

Meeting Notes

Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed **Beach Closings Task Group Meeting**

Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed Board Members are:

Kyle Bostwick- Director **Zygmunt Dworzecki** - Director **Pete Frauson**- Treasurer
Jim Hergott- Director **Taylor Hollis** – Director **David Karpovich**– Director
Elan Lipschitz - Director **Laura Ogar**-Vice-Chair **Glenn Rowley** - Director
Bill Wright – Chair **Dennis Zimmerman** - Secretary

February 6, 2017 10a.m. to 12p.m.

Bay County Building - 3rd Floor Personnel Conference Room
515 Center Street Bay City, Michigan

Summary of Meeting's Action items:

- *Eighth meeting of the Task Group for Beach Closings/BUI Review. Chair/Wright* convened the meeting at 10:03a.m.

Team Members present included: **Dworzecki, Frauson, Hollis, Ogar, Rowley, Sivy, Strasz and Wright.**

Also attending were: **Joel Kwiatkowski** – Bay County Health Department and **Jo Ellen Strieter** - Administrative Contractor.

Dworzecki made a motion to approve meeting notes. **Rowley** seconded. All were in favor of accepting minutes.

Old Business –

Action Item –**Ogar** distributed a draft Beach Closings Tracking Table, Ogar described that the proposed Inventory should, as a first step we identified all Public/Waste Water Treatment Plants that discharge directly into the AOC – which is the Saginaw Bay and the Saginaw River, and after further discussion it was agreed to also include those Public Wastewater Treatment Plants that discharge to a river or tributary that directly flow (within several miles) into the Saginaw Bay or the Saginaw River. A few were omitted from the original draft and will be added. The next step in the inventory would be to evaluate the performance record of the Wastewater Treatment Plants using available public records such as the DEQ database and EPA site <https://echo.epa.gov/facilities/facility> and <http://www.michigan.gov/deq/> some information from these sites will be provided at the next meeting.

Frauson – provided statistics from Beachguard including Vet's Park testing from 2002-Current and Vet's Park South from 2002-2014. Looking at performance of facilities data there was not a high spike when there was a discharge from a Waste Water Treatment plant but there were times that there was a high spike when there was not a discharge. The Bay County Health Department/SVSU does not sample discharge, they sample upstream and downstream of the discharge. From 2002-2011 Vet's park south had 4 events that exceeded 300 the limit for Recreational Body Contact Standards. Average count was below 50. Vet's Park North from

2002-2016 had 12 such events. **Strasz** stated that people feed wildlife upriver from Vet's Park. Duck and geese contribute a lot of E-Coli. We sample sides not the middle by steal break wall, there is no vegetation. SVSU samples middle and sides. **Wright** stated that we need some answers to these high/low discrepancies before we can delist. **Sivy** wanted everyone to know that just because E-Coli are present does not mean the water is less safe.

Wright – provided a handout with thoughts about setting delisting targets.

New Business –

Discussion pursued on coordinated with the Bay County Health Department and SVSU to test 5 major beach sites. **Sivy** will get us testing prices.

Next Steps – look at drain sampling. Can we get data from Arenac? We need to locate samples for Arenac, Bay County and Saginaw. **Joel Kwiatkowski** – Bay County Health Department can assist with Sanitation System data.

Delisting Criteria: a. We need to get Saginaw Bay AOC cleaned to a point where we are having no more beach closings than any other shoreline in Michigan. b. there are beach closing reasons we have no control over. c. We have addressed all potential sources.

Adjourn – 12:20 pm moved by **Zimmerman** and supported by **Hollis**.

Respectfully submitted, Jo Ellen Strieter, Administrative Contractor

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