

CARD Monthly Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2025 **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM **Location:** Via Zoom

1. Call to Order - Welcome (Roger Rayle)

- The meeting was called to order by Chair **Roger Rayle**.
 - The meeting was moderated by **Rita Loch-Caruso**.
 - Chair Rayle noted the meeting was recorded and would be posted to YouTube.
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2. Approval of September Minutes (CARD Board Vote) (Beth Collins)

- The September minutes were **approved unanimously**
 - The **Board of Officers was elected unanimously**:
 - Roger Rayle (Chair),
 - Mike Moran (Vice Chair),
 - Vince Caruso (Treasurer),
 - James D'Amour (Member at Large),
 - Rita Loch-Caruso (Member at Large).
 - **Beth Collins** announced that this was her last meeting as Secretary.
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3. US EPA Update

- **Superfund Site Designation Update (EPA representative)**: No EPA representative was present.
 - **Congresswoman Debbie Dingell's team (Georgia Frost)**:
 - **Federal Shutdown**: Reported the federal government shutdown is in week two with no immediate negotiation plan from the House.
 - **EPA Operations**: The EPA's contingency plan is in effect, with most activities ceasing, focusing only on threats to life and property. Parts of the Superfund program funded by other sources may continue.
 - **Staff Pay**: Congressional staff are working without pay but will receive back pay when the government reopens.
 - **Dan Bicknell**: Absent.
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4. EGLE Updates (Chris Svoboda)

Chris Svoboda was absent. Chair **Roger Rayle** presented his written update.

- **Updates on Items 4a–4i:** Nothing to report on the listed sub-items except for c:
 - a. New draft Monitoring Plans.
 - b. Update on MW's F,G,H,I,J from the 2020 4th CJ
 - c. Sampling results from last near surface water testing.
 - **EGLE's annual Surface Water sampling effort is tentatively planned for mid-November; tentatively the weeks of November 10 or November 17, weather permitting.**
 - d. New GSI plan for the Western Area.
 - e. New Contingency Municipal Water Hook Up Plan
 - f. New Marshy Area Feasibility Study/Remediation Plan
 - g. Update on MS4 violation and WCWRC/EGLE enforcing elimination of this illicit discharge into the Allen Creek drain.
 - h. New exploration of WRD permitting this illicit discharge into the Allen Creek Drain with an NPDES? Can we get an update from WRD?
 - i. New GSI-Downgradient work plan for Allen Creek drain system. CARD is **still** asking for more testing-monitoring in the West Park area (near surface water testing/permanent MW's/wet basement testing).
- **Slauson Geothermal Wells: Gelman has agreed to sample** the nested geothermal wells in the Slauson area. **EGLE will perform sampling on October 22nd**, then turn over future responsibility to Gelman.
 - a. **Concern:** Rita Loch-Caruso expressed concerns about **artesian well conditions** and **wet basements** in the Slauson and West Park area due to shallow contamination levels.
- **Mapping Tool Update:** EGLE will update its mapping tool with **2024 data** in the coming weeks using a new ESRI format.

5. Old Business/Action Items

Area/Topic	Reporter	Update/Action Item
Washtenaw County: BOC/Environmental Council	Yousef Rabhi	Reported no new Gelman contamination updates (focused on data centers). Suggested a presentation to the Environmental Council (potentially by the November meeting) once new EGLE data is available, with the goal of securing a Resolution of Support from the Board of Commissioners.

Wash Co Health Dept updates	Kristen	The Health Department successfully advocated to add the house on Blueberry Lane to the 2026 well sampling plan.
Ann Arbor Township	Mike Moran	Absent. No update reported.
Scio Township	Kathy Knol	No new updates reported.
City of Ann Arbor: 1,4-dioxane Update	Erin Donnelly	Chris Svoboda (EGLE) tentatively agreed to present on residential well testing at the City's Sustainability Commission on November 18th .
City of Ann Arbor: Comprehensive Land Use Plan	Erin Donnelly	The third draft is out for review and includes an informational segment on the Gelman plume. A 63-day public review period is expected to begin in January. A group of graduate students is developing a groundwater strategy plan for Michigan and is using this case as one of three case studies.
Executive Board: Yale Superfund Research Program	Rita Loch-Caruso	No update; email to Dr. Vasilou went unanswered.
Executive Board: Polluter Pay Bills	Yousef Rabhi	No update as the legislature is focused on the budget. Expressed concern that EGLE's budget cuts were primarily unfilled FTE positions , which will strain existing staff and lead to a loss of institutional knowledge.
Executive Board: Other Issues (Outreach/Membership)	Roger Rayle, James D'Amour	Roger Rayle requested help recruiting new board members for SRSW. Noted successful outreach at the Green Fair and Scio Sustainability Fair.

6. Chair Updates (Roger Rayle)

- **2026 Homeowner Well Sampling Plan:** The County has adopted a tiered criteria for homeowner well sampling based on prior hits:
 - **1,000 ft buffer** for results >1 ppb
 - **500 ft buffer** for results between 0.5 ppb and 1 ppb
 - **250 ft buffer** for results <0.5 ppb
 - **First Detection Concern:** Reiterated concern that homeowner wells are still being used as the **first detection** for dioxane in the northern area, emphasizing the need for a **proper permanent monitoring network**.
 - **Contaminant Movement:** Noted that recent years have shown some of the **highest-ever readings** in certain locations, suggesting **northward movement** along an ancestral stream bed.
 - **Slauson Well Initiative Recognition:** Advocated for identifying and recognizing the individuals who initiated the **Slauson geothermal monitoring wells**.
 - **Data Standardization:** Expressed the need to talk with EGLE staff about standardizing data processing, naming conventions, and well locations to improve accuracy and correlation with historical data.
 - **Scio Township Development (Piper Ridge):** Brought up a new building proposal for the Parkland Plaza parcel (identified by Bob Hyde as **Piper Ridge**, which is not approved and will require a resubmitted site plan) that may require replacing monitoring wells.
 - **Action Item:** A site visit with Bob Hyde was proposed to verify the accurate locations of existing wellheads, noting that MW-63s/i/d wells in the area were previously abandoned without replacement.
 - **Contamination Risk:** Discussed the continued issue of dioxane in creek systems and the need for more comprehensive treatment standards, noting that the plume is moving "faster than what national politics can move."
 - **Secretarial Duties:** Discussed the urgent need for a new Secretary, suggesting the duties could be shared by two or three people. Noted that AI assistance has reduced the non-meeting time commitment for minutes drafting to 1-2 hours.
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7. Non-Agenda Items (All of CARD)

- No further non-agenda items were brought up by the group.
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8. Reminder: Next CARD Meetings (Zoom)

- **Tuesday, November 4, at 6:00 PM:** (Unless the board decides skip/cancel this meeting due to low expected activity)
 - **Tuesday, December 2, at 10:00 AM: CARD/EGLE Quarterly Meeting**
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Adjournment: The meeting was formally adjourned.