

Meeting Minutes: 2026-03-03 CARD-EGLE Quarterly Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 03, 2026

Time: 10:00 am – 11:47 am

Location: via Zoom

1. Call to Order - Welcome

- Roger Rayle (CARD Chair) called the meeting to order and noted it was being recorded for YouTube.
- Jack Eaton (CARD Executive Director) moderated the session.

2. Approval of January Minutes

- Jack Eaton led the vote on the January minutes.
- The minutes were approved as last distributed.

3. US EPA Update

- **Superfund Site Designation Update:** No EPA representative was present. Georgia Frost (team of Congresswoman Debbie Dingell) provided a general update, noting that a partial government shutdown and foreign affairs (Iran) have delayed Congressional business.
- **Gelman Plume Status:** Georgia Frost stated the Congresswoman remains concerned as the proposed Superfund listing is "long overdue." Roger Rayle reported a call with Diane Russell (EPA Community Involvement Coordinator), noting that staffing voids at the EPA have stalled progress.

4. EGLE Updates (Chris Svoboda)

- **Personnel Changes:** Chris introduced Deanna Hutzler as the new Jackson District Supervisor, replacing Andrea.
- **Residential Well Sampling:** EGLE has contracted **Hamp Matthews and Associates** (represented by Abby Varner) to conduct this year's sampling of 220 residential wells.
 - Sampling will be done from outside spigots; contractors will not enter homes.
 - Letters to residents will be sent in early May, with sampling starting in early June.
 - Roger suggested sharing the letter draft with CARD reps for input before sending them.
- **Western Area GSI Plan:** EGLE expects a response activity plan by the end of March regarding elevated dioxane levels near the GSI.
- **Phyto Remediation Pilot Study:** Gelman is preparing a wetland permit application for this study.
- **Allen Creek Drain:** Data from the eastern area GSI investigation (collected late last summer) is still being processed.
- **Slawson School:** Gelman has reached a preliminary agreement with Ann Arbor Public Schools to begin quarterly sampling of the geothermal wells.

5. Old Business/Action Items

- **Archive Inventory:** Roger Rayle remains committed to creating a central repository for all Gelman-related documents and data sets.
- **Washtenaw County:** Kristen (Health Dept) reported they are on standby awaiting the Michigan Court of Appeals regarding the ongoing complaint with Gelman.
- **Ann Arbor Township:** No new updates; Kathy Null was unable to attend.
- **City of Ann Arbor:** Erin Donnelly reported the land use comprehensive plan was approved by the Planning Commission on Feb 18 and moves to City Council on March 16.
- **Scio Township/Homeowner Wells:** Dan Bicknell (via email/link) addressed migration to deep homeowner wells, arguing the contamination clearly originates from the Gelman site rather than septic fields.

6. Executive Board Updates

- **Yale Superfund Research:** Dr. Rita Loch-Caruso reported that Yale is seeking a center renewal, shifting its focus toward the Cape Fear River Basin (NC) but continuing research on 1,4-dioxane and arsenic.
- **Polluter Pay Bills:** James D'Amour noted there has been little recent movement on this legislation.
- **Secretary Vacancy:** CARD still needs a secretary to assist with minutes and agendas (estimated 0.5 days/month).

7. Chair Updates (Roger Rayle)

- **Interactive Map:** Roger noted issues with EGLE's interactive map displaying non-detects as "0.25." Chris Svoboda has been working with consultants (Mannik & Smith Group) to clearly indicate non-detect and roll out the new map version with 2025 data by mid to late spring.
- **Burn Pit Data:** Roger expressed concern over missing data from five monitoring wells in the burn pit area installed around 2016-17. That data should not be withheld because of any non-disclosure agreement made during the 4th Consent Judgment negotiations.
- **EGLE's Gelman database: Confirmed as source for the Rockworks modeling.**
- **Plume Flow and Travel Time Predictions:** Roger presented some prior groundwater flow maps and dioxane travel time predictions.
- **Meeting Rescheduling:** Due to travel conflicts, the June quarterly meeting is rescheduled for June 7.

8. Non-Agenda Items / Next Meetings

- **Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 6:00 PM.
- **Quarterly Meeting Move:** The meeting originally scheduled for June 2 is **CANCELLED**. The next Quarterly Meeting will be held **Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 10:00 AM**.