and explained the new requirements, including that it must be completed within three years, must cost $3 million or less, and must have a 35% design capability at the end of the process. USACE reached the decision that the WMA's needs surpass the capability of the regional Feasibility Study limits and will narrow the scope of the Feasibility Study to the Washington Aqueduct, which was discussed during the second quarter meeting. USACE will look at expanding the Dalecarlia Reservoir as the primary option. WSSC Water is leading a $25 million Section 203 Study, "Secure the Source," that will explore long term solutions for water supply in the WMA. Commissioner Karimi asked about the Dalecarlia Reservoir expansion and asked for elaboration. Mr. Nardolilli said that stakeholders will attend a USACE scheduled briefing meeting on July 9 and he will have information to report after that.

Potomac Interceptor Updates: Mr. Nardolilli discussed the Potomac Interceptor break in January of this year. He noted that repair work around Lockhouse 10 has begun and explained that DC Water has been very transparent with these updates. He shared that ICPRB was asked to model the spill, and that our model results were verified by sample results from the river. WSSC Water also asked ICPRB to model a hypothetical scenario of a failure at Muddy Branch and we have shared that data with them. Commissioner Karimi noted the old age of the pipeline and shared that there used to be sensors to alert DC Water to failures. He asked if DC Water has surveyed the entire length of the interceptor, and if there have been alerts to other vulnerable areas. Mr. Nardolilli said that DC Water will survey the length of the pipeline and have already identified "emergency" and "priority" areas that they plan to address and repair, as part of the Capital Improvement Program. Mr. Nardolilli predicted that during this project, they will probably identify more priority areas to address.

North Branch Developments: There has been discussion about what to do with the site of the Luke Paper Mill amid job loss and decreased revenue after its shutdown. Mr. Nardolilli described ongoing discussions about the plans for the site in Luke, Maryland. Some opinions include changing the use-designation to a cold-water stream, boosting the recreational industry and adding jobs to the area. ICPRB's Mike Selckmann has been involved in these discussions with Maryland and West Virginia. There is a current pause of the use designation and ICPRB updated EPA on the status on May 12.

Drought Update: Mr. Nardolilli reported that the basin is currently in a drought watch, briefly summarizing the drought discussion from the earlier CO-OP Section meeting at 8:30am.

ICPRB, as a participant in the Drought Coordination Technical Committee, recommended that the basin goes into drought watch status.

Compact Funding: ICPRB expects to receive the $650,000 check shortly.

Chair Brakel highlighted that the proposed modifications to the Low Flow Allocation Agreement (LFAA) have been approved and that we are gearing up for a finalization ceremony. He suggested staff write a summary document summarizing the agreement.

Chair Brakel asked Commissioners if there are questions for the Executive Director about his quarterly report. Hearing none, he moved to the next item on the agenda.

B. Report of the Standing Committee on Outreach, Education, and Workforce

Chair Brakel asked Committee Chair Birthe Kjellerup to report on the Committee's activities over the last quarter. Committee Chair Kjellerup shared that ICRB's Serena Moncion has been busy with Spring events. Ms. Moncion shared that the Committee's mission is to "broaden educational outreach, foster long-term stewardship and support water-related careers in the basin" and that the primary objective has been planning and executing outreach events with the intent to showcase the exemplary work of ICPRB staff. Committee Chair Kjellerup and Ms. Moncion shared that volunteers are welcome to join the quarterly meetings and/or suggestions for ideas for the next round of events. The Committee is interested in reaching areas of the basin that have not been adequately addressed thus far. **Hearing no questions, Chair Brakel moved onto the next item.**

C. Strategic Plan

Mr. Nardolilli reviewed the history of the Strategic Plan and asked for volunteers for the Strategic Plan Committee. Chair Brakel noted that ICPRB will need a committee to plan the next three years as the current three-year cycle is ending. Commissioners Dan Strodel, Justin Carl, Birthe Kjellerup, and Mark Peterson all volunteered to join the committee for the FY27-FY30 cycle.

