

**Approved  
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

**August 7, 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 July 2017 Minutes
  - Treasurer's Update
  - SPAC Update
  - AOC Coordinator Update
  - Beach Closing BUI Task Force Update
  - Future Meeting Dates
  - PAC Grant Application 2017-18
  - Next Meeting Date August 7, 2017
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**Vice Chair/Ogar** convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Board Members present included: **Dworzecki, Frauson, Karpovich, Ogar, Rowley, and Zimmerman.**

Also present were: **John Riley** – DEQ, **Joseph Rivet** – Bay County Drain Commissioner, and **Jo Ellen Strieter**– Administrative Contractor

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**Vice-Chair Ogar led the meeting in the absence of Bill Wright:** Ogar presented a brief summary and background information on the Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed describing the work towards the Restoration Criteria for the Beach Closings Impairment with our guest speaker Joseph Rivet, Bay County Drain Commissioner. She mentioned our Beach Closings Task Group was using a Tracking Table similar to what DEQ had set up previously that listed possible sources of fecal bacteria/E-coli as had been identified in the earlier Remedial Action Plan(s) RAP for the Saginaw River and Saginaw Bay, Area of Concern (AOC). The early RAP documents (ca.1994) were compiled with results of decades of environmental studies and water quality sampling results that showed the four (4) primary sources of bacteria/pathogens into the waters of the AOC at that time were from inadequately treated wastewater from municipal treatment plants, failing septic systems, land spreading of sewage

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solids, and run-off from animal manure stockpiling. It was recognized that significant improvements had been made to local municipal infrastructure since that time, particularly with the installation of Retention Treatment Basins (RTB's) to treat storm surge overflows. The remaining three sources were considered overland flow type contributions, where much of the run-off would likely end up in the county drain system. The Partnership had invited the Bay County Drain Commissioner to hear of the actions taken over the recent years to identify potential sources of bacteria and/or learn of any water quality testing results from samples in the drains. The Partnership invited Mr. Rivet to be our speaker today and we asked Mr. Rivet to share the status on Bay County Drains and to share the oversight recommendations and actions for Bay County Drains.

**Rivet** – Described that samples are taken when a possible contaminated drain discharge complaint has been submitted and field indicators are suspect, such as soap suds or odors. The Bay County Drain Commission has an ongoing arrangement with the Bay County Health Department to test drain discharges when needed. Bay County has not had a complaint in a couple of years. It is the Drain Commissioners job to move water not to be responsible for what's in it. Rivet would love enforcement ability but does not have it. Drain Code is not environmentally friendly and it is not the role of a drain commissioner. There have been no significant hits for E-Coli in drain water samples. Bay County has had the E-coli detecting dog check some drains and did not find any significant discharge. Bay County soil is mostly all clay bottom therefore we have not seen a lot of septic tank drainage into our drains, they do not leach.

**Action Item – Karpovich** will be our liaison between the Bay County Health Department and SVSU on water sampling results.

**Action Item – Riley** will talk with Shannon Briggs with the DEQ about having Beach Guard filled out completely including the Survey tab describing sampling conditions and observations of any muck accumulation at the sampling location along the beach. These baseline site observations are critical for our future work on Aesthetics and Eutrophication and the lack of this information being reported prevented past work by NOAA attempting to conduct trend analysis of quantities of muck during periods of low water levels and climatic changes. Riley will also check to see if filling out the survey is part of the DEQ grant requirement for the Beach Sampling data results and/or if the data is entered by the Bay County Health Department, or within the Contract agreement for sampling by Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU).

**Motion by Zimmerman** to approve the amended minutes of our Regular Board Meeting from July 10, 2017 changing the AOC Coordinator Update to read: The end of the PAC Support period is 7/31/17 with the final report due August 30<sup>th</sup> instead of due the last day of August.

**Motion seconded Dworzecki. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Administrative Matters: -**

**Frauson** gave the treasurer's report including one outstanding invoice for our Michigan License fee for our name of \$20.00 with a balance of \$8,373.15. **Motion by Dworzecki** to accept the treasurer's report. **Motion seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Motion by Rowley** to approve paying the \$20.00 invoice to the State of Michigan. **Motion seconded by Zimmerman. Motion carried without dissent.**

**SPAC** report by **Zimmerman** – nothing new to report. **Zimmerman** will email the State and Federal Elected Official List.

