

CARD Monthly Meeting Minutes-Approved

Date: Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: via Zoom

Attendees: Roger Rayle (Chair), Jack Eaton (Moderator), James D'Amour, Georgia Frost (Rep. Dingell's Office), Kristen (Washtenaw County), Erin Donnelly (City of Ann Arbor), Kathy Knol (Scio Twp), Beth Ellis (Stakeholder/Citizen), and others.

1. Call to Order - Welcome (Roger Rayle)

- Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair Roger Rayle.
- Instructions provided on using Gallery Mode for recording and viewing shared screen data.
- Meeting turned over to Jack Eaton for moderation.

2. Approval of October/December Minutes (Jack Eaton)

- **Motion:** James D'Amour moved to approve the December 2, 2025, minutes (AI-Draft).
- **Second:** Unidentified CARD member.
- **Discussion:** None.
- **Result:** Passed without dissent.

3. US EPA Update

a. Superfund Site Designation & Funding (Georgia Frost)

- **Federal Budget:** House Appropriations released a bipartisan package on Jan 5th. It appropriates **\$8.8 billion** for the EPA (4.4% less than last year, but \$4.7 billion more than the President's request).
- **Staffing:** Discussion on the loss of 13,000–14,000 EPA research jobs in 2025. Georgia noted that regional Superfund offices appear more stable than research divisions.
- **Gelman Status:** No specific update on the NPL designation timeline, but the funding boost for the Superfund program is viewed as a positive sign.

b. Discussion (James D'Amour/Roger Rayle)

- James D. requested specific bill text regarding Superfund accounts; Georgia will provide the link in the chat.
- Roger R. inquired about agency responsiveness; Georgia noted that while some delays exist, the hiring freeze lifting has improved most federal casework.

4. EGLE Updates (Outstanding Issues)

a. Monitoring & Sampling

- **West Park:** Erin Donnelly (City) noted that the City will be conducting sampling in West Park over the next few months in conjunction with the band shell removal project.
- **Slauson Middle School:** Chris Svoboda is scheduled to present data regarding the 2025 residential sampling and Slauson geothermal results to the City Sustainability Commission on Jan 13th.

b. Data Gaps

- Roger Rayle noted that current "Rockworks" mapping (2024 data) is missing Scio Township data. He spoke with Chris Svoboda about integrating this and 2025 data in the near future.

5. Old Business/Action Items

All Stakeholders (Data Submittals)

- **The "Ride" System:** Roger reported that the state database is difficult to navigate.
- **Action:** Jack Eaton and Roger Rayle will contact Phil Roose (EGLE) to request a **bulk download** of all 11,000+ files related to Gelman to ensure CARD has a complete digital archive.

Washtenaw County

- **Kristen:** Confirmed that the CARD meeting schedule will remain monthly for 2026 and will be updated on the county website immediately.

City of Ann Arbor

- **Land Use Plan:** Public comment closed Jan 5th. James D'Amour expressed concern that the plan's mention of the plume is too brief and may not translate effectively into future zoning and density maps.

Scio Township (Parkland Plaza)

- **Monitoring Well Conflict:** Developers of a new housing project wish to abandon wells. Roger Rayle presented data showing **MW-38D** is still 5x above cleanup standards.

- **Ownership Dispute:** Roger's records indicate Gelman still owns the parcel; Kathy Null (AA Twp) reported that developers claim the sale is finalized.
- **Action:** Kathy and Roger will coordinate a site visit to verify well locations, which appear to be surveyed 125–170 feet away from their recorded locations.

Executive Board

- **Yale Research:** No current communication due to funding/staffing cuts at the Yale program.
- **Polluter Pay Bills:** No new update from the MI Legislature.

6. Chair Updates (Roger Rayle)

a. Information Infrastructure

- Roger reviewed EGLE's [new interactive map](#) of the Gelman site with data through 2024.
 - Compared with the current SRSW/CARD Google Earth map mashup.
 - Noted some of the data anomalies between the EGLE datasets and changes to homeowner well sampling criteria.
 - Scio prior years' and 2025 Gelman sampling expected to be added in early 2026.
- Showed a budget summary for EGLE's RockWorks Project download from EGLE's RIDE system and commented on the lack of end user input.
- Compared RIDE system with prior EGLE/MDEQ Gelman project updates.
- Reviewed how CARD was formed as an intergovernmental/citizen entity addressing the Gelman contamination.
- Roger presented a "Gelman Information Infrastructure" diagram.
- Proposed a central repository to house institutional knowledge for the "lifetime" of the project with input from all stakeholders shown in the [Info/Infra Diagram](#).
- Need to review what documentation about the Gelman site all CARD stakeholders have and create an ongoing central repository.
- Perhaps fund student interns to index physical and digital archives from all stakeholders.
- Beth Ellis (new stakeholder) highlighted the "opaque" nature of current information for residents and offered to help simplify data for public consumption.

b. New housing proposal for Parkland Plaza parcel

- Discussed how the project plan shows different coordinates for the three Gelman monitoring wells on the parcel than Gelman's data for those wells.
- What will happen to the monitoring wells?

c. Agenda Organization

- Roger suggested potentially organizing future agendas by **Topic** (e.g., specific plume areas) rather than by **Stakeholder Entity** to improve focus on technical issues.

7. Non-Agenda Items

- No items raised.
- **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 6:00 pm.