

**October 2017 Minutes  
Board of Director Minutes**

**Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed**

*Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed Board Members are:*

**Zygmunt Dworzecki** - Director

**Taylor Hollis** – Director

**Laura Ogar**-Vice-Chair

**Dennis Zimmerman** - Secretary

**Pete Frauson**- Treasurer

**David Karpovich**– Director

**Glenn Rowley** – Director

**Jim Hergott**- Director

**Elan Lipschitz** - Director

**Bill Wright** – Chair

**October 2, 2017 – 10:00 am to 12:00 pm - Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes**

Bay County Building -3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Personnel Conference Room

515 Center Avenue Bay City, Michigan

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**Summary of Meeting's Action Items:**

- Submission and acceptance of August 7, 2017 and September 11 Minutes
- Treasurer's Update
- SPAC Update
- AOC Coordinator Update
- Beach Closing BUI Restoration Criteria
- Next steps for Beach Closings BUI Restoration
- Selecting more targets for BUI Restoration
- **Next Meeting Date November 6, 2017 from 10am – Noon at the Bay County Building 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Personnel Conference Room**

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**Chair/Wright** convened the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

Board Members present included: **Dworzecki, Rowley, Wright and Zimmerman. With Ogar, Karpovich and Lipschitz on the phone.**

Also present were: **Warren Smith** and **Jo Ellen Strieter**– Administrative Contractor

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**Motion by Zimmerman** to approve the minutes of our Regular Board Meeting from August 7, 2017. **Motion seconded by Rowley. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Motion by Ogar** to approve all actions from the Regular Board Meeting of September 11, 2017. **Motion seconded by Dworzecki. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Motion by Dworzecki** to approve the minutes of our Regular Board Meeting from September 11, 2017. **Motion seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Administrative Matters: -**

**Treasurer's Report** submitted by email by **Frauson**, read by **Wright** with a balance of \$8,373.15 as of 8/31/17. Since then we have received \$5,240 from the DEQ and we have written a check to **Strieter** for \$5,240.00 for her billed services. There was also a check recently written to **Strieter** for \$399.63 for the display materials she purchased (we had previously authorized up to \$500.00). **Motion by Dworzecki** to accept Treasurer's Report. **Motion seconded by Ogar. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Ogar** mentioned the importance of maintaining the amount of unobligated funds in our account.

**SPAC** report by **Zimmerman** – The next SPAC meeting will be held October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at the Anderson Building in Lansing and will include the Legislative Briefing. At the SPAC meeting next location of the AOC Conference will be discussed, it may be in Duluth. **Zimmerman** shared the SPAC conference agenda, which he will send out to our mailing list.

**Discussion followed on:** A strategic message that we would like to share with our legislators. Some suggestions were:

1. Remind our Congressional delegation to keep GLRI funded.
2. Encourage a statewide septic code with periodic septic system inspections.
3. Acquaint them with the Partnership, who we are and what we do.
4. Preparing a one-page strategy review of what we are working to do, then we can update and continuously use.
5. Prepare a synopsis of actions taken after every board meeting that we send to them and to others on our email list.
6. Make sure that our next meeting date, time and location are on all minutes.

Additionally, discussed was adding other counties' commissioners to our mailing list, currently we only have Bay County Commissioners on the mailing list.

## **NO AOC Coordinator Update**

### **Old Business-**

**Beach Closings BUI Restoration Criteria** – per Wright it is in discussion at the DEQ.

We have addressed widespread beach closing issues, the fact that we came up with a criterion is monumental. The states one size fits all criteria doesn't fit our large AOC area very well. As Dworzecki pointed out, the LaMP states that the Saginaw Bay is different from the rest of Lake Huron. Our next steps will be responding to whatever feedback we get on our Criteria from DEQ.

We need to create a historical narrative for our BUI justification. **Motion by Ogar** for Wright to ask **Riley** to draft a narrative for Beach Closings BUI Removal Criteria. **Motion seconded by Dworzecki. Motion carried without dissent.**

### **New Business-**

**Selecting more targets for BUI Restoration** – We have stated the need to select a new target for our next BUI Removal. **Frauson**, who has been keeping a chart of other BUI's, was not available at this meeting. Discussion followed on Eutrophication:

1. A lot has already been done on Eutrophication removal. A statewide BUI removal standard has been set, and it is different from what we had suggested in Measures of Success.
2. The Public can be educated more on this and related BUIs, because at least some of the impacts of it can be seen on our beaches.
3. We need to get the whole watershed involved in the solution, which requires reduction of nutrients in runoff.
4. It would be easy to get the media involved, again because of the visible nature of impacts.
5. It would help us address some other BUI problems such as aesthetics and degradation of benthos as well as phyto- and zooplankton. Plus, it will help with the solution for Beach Closings, because we will likely address such pollution sources as failing septic systems and birds which add both bacteria and nutrients to the water.
6. Likewise, filling out the monitoring sample forms completely for reporting in beach guard, as we've requested, will assist us in addressing this Eutrophication and other BUI's.

Other BUI discussion included;

1. Aesthetics - we have made a lot of improvements, muck is a deterrent for anyone seeking to access Saginaw Bay.
2. Dredging – sediments from dredging facilities are reported to have substantially reduced contaminant levels from years past. The more polluted sediments going into confined disposal facilities should be ~~are~~ buried by newer, cleaner material. This may point toward eventual removal of this BUI.
3. Animals – contaminant levels in fish and bird tissues and eggs are reported to be going down
4. Habitat- reproductive problems with waterfowl and eagles may largely be solved, as evidenced by recovery of populations of bald eagles and cormorants.
5. Wildlife – are toxics still effecting wildlife?

**Ogar** has participated on the citizens' review committee for the Dow dioxin cleanup. She can provide information on this for **Strieter** to send out.

**Motion made by Zimmerman** that our next BUI Removal target be Eutrophication. **Motion seconded by Dworzecki. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Wright** – Reminder to board – we have an empty spot on the board. We would like to have 11 board members.

It was stated that it is important for the Chair to thank legislators for State government's contributions to progress in Saginaw Bay as noted at the State of the Bay Conference. It is imperative to thank them for what they have done. We look forward to our future work together.

**Ogar** will work with **Strieter** on legislator addresses. A brief thank you should be written, with a list of who it was sent to and email a copy to our email list.

**Strieter** will ask **Frauson** to take our display to Lansing.

**Strieter** will work on updating our tri-fold.

**Motion by Zimmerman** to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 am. **Motion seconded by Dworzecki.**

Respectfully Submitted, Jo Ellen Strieter – Administrative Contractor

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