

CARD/ EGLE Quarterly Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2024 at 10:00 AM
Via Zoom
[20240305 CARD-EGLE Quarterly Meeting](#)

The meeting was called to order by Roger Rayle at 10:05 AM.

The February Minutes were approved by a Board vote.

Jack Eaton moderated the meeting.

USEPA Update

Georgia Frost, from Congresswoman Dingell's office said that the Congresswoman submitted a public comment on the NPDES permitting and why it's outdated and is in the comments from Stakeholders.

EGLE Update

Chris Svoboda first discussed that the EPA has been in contact with EGLE and the NPL proposal will be public on Friday with at least a 60 day comment period, with an official listing for approximately next spring. EGLE agrees and is in support of this decision for the community concerns and the Federal oversight of the EPA.

There are no new draft monitoring plans. The Eastern Plan is ready to be implemented and he appreciates CARD's comments on the plan.

The financial assurance mechanism from Gelman should be forthcoming soon(\$55 million). Chris explained what this money is for (abandoning the site, etc).

MS4 and GSI are handled by Water Resources and Chris doesn't know much about their program. Water resources Div are also handling the NPDES permit and they do not attend the CARD meetings. Beth asked Chris if they could attend and let the community know what's going on. Vince mentioned that we still need EGLE to enforce some permanent monitoring wells in the shallow Allen Creek area of contamination, as well as continued sampling of the areas around and in the Allen Creek drain. Jack asked if it would take a change of state rule/ regulations on testing basements where contaminated water is? Chris thinks it's the Mi Legislature to make some changes, but said he will find out and get back to us.

Old Business Action items-

Washtenaw County- Kristen Schweighoefer has no updates from the County, except that the annual homeowner well testing will be held in June.

Ann Arbor TWP- Mike Moran had no updates.

Scio TWP- Kathy Knol mentioned that the KOC proposed development hydrogeology study is still being reviewed by Larry Lemke. This has been denied by the Planning Commission but the Township Board will review and make a decision.

Scio sent a resolution to EGLE requesting EGLE to establish method 522 testing of homeowner wells paid for by the polluter. We just got EGLE's response today, stating that they are already operating a program and the CJ4 states how this will be done, refusing Scio's request. Brian Negele said that he is retiring at the end of the week and Danielle Yokum will be his replacement. She is an assistant AJ and has attended meetings. He stated that the Resolution stops at a point of looking at the CJ and reservation of rights that Gelman has in the CJ. Roger stated that we are back to using homeowner wells as monitoring wells to see where the 1,4-dioxane is moving and on the backs of the local entities paying for the testing. He reminded us that this 2014 agreement (EGLE is referring to) was when the state criteria for dioxane was 85 ppb, not 7.2. And reminded us how the northern movement is now as far from the core as the eastern plumes, and in a short amount of time. Mike Moran mentioned that A2 TWP will also look into drafting a Resolution noting the 2014 agreement to seek those extra costs.

City of Ann Arbor- Erin Donnelly had no updates today.

Executive Board- Rita Loch-Caruso stated they are still working on the Items that CARD distinguished to have the Yale group focus on for our contamination site, like the long term exposure studies and other items. James had no new updates on the Polluter Pay at state legislature level.

Chair Update-

[03/05/2024 CARD Meeting-Chair notes](#)

Roger and Chris discussed EGLE and Gelman data that still needs to be loaded into the database. Chris explained that EGLE's database had been updated through 2023 for the Rockworks modeling except for the latest township well testing which would not show affect the Rockworks modeling since the Township readings were all below the Rockworks 4 ppb cutoff.

Roger showed us where the stakeholder comments on the NPDES renewal permit and related docs in a Gdrive file that is on the Agenda and that people might review before the promised Public Meeting for the new permit.

EGLE at one point had tried to tighten the daily maximum discharge from 20 ppb to 9 ppb, and Gelman should have been able to accomplish this since they have done this before over some time periods. Gelman seemingly did not know how much dioxane was still in the Core area, like at TW-24 with its high concentrations of over 2000 ppb outside Gelman's 1000 ppb plume map boundary. "How do you solve a problem if you haven't properly defined it?" There has not been enough due diligence by Gelman and sometimes by regulators to match the scale of the problem. Dioxane is spreading away from the core in different directions without knowing how much dioxane is left. The treatment systems should have been upgraded all along to keep up with the dioxane, especially with much more stringent cleanup standards. Michigan is not keeping up with other states environmental standards that would show we value our Waters of the State.

Roger discussed the Bromate issue with the current treatment.

Roger introduced Jennifer Li and other UM students who were finishing up a UMSI (School of Information) masters project on which Roger participated. They spoke about their

project for a few minutes and will be asking for help to interview residents who have homeowner drinking water wells affected by the 1,4-dioxane contamination..

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:24 AM