

MINUTES

CARD Meeting

Tuesday, April 3, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Washtenaw County Western Service Center, Room 2010

Present: Dan Bicknell, Vince Caruso, Jennifer Conn, Dan Hamel, Bryce Kelley, Mackenzie King, Kathy Knol, Rita Loch-Caruso, Kent Martinez-Kratz, Shana Milkie, Michael Moran, Matt Naud, David Neal, Max Pettibone, Roger Rayle, Jim Schultz, Kristen Schweighoefer, Kevin Thompson, Jeff Torano

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

1. We did introductions.

2. Minutes from the 2/6/18 CARD meeting were approved.

3. Mackenzie King gave an update on the documentary she is creating. She'll send out an e-mail to the group requesting input on the history of and progress on the dioxane issue. As everyone acknowledged, this is a difficult task because the situation keeps changing. We also noted that her documentary should cover different ground than that covered by Roger Rayle's CARD meeting and Town Hall videos; the WEMU Green Room series, and the University of Michigan Teach-out. Roger Rayle, Jennifer Conn, and Matt Naud will sit down with Mackenzie to advise on how to proceed.

4. David Neal of Scio Residents for Safe Water (SRSW) shared information on state Senate bills SB 652, SB 653, and SB 654. The bills have passed the state Senate and are awaiting action in the state House. These bills would seriously limit the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's ability to enforce cleanup of toxic sites. SRSW requests that citizens contact their representatives to urge them to vote against the bills.

5. There is confusion about the action level for near-surface groundwater (NSG) contamination – is the standard 1,000 or 1,900 ppb? Dan Hamel of the DEQ stated that the 1,900 ppb standard should be promulgated soon. Given the 4.4 ppb finding in Allen Creek in West Park, it is a concern that people could contact dioxane in wet basements. Dan Hamel will be sampling the area again in 2018. He will test upstream of Allen Creek in conjunction with other surface water sampling. After the 2018 sampling, DEQ will discuss next steps.

6. Dan Bicknell shared his report evaluating the surface water sampling to date. It is possible that the 4.4 ppb reading in Allen Creek in West Park reflects dioxane from local infiltration from the Old West Side, rather than dioxane migrating from Veterans Park. Since the 4.4 ppb reading was in the storm drain, it was probably diluted and the local infiltration is likely greater than 4.4 ppb. Dan Bicknell reiterated that it would be helpful to install permanent wells in the area in order to obtain more comprehensive data. Vince Caruso and Roger Rayle agreed. Dan Hamel stated that

DEQ does not resist the idea of permanent wells but that it has not identified them as high need. The DEQ has funding to implement activities if there is immediate risk.

7. Comments on the DEQ's quarterly report to the EPA: Dan Bicknell/Global Environmental Alliance and Roger Rayle have made comments. The Sierra Club talked about commenting but hasn't yet. CARD also needs to respond to the EPA's Preliminary Assessment (PA).

8. Roger has signed up for a booth at Earth Day and will probably sign up for Huron River Day and Green Fair as well. He welcomes anyone who can help volunteer at the booths.

9. Videoing of split sampling: Dan Hamel plans to sample on Tuesday, April 10 (and Wednesday if needed). Sampling usually takes all day. If anyone wants to participate in the split sampling, get in touch with him.

10. Dan Hamel will look into when Gelman used low flow purging versus other methods for purging monitoring wells during sampling events.

- Roger noticed x & y coordinate and top-of-casing (TOC) elevation discrepancies. DEQ has also noticed these and Gelman has made some corrections. Many wells are old and DEQ is thinking of making Gelman get new coordinate data. DEQ identified problems with Gelman's 2015 base map and is working with them to correct it, and this is a good time for them to get new x, y, and z data. DEQ is hoping there will be new monitoring wells in the near future to add to the base map, thus they aren't pressing for immediate base map updates.

- No comments on items to prep for May quarterly CARD meeting with DEQ.

- Vince Caruso stated that since there is a new judge, DEQ should re-ask the court for the installation of monitoring wells that Judge Shelton denied. The DEQ said they are part of on-going confidential negotiations with Gelman and the stakeholder representatives hear CARD concerns. Rita Loch-Caruso would like to be notified of the negotiations meeting agendas and dates. Stakeholders said that is not possible, however the stakeholders are meeting regularly. The meetings are not in court and the judge is not present and there is no end-date.

11. Rita Loch-Caruso met with David Kline, the Michigan DEQ's Superfund Program Manager. She said Mr. Kline is willing to come speak in Ann Arbor and he is a very effective and direct speaker. She said Mr. Kline stated that CERCLA requires complete cleanup of Superfund sites and that they are relooking at old sites with volatile compound contamination (both active and closed) for dioxane and PFAS, and are finding dioxane at most of them.

12. DEQ informed the group that Washtenaw County has been chosen as a pilot county to investigate PFAS contamination. This is due to PFAS being detected in the Huron River and the City of Ann Arbor's drinking water supply. The DEQ is split sampling on the west side/Honey Creek area next week.

- The DEQ continues to talk with Michael Berkoff at the EPA about the quarterly report and Mr. Berkoff will be congregating a meeting with stakeholders to discuss the report.

- In order to provide better communication, the DEQ is meeting to update their Gelman webpage and are working with the group that is organizing the 'teach out'. DEQ welcomes feedback about their webpage and how they can make information easier to find.

13. Roger noted that his latest Google Earth mashups are on the SRSW website and were emailed to the CARD Core group. The mashups show that there are still very high groundwater concentrations at the core despite Gelman removing more dioxane than they said was ever used.

Additional Discussion Items

- Roger ran into Farsad, and was informed that the soil sampling that Gelman is doing is being done directly by Danaher and their third party consultant – that Farsad and Jim Brode are not in the loop. Roger requested that the DEQ ask Gelman if the soil sample data from the 1980's and 1990's was provided to Danaher's consultant for them to base their current soil sampling locations on. Dan Bicknell also asked DEQ to request a copy of Gelman's Due Care Plan for the 242 Church construction.
- CARD members expressed concern with the meetings being video recorded without their permission, so this item will be put on the June meeting agenda. Also to be discussed at the June meeting is the order of agenda items.
- Lastly, it was requested that if anyone is going to submit discussion items for CARD meetings, that they provide an estimate of time for that item so that the meetings can be better planned and kept on schedule.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m

Next Quarterly CARD/DEQ Meeting:

- Tuesday, May 1, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Next regular CARD meeting:

- Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by CARD secretary Shana Milkie and CARD Executive Director Jennifer Conn.