**AOC Coordinator Update:** **Riley** stated that the PAC Grant Application for the 2017-18 year was signed August 1. **Riley** will confirm the Legislative Meeting date.

**Beach Closings BUI Restoration Criteria** – The below Criteria was submitted to the board of directors before the meeting.

#### **Draft BUI Removal Standard Criteria Statement**

**95% of the number of samples for E. coli taken at a pre-selected list of Saginaw Bay beaches and reported in the Beach Guard database should not exceed the daily geometric mean full-body contact Water Quality Standard of 300 E. coli per 100 ml. during 3 consecutive years. Further, not more than 1% of the sample results should exceed the partial-body contact water quality standard of 1000 E. coli per 100 ml. per year. 90% of the samples for E. coli taken at any individual beach of the pre-selected list of Saginaw Bay beaches and reported in the Beach Guard database should not exceed the daily geometric mean full-body contact Water Quality Standard of 300 E. coli per 100 ml. during 3 consecutive years.**

#### **Expanded Restoration Criteria statement for Beach Closings BUI: (DRAFT 7/31/17)**

The Saginaw River and Saginaw Bay Area of Concern's (AOC) Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) of Beach Closings due to Bacteria/Pathogens will be considered restored when, for three (3) consecutive years:

- 1) At least 95% of the number of samples for E. coli taken during the seasonal (May 20 to September 10) weekly sampling program at public recreational beaches along the Saginaw Bay between Au Sable Township Park (Iosco County) and Huron County Veterans Park do not exceed the daily geometric mean or daily composite result for full-body contact water quality standard of 300 E. coli per 100 ml.
- 2) Of these same samples for the referenced Saginaw Bay beaches above, no more than 1% of the daily geometric mean or daily composite sample results are greater than 1000 E. coli per 100 ml.
- 3) Each Individual public beach on the Saginaw Bay meets Water Quality Standards for Recreational Use not less than 90% of the time sampled.

And when for the above referenced beaches that have a history of spikes above 1000 E. coli per 100 ml\* (see six initial beaches listed below) or have repeated measurements above the full-body contact water quality standard of 300 E. coli per 100 ml:

- 4) Source Control Plans are in place for those previously identified sources or activities (in RAP) contributing pathogenic bacteria;
  - a. Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants;
  - b. Failing Septic Systems or otherwise improperly treated wastewater from on-site disposal;
  - c. Animal Manure;
  - d. Land spreading of Sewage Solids;

Source Control/Remediation Plans will, at minimum, identify the local and/or state agency with direct programmatic oversight responsibility of the source or activity; describe the methods of pollution control that guide the source or activity, (permits, registration, etc.), identify the Best Management Practices (BMP's) for these sources or activities, with a reference to any administrative rules or environmental regulations that pertain to the activity, and contact numbers or webpage for public reporting of problems or more information. Source Control Plans should also provide a description of any escalating compliance actions and penalties for non-compliance that may exist in State or local regulations.

Representative public recreational beaches for the BUI restoration criteria with Beach Guard reported sampling results above 1000 E. coli per 100 ml four or more times in the last six years include: 1164 Whites Beach, 1162 Singing Bridge, 361 South Linwood Beach, 360 Brissette Beach, 1485 Wenona Beach, and 452 Bird Creek County Park.

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**Action Item** – After much discussion it was decided to postpone accepting the Criteria as is and to hold a meeting on Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am for the full board to work on finalizing the document. **Motion by Rowley** to hold a meeting on August 14<sup>th</sup> to work on finalizing the Beach Closings BUI Criteria Statement. **Motion seconded by Dworzecki. Motion carried without dissent.**

**Action Item – PAC Grant Application 2017-18. Motion by Dworzecki** to accept the PAC Grant Application 2017-18 as submitted. **Motion seconded by Rowley. Motion carried without dissent.**

## **New Business**

**Action Item – Karpovich and Dworzecki** will draft comments on the LaMP and submit to the board.

**Ogar** – reminded everyone that the “Where People Meet the Muck Study” meeting will be held August 17<sup>th</sup> at the Wirt Library. **Rowley** will send the information to everyone.

**Motion by Zimmerman** to adjourn the meeting at 2:57. **Motion seconded 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.”

