

**Wastewater Infrastructure Policy Working Group**  
**§ 62.1-223.2**  
**December 21, 2022, 9:00 am to 11:00 pm**  
**Meeting Summary**

**Meeting Location:**

**Virginia Department of Health**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Main Conference Room**  
**109 Governor Street**  
**Richmond, VA 23219**

**1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions.**

Mr. Morris welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order.

**2. Review Summary from September 29, 2022 meeting.**

There were no objections to accepting the summary from the September 29, 2022 meeting.

**3. Follow up on discussion with Department of Education.**

Mr. Morris commented on a meeting between Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and Department of Education (DOE) staff. The group discussed avenues for lesson on wastewater being added for K-12 education. The discuss focused on providing more resources for teachers such as links to materials, some of which are already available such as Septic Smart Week materials. The discuss with DOE was based on a recommendation from the 2021 Wastewater Infrastructure Working Group (WWIWG) report.

The group discussed options for possible field trips, agreeing that having those done a local school system level would be easier to coordinate than at a centralized level. The group also discussed possible at home exercises that could be shared with teachers.

**4. Review of 2022 Report.**

Next the WWIWG discuss the final 2022 report to the General Assembly which can be found at <https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2022/RD899/PDF>. The workgroup walked through the reported which at the time of the meeting the report was under final review. The report includes an executive summary of the previous years activities and a summary of each of the 2022 meetings. The report also covers research needs for infrastructure projects and currently available funding through VDH and DEQ.

**5. Public comment.**

Several members of the public provided comments and feedback through the meeting. Ms. Carolyn White noted several mound systems in Pughsville, Suffolk, were not included in the list of alternative system provided by Mr. Gregory in response to a Freedom of Information Act Request. She also asked when would the WWIWG consider a community in an emergency situation, noting that Oakland and Chuckatuck have no drainage or public sewer.

Ms. Andrea Parodi commented that it was not clear what research targets the WWIWG had set that would then be directly linked to funding and how the influx of funding could best be used.

Ms. Keely Hengler asked whether with the influx of funding if there is an untapped resource for outreach, such as direct meetings with communities. She commented on local community meetings every Tuesday in 2023, and would like WWIWG to participate in those meetings.

Ms. Mary Hill noted that Hobson, Pughsville, Oakland, and Chuckatuck in Suffolk have been identified as environmental justice communities. She commented that resolutions and redress are necessary in these communities to address septic system flooding, erosion, and development causing a loss of character in these communities.

## **6. Adjournment**

**Wastewater Infrastructure Policy Working Group**  
**§ 62.1-223.2**  
**December 21, 2022, 9:00 am to 11:00 pm**  
**Meeting Agenda**

**Meeting Location:**

**Virginia Department of Health**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Main Conference Room**  
**109 Governor Street**  
**Richmond, VA 23219**

**Virtual:**

Join from the meeting link

<https://vdhoep.webex.com/vdhoep/j.php?MTID=m5467fb24d082e024fcbb86be72f8585f>

Join by phone

1-844-992-4726 United States Toll Free

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

- 1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions.**
- 2. Review Summary from September 29, 2022 meeting.**
- 3. Follow up on discussion with Department of Education.**
- 4. Review of 2022 Report.**
- 5. Public comment.**
- 6. Adjournment**

**§ 62.1-223.1. State policy as to community and onsite wastewater treatment. It is the policy of the Commonwealth to prioritize universal access to wastewater treatment that protects public health and the environment and supports local economic growth and stability.**