

**December 2017 Minutes**  
**Board of Director Minutes**  
**Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed**

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

**Taylor Brook** – Director

**Jim Hergott**- Director

**Laura Ogar**-Vice-Chair

**Dennis Zimmerman** - Secretary

**Zygmunt Dworzecki** - Director

**David Karpovich**– Director

**Glenn Rowley** – Director

**Pete Frauson**- Treasurer

**Elan Lipschitz** - Director

**Bill Wright** – Chair

**December 4, 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 November 6, 2017 Minutes
- Treasurer's Update
- SPAC Update
- AOC Coordinator Update
- Rowley and Strieter to obtain quotes for Director's and Officer's Liability Insurance
- Strieter to follow up with Hergott to get room rates for March 2018 SPAC conference to be held in Saginaw
- Beach Closing BUI Restoration Criteria
- Next steps for Beach Closings BUI Restoration
- Board and Task Group to email any changes on the criteria to all members to create a unified criterion
- Strieter to schedule conference room for 2018 Partnership meeting dates
- **Next Meeting Date January 8, 2018 from 10am – Noon at the Bay County Building 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Personnel Conference Room**

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**Rowley convened** the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Board Members present included: **Frauson, Brook, Rowley, and Zimmerman. With Wright and Lipschitz on the phone.**

Also present were: **John Riley** - DEQ, **Wanda Dziwura** – USDA Rural Development, **Troy Shank** – USDA Rural Development, **Warren Smith** – Member and **Jo Ellen Strieter**– Administrative Contractor

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**Motion by Zimmerman** to approve the minutes of our Regular Board Meeting from November 6, 2017. **Motion seconded by Frauson. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Administrative Matters:**

**Treasurer's Report** submitted by **Frauson** with a balance of \$7953.52. **Motion by Zimmerman** to accept Treasurer's Report. **Motion seconded by Rowley. Motion carried without dissent**

**SPAC** report by **Zimmerman**. No Updates. Reminder – Mid-Michigan Conference will be held in March of 2018 in the Saginaw Bay Watershed. **Strieter** to follow-up with Hergott on hotel, etc., information and send to **Zimmerman** and **Riley**.

**AOC Coordinator Update – Riley** the moving of the Office of the Great Lakes from the Department of Environmental Quality to the Department of Natural Resources has not resulted in any current staffing changes. When the new Governor is elected new officers will be appointed. His office has been looking closely at the Beach Closings Criteria. Beach Closings Criteria will continue after our speaker.

**Wanda Dziwura** – Loan Specialist with the USDA Rural Development was our speaker today and was introduced by **Rowley**. She included background information on her agency. They assist in economic development of rural communities and provide funding for non-profits for community programs, facilities, fire departments, health care needs and Water Sewer infrastructure and storm sewers as well. They can assist with home purchases as well as home repairs. They cannot assist larger cities only smaller communities. **Frauson** asked about financial assistance for the dealing with high E-coli readings from beach monitoring teams that result in beach closings. Handouts were provided that explain income levels that could receive assistance, information on the application process for communities to receive assistance, Summary of Programs, Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program and Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant. **Frauson** mentioned that these programs could assist with some of our areas of concern one being the Singing Bridge Area. Thank you, Wanda, for the information you provided today.

#### **Old Business-**

**Beach Closing BUI Restoration Criteria** – After much discussion on the proposed criteria members present were to critique the below Criteria and send any changes to the group by email.

**Saginaw River/Bay Area of Concern (AOC)**  
**Beach Closings Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) due to Pathogens**  
**Proposed Beach Closings BUI Restoration Criteria**  
**December 4, 2017**

#### **Rational**

The Public Advisory Council (PAC) for the Saginaw River/Bay Area of Concern (AOC) acknowledges that numerous factors can influence the water quality of recreational waters and even after remedial work is complete and official restoration ‘delisting’ criteria are met, occasional beach closures from pathogens may still occur in natural waters.

