MINUTES
CARD Meeting
Tuesday, July 2, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Scio Township Hall

Present: Bob Bailey, Dan Bicknell, Vince Caruso, Elizabeth Collins, Jennifer Conn, James D’Amour, Jack Eaton, Dan Hamel, Jeff Hayner, Katie Jesaitis, Kathy Knol, Rita Loch-Caruso, Jason Maciejewski, Patti McCall, Shana Milkie, Michael Moran, Max Pettibone, Roger Rayle, Jim Schulz, Dylan Thomas, Spencer Weaver, Diana Wright

Meeting called to order by Roger Rayle at 6:05 p.m.

1. We did introductions.

2. Minutes from the 6/04/19 meeting were approved.

3. County updates:
   a. There have been some new dioxane detections at 1 ppb in drinking wells. Ninety-seven homes were sampled in April and May. Breezewood Ct., which is close to monitoring well MW 140 and approximately the same depth, and the north side of Elizabeth had detections. EGLE will go out in July to confirm these detections. The April/May testing also sampled for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs). 4340 W. Liberty had low levels of a couple of VOCs but no dioxane detections. EGLE will resample in this area to confirm these results as well. Dan Bicknell asked whether dimethyl formamide, which is a chemical Gelman used, was sampled for. Dan Hamel replied that EGLE’s internal lab does not test for that chemical but noted that he could look into the possibility of an outside lab to test for it. Dan Bicknell observed that if EGLE is testing for SVOCs, it would be good to check other wells besides the Liberty St. well. Roger Rayle recommended using Method 522 for dioxane sampling, which provides results below 1 ppb detection. Dan Hamel has informed Gelman of the dioxane and VOC detections. Gelman would like to split-sample with EGLE during the follow-up testing. Gelman’s lab uses Method 1624 B. Dan Bicknell also stated that CARD and EGLE have discussed testing the commercial wells along S. Wagner for dioxane, VOCs, and SVOCs. Currently, Gelman only tests these wells for dioxane. Vince Caruso observed that residential wells are acting as sentinel wells for dioxane detections. Jennifer Conn and Dan Hamel responded that the sampling is to protect residents.
   b. MDHHS evaluation of indoor air at 2|42 church: Based on the 2015 data, the evaluation looked at mixtures and additive effects of individual chemicals. It was concluded that, based on the limited data available, exposure does not pose a risk to the church’s occupants. Jennifer Conn will send the information to the CARDcore list.

4. EGLE updates:
   a. Kevin Lund and Dan Hamel are still reviewing the trend analysis provided by Gelman. When the review is complete, Dan will put a memo to the Gelman file and will notify stakeholders.
b. EGLE plans to conduct resampling of residential wells in response to the positive detections found in April and May. This testing should be complete by the end of July.

c. Surface water sampling locations were identified in the May 10 quarterly report. Testing at these locations in combination with the residential well resampling will provide a snapshot of dioxane detections. We want to determine whether the detections come from groundwater dioxane or if they’re related to discharged dioxane from the treatment process.

d. Gelman’s NPDES discharge permit renewal: Dan Hamel checked with Jessica Stiles and the permit renewal is still in the reviewing process. Staff working on the permit renewal will attend the August CARD/EGLE quarterly meeting and will provide an update then. Dan Hamel noted that some stakeholders have already contacted EGLE and asked to submit comments. Even though the official comment period hasn’t started yet, EGLE has accepted and will continue to accept comments. The permit team sent a copy of Gelman’s application package to Roger Rayle; Roger asked Dan to check if Gelman has submitted any new information. Dan Hamel stated that the old permit will remain in place as long as the renewal application has been submitted. Dan Bicknell asked if VOCs will be included as part of the permit process. Dan Hamel said that we could ask that question at the August meeting.

e. Allen Creek drain sampling: The sixth and final sampling event will take place in July. There are seven locations, for which Gelman is doing the sampling and analysis. EGLE split samples three or four locations each time. Vince Caruso would like to see near-surface groundwater sampling at West Park and Waterworks Park. He suggests that CARD vote on making a formal request to EGLE about doing this testing.

f. The EPA released draft risk evaluations for 1,4-dioxane and cyclic aliphatic bromide cluster (HBCD) under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). These were the first two of ten chemicals to be evaluated. This is the first step toward setting a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for a substance. The evaluation is available online. The slope for dioxane didn’t change.

5. Porter Rd. pump house: When this structure was under Scio Township’s jurisdiction, residents had a clear means of contacting officials with concerns. Now that the structure and road are likely to be annexed to the City of Ann Arbor, who should residents contact? City Planner Jeff Kahan and/or City Administrator Howard Lazarus should know. City Councilmember Jeff Hayner will check on a contact with the City.

