

**INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN
FOURTH QUARTER CO-OP SECTION MEETING FY2026
SEPTEMBER 22, 2026**

**ANNUAL IN-PERSON MEETING
AlexRenew, Alexandria VA
Draft Minutes**

Call to Order: Michael Nardolilli, Executive Director of ICPRB and CO-OP, called the CO-OP Section Meeting to order at 8:30am on September 22, 2026. The following Commissioners, staff, and guests attended the meeting in whole or in part.

Commissioners

District of Columbia

Willem Brakel (*)
Tiffany M. Potter
Steve Saari
Hamid Karimi (a)
Kimberly Jones (a)
Jayne Brown (a)

Maryland

Lee Currey (a*)
Randy Rowel Jr.
Dan Strodel (a)
K. John Holmes (a)

Pennsylvania

Jason Minnich (a*)

United States

Amy Guise (a)

Virginia

W. Weedon Cloe III (a*)
Mark E. Peterson
Justin Carl (a)

West Virginia

Mindy Neil (a*)

Staff

Michael Nardolilli, Executive Director
Alimatou Seck, Dir. of CO-OP Operations
Lily Bedwell, Administrative Coordinator
Renee Bourassa, Director of Communications
Laurel Glenn, Director of Finance and Admin.
Heidi Moltz, Director of Program Operations
Serena Moncion, Community Outreach Manager
Shokoufeh Pourshahabi, River Spill Response Fellow
Rick Masters, General Counsel
Sarah Ahmed, Associate Director of Spill Response

Guests

Anne Spiesman, Fairfax Water

(a) - Alternate Commissioner

(*) - Executive Committee

1. Roll Call

Renee Bourassa, Director of Communications, began the meeting and led the group in a roll call to introduce themselves and their organization.

2. Welcoming Remarks

CO-OP Chair Lee Currey introduced himself and thanked General Manager and CEO of AlexRenew and ICPRB Commissioner Justin Carl for providing the venue for the meeting. Chair Currey commended the Potomac River Conference planning committee and congratulated ICPRB on record attendance and an outstanding conference. He recognized the challenges that CO-OP and ICPRB have been dealing with regarding drought throughout the basin and commended CO-OP's work on the 2025 WMA Water Supply Study and the upcoming follow-up study. He recognized WSSC Water's leadership of the Section 203 feasibility study, "Secure the Source."

3. Adoption or Modification of Agenda

Chair Currey asked if there were any modifications to the draft agenda. Hearing none, **he asked for a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. Commissioner Mark Peterson made the motion, and Commissioner Tiffany Potter seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the agenda was adopted as circulated.**

4. CO-OP Section Meeting Minutes from June 16, 2026

Chair Currey asked for any modifications to the draft minutes from the Q3 FY26 CO-OP Section meeting on June 16, 2026. **Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes as circulated. Commissioner Mark Peterson made the motion, and Commissioner Hamid Karimi seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the minutes were approved as circulated.**

5. Old Business

A. Follow-up on June Action Items

Dr. Alimatou Seck shared that no action items require follow-up from the 3Q FY26 meeting.

B. Section's Quarterly Report

Dr. Alimatou Seck briefed the group on drought conditions and the commencement of daily drought monitoring. She stated that weather forecasts indicated rain that week which she expected would bring the flow above the drought monitoring threshold of 2000 cubic feet per second (cfs). She stated that NOAA long-term forecasts indicated that drought is likely to improve over the coming months. She reported that even with above normal precipitation in July and August, the region remained in a long-term precipitation deficit. Dr. Seck shared that Sarah Ahmed, Associate Director of Spill Response, made major changes and improvements to the ICPRB CO-OP data portal and dashboards being developed for use during drought monitoring and drought operations.

Dr. Seck noted CO-OP's concern regarding low groundwater levels. For many of the wells, below normal groundwater level values were observed. In response to a question by K. John Holmes about the use of aggregated groundwater data, she responded that CO-OP uses a groundwater index that combines information from wells in WV, VA, and MD. Overall, conditions have improved over the past months but the aggregated groundwater index is still weighed down by low groundwater levels in VA wells.

Dr. Seck mentioned that staff has been actively maintaining CO-OP's drought tools, which assist in making operational decisions during drought conditions. Those tools include the Drought-OPS dashboard, the low flow forecasting system, and the data portal mentioned

above, which is used to produce the daily drought monitoring emails sent to utilities and stakeholders in the basin.

The follow-up to the 2025 WMA Water Supply Study will evaluate additional water supply resource options like Travilah Quarry and others using the planning model PRRISM. The follow-up study began this summer with a projected completion date of December 2027. Dr. Seck explained that CO-OP's priorities for the next quarter include the mentioned follow-up to the 2025 WMA Water Supply Study, as well as the initiation of an integrated hydrologic modeling project in collaboration with academic partners, continued drought monitoring, drought exercises and tools maintenance, and modeling North Branch flows and temperatures.

Chair Currey asked how utilities or states might plan to use the data and research from CO-OP. Dr. Seck responded that CO-OP tools are used at differing stages: during daily drought monitoring, CO-OP provides information for situational awareness with no action required; in the next stage, during drought operations, CO-OP data and tools are used to inform utilities on recommended operational changes. Additionally, planning studies such as the follow-up to the 2025 Water Supply Study aim to inform long-term planning and the need for new infrastructure. Sarah Ahmed added that ongoing updates to the data portal aim to provide a more user-friendly experience for utilities. Commissioner Steve Saari asked how CO-OP might be impacted by USGS gaging stations closing. Dr. Seck responded that while these budget cuts have affected stream gages across the country, the gages that CO-OP primarily uses during drought monitoring and operations have not been impacted and that they continue to operate as intended. Chair Currey added that this is an important issue to raise as smaller systems upstream may be affected by these cuts.

C. Update on LFAA Modification 3

Executive Director Mike Nardolilli reported that Modification No. 3 to the Low Flow Allocation Agreement had received approval from Army Corps headquarters and the Office of the Secretary of the Army General Counsel. He also discussed the collaborative process to examine the flow-by and the need to identify someone to lead and reconvene the Environmental Flow Task Force following Greg Busch's departure from MDE.

D. Financial Statement

Dr. Seck shared that CO-OP is on track and on budget.

6. New Business

Election of FY27 CO-OP Section Officers: ED Nardolilli asked Mark Peterson to share the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. He put forward a recommendation for Commissioner Currey to be CO-OP Chair and Commissioner Weedon Cloe to be CO-OP Vice Chair. **Mr. Nardolilli noted that the motion does not need a second and asked for questions. All were in favor and the CO-OP Officers were elected.**

7. Adjourn

Chair Currey asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hamid Karimi made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Potter seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30am.

These minutes were written by Lily Bedwell, revised by Alimatou Seck, and approved by Michael Nardolilli.