These beach closings restoration criteria were developed by the local PAC after Michigan adopted statewide beach closing criteria tie-barred to the (303d) Impaired Waters List, which were not a good fit for the unique conditions of the Saginaw River/Bay AOC.

The PAC took into consideration many factors in determining these beach closings restoration criteria including the significant remedial work performed since the Saginaw River/Bay was initially listed as

an AOC, notably the installation of Retention Treatment Basins (RTB's) at all Municipal Wastewater discharge points to the Saginaw River, effectively preventing untreated sewage overflows and reducing the introduction of pathogens (E. Coli).

A review was conducted of water sampling data reported on Beach Guard and it showed that 95% of all samples taken at beaches on the inner Saginaw Bay during the period 2010-2013, were below (cleaner than) Michigan's total body contact standard of 300 E. coli counts per 100 ml. However, in recent years, sampling at a number of 'problem' beaches with recurring high E. coli levels shows that we are no longer meeting the 95% achievement rate. Beaches with recurring high sample results include Whites Beach, Singing Bridge, South Linwood Beach, Brissette Beach, Wenona Beach and Bird Creek County Park.

After thoughtful consideration the PAC developed the restoration criteria below which when followed, should assure that each of the Saginaw Bay beaches consistently meets the Michigan Water Quality Standards for Recreational total body contact. Based upon a review of beach water quality reports such as on Beach Guard, the PAC will provide a written notification to the affected local jurisdictions and government agencies and local public news media outlets that a waterbody fails to meet AOC restoration criteria and request that appropriate measures be taken to address this contamination. The PAC believes that the identification of 'problem' beaches and the delisting criteria will provide for long term improvements to water quality and possibly a return to the overall results of the 95% achieved earlier. Even after the future delisting of the AOC Beach Closings BUI the PAC will monitor progress in the implementation of plans to address 'problem' beaches as well as the testing results at all Saginaw Bay public beaches.

**Beach Closings Delisting Criteria**

For AOC 'delisting' purposes, the Saginaw River/Bay AOC Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) of Beach Closings due to Bacteria/Pathogens will be considered restored when:

- 1). For three (3) consecutive years each individual public beach on the Saginaw Bay (listed below) meets Michigan's total body contact Water Quality Standard for E. Coli 90% of the samples.
- 2). If one or more beach fails to meet #1 above, BUI Restoration criteria may be considered met if plans are in place to address the contamination problem.

**Public beaches in the Saginaw Bay AOC include:**

County	BEACH NAME		US EPA_	Beach	Beach
MI DEQ	County	Beach Name	Beach ID	Latitude	Longitude
Beach					
Guard ID					
3572	Iosco	MDNR access E. Tawas		44.27871	-83.48574
327	Iosco	East Tawas City Park	MI000327	44.27766	-83.49288
428	Iosco	Tawas City Park	MI000428	44.26701	-83.51609
2399	Iosco	County Road End off Tawas Beach Rd.	MI857432	44.26531	-83.44013
2398	Iosco	Gateway Park Beach	MI460993	44.26110	-83.52507