D. Potomac River Conference

This year's conference is titled "A Dry Horizon: The Future of Water Supply in the Potomac River Basin." Mr. Nardolilli reported that we budgeted $4,000 for sponsorships for this conference and have received $12,000 in sponsorship commitments. The conference will be held on September 9, 2026, at The Crossvines in Poolesville, MD. Mr. Nardolilli noted staff's excitement about abstracts received and future discussions about the topic. Commissioners expressed an interest in sharing the conference opportunity with their communities.

E. Comprehensive Plan

Program Operations Director Heidi Moltz delivered the annual update on the 15-year basin-wide Comprehensive Plan. She detailed engagement, progress, new and updated tools, communication strategies and upcoming priorities of the current cycle. Dr. Moltz explained the stakeholder driven development and its focus on water use, land use, ecological health, and water quality. She described the updated Land Prioritization Tool which now covers all regions in EPA Region 3, including Delaware, and helps identify high priority parcels from a drinking water perspective. Dr. Moltz published a paper this quarter about the development and practice of the plan. She emphasized how collaboration across the basin is the engine to the plan's success.

Staff members launched a Water Energy Nexus web page that describes the connection between water and energy in the basin. Former intern, Dan Bloedow, created a how-to video on the Water Quality Data Inventory Tool which is also available on the ICPRB webpage.
As the plan is in its ninth year, Dr. Moltz asserted that there is a lot of momentum behind the progress. Staff are wrapping up the current five-year action plan, which has included expanding the land prioritization data set to include Delaware, improving access to the basin-wide water use data, and continuing addressing ecological heath including mussel and eel restoration. Dr. Moltz urged Commissioners to get involved in the plan and to ask questions along the way. Commissioner Karimi asked Dr. Moltz to elaborate on the land prioritization tool expansion to Delaware. She explained that data that expands to political boundaries is much more useful to stakeholders, so even though Delaware is not within the Potomac basin boundaries, we included it upon request.

F. Operations Report

Contracts and Financial Report: Mr. Parker detailed the receipt of a $706,847 grant from EPA and reported that the Commission retains a stable financial position. The Contingency Reserve and investment balances contain more than three months of operating expenses.

Spotlight Program: ICPRB's Alimatou Seck and Gordon "Mike" Selckmann presented "Data Centers and the Basin: Outlining Challenges, Exploring Future Directions."

8. New Business

G. Nominating FY2027 Officers

Commissioners Hamid Karimi, Jason Minnich, and Weedon Cloe have volunteered to join the committee for FY27. **Commissioner Potter made a motion to appoint the nominating committee as named above and Commissioner Will Willis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the FY27 Nominating Committee members were approved.**

H. FY2027 Draft Framework Budget

Mr. Parker presented the framework budget for FY2027. He pointed out that we are showing projected revenues of $3.25 million, which is a 16% reduction from FY2026. Expenditures are projected at slightly less than revenue at $3.25 million, which is about 10% more than FY26 due to salary changes, a return to full rent, and operating cost changes. Chair Brakel asked for a motion to adopt the framework budget. **Commissioner Potter made a motion to approve the framework budget as circulated and Commissioner Strodel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the framework budget was adopted.**

G. Presentation of the FY2025 Audit

Commissioner Potter presented the FY2025 Audit in place of Chairman Darryl Madden. **She recommended that the Commission accept the audit and put forth a motion to approve it that was seconded by Commissioner Karimi. All were in favor and the FY2025 audit was accepted by the Commission.**

H. Unit Reporting

Dr. Moltz provided a brief overview of the technical expertise and outreach of ICPRB staff, highlighting the Aquatic Habitats section and Water Resources section, emphasizing their roles in technical analysis, field data collection, spill preparedness, and stakeholder engagement. Ms. Bourassa summarized the Communications unit activities, including the weekly newsletters, social media

engagement, interactive maps, event planning, and participation in festivals where they create interactive displays about some Potomac River ecology using benthic macroinvertebrates.

9. In-Person Annual Meeting at AlexRenew on September 22, 2026
Commissioners were reminded about the annual in-person meeting to be held at AlexRenew in Alexandria Virginia on September 22, 2026, with a tour of the facility to follow the meeting.

10. For the Good of the Order
Chair Brakel asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Karimi made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Commissioner Potter. Accordingly, the meeting was adjourned at 12:02pm.

These minutes were written by Administrative Coordinator Lily Bedwell and reviewed by Executive Director Michael Nardolilli.