

## Amended 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

**April 3, 2017 10a.m. to 12p.m.**

Bay County Building - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Personnel Conference Room  
515 Center Avenue Bay City, Michigan

---

#### Summary of Meeting's Action items:

- *Tenth meeting of the Task Group for Beach Closings/BUI Review. Chair/Wright convened the meeting at 10:00a.m.*

Team Members present included: **Dworzecki, Frauson, Hollis, Ogar, Wright and Zimmerman.**

Also attending were: **Rick Finn** – Bay City Manager, **Jim Barcia** – Bay County Executive, **Michael Lutz** – County Commissioner, **Carol Injasoulian** – City of Bay City Waste Water Treatment Plant, and **Jo Ellen Strieter** - Administrative Contractor.

**Wright** under new business we will add **Hollis** sharing information on the AOC Annual Meeting she attended.

**Introductions** were made. **Finn** asked that Injasoulian and Cooper from the City of Bay City Waste Water Management program be added to the email list for meetings so that someone from the City can always attend a meeting and supply us with the most current info on the City's Waste Water Management Program.

County Commission **Lutz** – gave a synopsis of septic work he is involved in such as upgrading Bay County septic systems. **Finn** – mentioned that other communities he has worked in had aggressive septic codes and that they had witnessed a large positive difference in water quality in as little as 3 to 5 years. Improved septic systems in surrounding counties have affected the water qualities in the surrounding city. **Lutz** stated that the next big step is to get a Sanitary Code in place. Suggestions included homeowners should be hooking into closely located sewer systems. There are 12,000 – 17,000 septic systems in Bay County. We also have to look into sewage solids land applications that could be affecting our water system, but also suggested that this could be minor compared to faulty septic systems. Other suggestions included real estate inspections on point of sale, County wide SRF Fund (Low interest rate loans), to put in upgrades if inspection fails, working with the Bay County Executive and County Commissioners including Begick, Herek and others. **Finn** added we should also look at new house construction. **Lutz** – Townships such as Bangor, Hampton and Monitor have an ordinance in place that stipulated homeowners have to hook up to existing sewer system if their system is within so

many feet of the sanitary. There is a need to research what other townships have ordinances in place. **Dworzecki** stressed the importance of educating the community on water quality issues. **Finn** reiterated that the City will do whatever they can do to support us in our efforts. One suggestion was that we submit for publication to the City's newsletter any information we want circulated to assist in our effort to educate our community on clean water. **Finn, Lutz** and **Wright** will meet in the future to discuss this issue even further.

#### **Meeting Notes reviewed:**

**Dworzecki** has noted that a revision be made to the minutes, by correcting the spelling on his name. **Dworzecki** made a motion to approve meeting notes with correction. **Zimmerman** seconded. All were in favor of accepting amended meeting notes.

#### **New Business**

**Hollis** – gave a report from the AOC Conference on Beach Closings. She asked the question that many other AOC's shared with her; is it our job to address the previously identified source or is it our job to fix beach closings? She suggested that communication and education are very important to our Beach Closing cause.

#### **OLD Business**

**Wright** – Wright submitted PSBW Beach Closings Discussion Starters (attached).

**Finn** – Public Health is important to everyone in our community. If we are talking minimal money for monitoring it definitely needs to be considered. **Finn** stated we are partners in "clean water", it is not just a "Partnership" problem. If we need assistance in a resolution to the problem we need to work with our partners. Clean water affects the economics of the whole area. **Zimmerman** mentioned that for every \$1.00 spent on water cleanup there is a 6.6 times return on investment economically speaking.

**Zimmerman** – stated that Muskegon Lake is getting close to delisting and that Grand Valley State University is doing their testing.

**Action Item-** We will assemble a Beach Closing Work Group to have further discussion about areas to be monitored to decide if we are better or worse than other AOC's or non-AOC areas. Preliminarily we will look at our AOC inner bay area for monitoring: Pt. Au Gres County Park, Pinconning Township Park, South Vets Park, Brissette Beach and Bay City State Recreation Area. Additionally, outer bay area of monitoring: Singing Bridge, Tawas Point State Park, Port Crescent and Sleeper State Park. Other non-AOC's that we would consider comparing our results to would include: Benton Harbor, Holland State Park, Muskegon State Park, Manistee, Traverse City, Petosky State Park on Lake Michigan. Also on Lake Huron include Alpena and Port Huron. **Ogar** – to have a true comparison we should look at other beaches located in a bay or emayment, have agricultural land use and are near a major river and urban area or city to have a true comparison to our AOC.

Discussion followed on who should be invited to the Beach Closing Work Group besides the Task Force and suggested including **Barcia, Duranzyk, Lutz, Finn, Krygier and Ryder** all had attended at least one previous Beach Closing meeting.

Suggestion was made to invite Julia Miller with the DEQ/WRD to future meetings.

Adjourn – 11:35 am moved by **Zimmerman** and supported by **Dworzecki**.

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.”