326	Iosco	Tawas Point State Park Campground	MI000326	44.25982	-83.44479
1394	Iosco	Tawas Point State Park-Day Use area	MI001394	44.25267	-83.44552
2922	Iosco	Tawas Point State Park-Central	MI682338	44.24817	-83.45944
3345	Iosco	Alabaster Township Douglas Drive Beach Use Area	MI500588	44.23799	-83.54370
2122	Iosco	Alabaster Township - Alabaster Rd. end	MI329020	44.20693	-83.55272
1165	Arenac	Dyer Road Beach	MI001165	44.16300	-83.56538
3589	Arenac	Whitney Drain #1 - US23 Bridge		44.14357	-83.56924
1162	Arenac	Singing Bridge Beach	MI001162	44.14334	-83.56661
1163	Arenac	Twining Road Beach	MI001163	44.11468	-83.56557
1166	Arenac	Pump Station	MI001166	44.10515	-83.56855
1160	Arenac	Hammel Beach Road Access	MI001160	44.10018	-83.57342
1157	Arenac	Bessinger Road Beach	MI001157	44.08572	-83.58810
3298	Arenac	Cemetery Beach	MI619081	44.07812	-83.59124
3297	Arenac	28th Street Beach	MI156653	44.07013	-83.59019
3296	Arenac	16th Street Beach	MI382689	44.06430	-83.58806
1159	Arenac	Foster Road Beach	MI001159	44.05561	-83.60551
2372	Arenac	Terrace Road	MI450495	44.05047	-83.58359
2371	Arenac	City of Au Gres Public Access	MI336246	44.02426	-83.67241
2370	Arenac	Gordon Road Beach	MI773154	44.01332	-83.68457
2939	Arenac	Whites Beach-Point Rd-Culvert	MI254495	44.00504	-83.73568
2367	Arenac	Au Gres Township Park Beach	MI411320	44.00005	-83.70646
2940	Arenac	Whites Beach-Wenonah Rd- West Ramp	MI765044	43.99452	-83.81052
1551	Arenac	Arenac County Park	MI001551	43.99326	-83.67899
2368	Arenac	Booth Road Beach	MI145894	43.99179	-83.67738
2621	Arenac	Au Sable State Forest- Greens Point	MI972045	43.98618	-83.75858
1164	Arenac	Whites Beach	MI001164	43.92871	-83.89031
406	Bay	Pinconning Park	MI000406	43.85348	-83.92364
2106	Bay	Nayanquing Point Wildlife Area	MI627386	43.77441	-83.93354
361	Bay	South Linwood Beach Township Park	MI000361	43.71695	-83.94000
360	Bay	Brissette Beach Township Park	MI000360	43.70778	-83.93430
290	Bay	Bay City State Recreation Area	MI000290	43.67138	-83.90676
1485	Bay	Wenona Beach	MI001485	43.65480	-83.87270
1775	Huron	Geiger Road Public Access	MI001775	43.80003	-83.42534
1776	Huron	Mud Creek Public Access	MI001776	43.88662	-83.33160
455	Huron	Caseville County Park	MI000455	43.94919	-83.27688
464	Huron	Sleeper State Park	MI000464	43.98144	-83.21316
1497	Huron	Thompson Park	MI001497	43.98240	-83.19230

461	Huron	Philp County Park	MI000461	43.98252	-83.20648
460	Huron	Oak Beach County Park	MI000460	43.99691	-83.12777
463	Huron	Port Crescent State Park - Day Use	MI000463	44.00175	-83.07320
459	Huron	McGraw County Park	MI000459	44.00294	-83.10333
462	Huron	Port Crescent State Park - Camping Area	MI000462	44.00946	-83.05424
458	Huron	Jenks County Park	MI000458	44.02328	-83.04092
1769	Huron	Larned Road End	MI001769	44.04632	-83.00999
3202	Huron	Veterans Park	MI576973	44.04762	-82.99643
452	Huron	Bird Creek County Park	MI000452	44.04868	-82.99232

**New Business-**

**Eutrophication and Undesirable Algae** – We will wait until after we have completed the Beach Closings BUI Restoration Criteria before we set up committee meetings for Eutrophication and Undesirable Algae.

**Rowley** and **Strieter** will continue to collect information on Director’s and Officer’s Liability Insurance.

**2018 Board Meeting Dates confirmed:**

- January 8, 2018
- February 5, 2018
- March 5, 2018
- April 2, 2018
- May 7, 2018
- June 4, 2018
- July 9, 2018
- August 6, 2018
- September 10, 2018
- October 1, 2018
- November 5, 2018
- December 3, 2018

**Strieter** will follow-up with scheduling at the Bay County Building for 10 am – noon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Personnel Conference Room.

**Motion by Zimmerman** to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 am. **Motion seconded by Frauson.**

Respectfully Submitted, Jo Ellen Strieter – Administrative Contractor

Financial assistance for this project was provided, in part, by the Michigan Areas of Concern Program, Office of the Great Lakes, Department of Environmental Quality, and by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.”

