



PATUXENT RIVER COMMISSION

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John Hartline, Executive Director, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, Chair

Christopher Perry, Bourn Environmental, Vice-Chair

We, the Patuxent River Commission, envision a Patuxent River ecosystem as vital and productive in 2050 as it was in the 1950s. We therefore commit to be stewards and advocates for the Patuxent River and to lead and inspire actions to protect, enhance, and restore living resources and the natural, cultural, economic, and recreational values of the Patuxent River and its watershed.

PATUXENT RIVER COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Members: John Hartline, Chair; Chris Perry, Vice-Chair; Frank Allen, Stacy Clements, John Denniston, Luis Dieguez, Mary Dolan, Jason Dubow, Lynda Eisenberg, Kim Finch, Morgan Hall, Bill Hubbard, Scott Knoche, Ron Marney, David Michael, Erik Michelsen, Byron Petrauskas, Diep Nguyen-van Houtte, Matt Rowe, Joanna Smith, Mark Symborski, John Tarr, Malcolm Taylor, Fred Tutman, Jason Van Kirk, Tiffany Wright

Staff: Debbie Herr Cornwell, Adam Snyder

Announcements, Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

The Commission discussed the Patuxent River Wade-In held on June 8, 2025. It was noted that advertisement for the event was not widely published.

A catfish processor is looking to expand in the Patuxent Watershed which would support waterman increasing their catch of this invasive species.

Chair Hartline welcomed David Michael to the Commission. Commissioner Michael's appointment fills the developer position.

Discussion: Meeting Schedule

Vice chair Chris Perry proposed a new meeting schedule for the Commission that would add a meeting in April and October and would eliminate the May and July meetings. Also, one meeting a year would be an in-person meeting.

Currently the Commission generally meets in January, February, March, May, July, September and November.

Jason Dubow noted that additional time and resources are needed to implement the in-person meeting.

Commissioners suggested asking others to provide staff assistance to the PRC, creating a PRC staff position through the legislature, or obtaining grant funding to support a position through a non-profit organization.

It was suggested that a workgroup be formed to discuss and propose a new meeting schedule [including in-person meeting(s)] for a vote by the full Commission in September.

Open Floor

Potential agenda items:

- Discussion - Jet ski restrictions in shallow water, low wake zone
- Presentation – Executive Director, Southern Maryland National Heritage Area

Reminder that there are several positions available on the Commission and potential members are encouraged to apply online through the Governor's Appointments Office.