6. Joint County Working Session updates: There is an unofficial three months time frame from the date of the joint working session (June 6, 2019) for the jurisdictions to make a decision about sending a letter to Governor Whitmer asking her to support the Superfund evaluation for the Gelman site. Kathy Griswold stated that September 12 is the next joint meeting, which will include the lawyers. Jason Maciejewski reminded the group that decisions can’t be made in a closed session and that we all need to understand that we’re in a legal situation. Dan Bicknell stressed that we need a true public meeting on September 12 and that a decision should be made on that date. Jack Eaton suggested that each party should meet separately with its counsel before September 12. Diana Wright stated that we don’t need lawyers to decide on the Superfund path. Jack Eaton said that we need each of the four bodies to have a majority supporting the designation and that it would be preferable for them to be unanimous. Rita Loch-Caruso suggested that draft letters should be started ahead of time and that constituents should lobby their elected officials. Katie Jesaitis stated that a letter would be written by September 12 and be
ready to go and that everyone wants that meeting to keep the momentum going and be productive.

7. Updates from Chair Roger Rayle:
   a. Roger met with consultant Patti McCall and City Water Treatment Manager Brian Steglitz to update them on the Gelman situation. He is concerned about the location of the Gelman archives at the City. Roger called former City Environmental Coordinator Matt Naud to discuss this. Matt said that he filed all reports he received from Gelman. The task now is to find Matt’s archives. Roger stressed that we need to inventory each body’s archives to form a complete picture of the situation. He also contacted the UM School of Information for assistance. He has a draft index to share with anyone who is interested. Roger requested that Dan Hamel fill out Sybil Kolon’s spreadsheet of submittals, which made it easy to determine what documents Gelman provided to EGLE (DEQ at the time). He said that we need help to get all this information properly indexed and should get some interns and scanners to scan old papers, including the monthly packets.
   
   b. One of the goals of the City’s consultancy with Patti McCall of Tetra Tech is to determine the feasibility of adding more monitoring wells along the northern edge of the plume. The funding for the project is to know where these permanent wells would be located. Brian Steglitz has stated that the City’s goal is to keep the water safe. We need an early warning system for that. Jack Eaton said that the trend is for the City to spend more money monitoring, rather than less. Vince Caruso suggested that it is important to standardize the data, such as well names and digital data protocols. Patti McCall said that the City wants to be cooperative with all parties. Roger requested that the City share Northwest supply well data with CARD. Jack Eaton asked Roger to send him an e-mail requesting the data. We will need a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for this because the data is covered under the 2006 settlement between Gelman and the City. This should be an ongoing request so that we automatically receive all data.
   
   c. Near-surface locations: Groundwater is close to the surface at West Park, Waterworks Park, and near Park Rd. These are good locations for future sampling.
   
   d. Honey Creek/Huron River sampling: Gelman is still sampling for bromate ½ mile downstream of the actual discharge location specified in the 2006 agreement with the City. Roger requests that EGLE make corrections on x-y data errors and would like to see updated x-y information for all sampling locations. The annual static water sampling event would be a natural time to require Gelman to verify x-y-z data. Diana Wright noted that a surveyor’s GPS could be used, which is accurate to within 3 inches in all directions. Roger also suggested that the database contain a separate field to keep track of unusual changes. Dan Hamel replied that the database is old and is scheduled for updating; EGLE will take CARD’s requests into account when the updating is performed.
   
   e. Gelman trend analysis: The summary shows that of the last 40 readings for 49 wells, 17 had decreasing dioxane concentrations, 24 had increasing concentrations, 2 were stable, and 6 did not have enough data to analyze. The trend analysis did not note absolute dioxane levels. Therefore, it can be concluded that dioxane is moving where we don’t want it.
   
   f. Purge well locations: The purge wells should be in locations of the highest dioxane concentration but they are not. They only pump about 30 gallons/minutes, so they are not doing very much to clean up the areas of maximum contamination. Dan Hamel noted that the cleanup occurs under the consent judgment, which uses risk management and doesn’t mandate aquifer cleanup.
g. Roger would like to open up his Google Earth mashup workshop to the CARDcore list. Shana Milkie will send out an announcement about it.

h. EGLE quarterly report update: covered in item 4c.

i. The County has an intern, John McCormick, working on the history of the Gelman site. Roger sent John some information to get started with.

8. Jeff Hayner spoke briefly about a phytoremediation proposal from Dirk Bowman at the USDA. Patti McCall has spoken with people in Texas who are successfully using this technology on dioxane at shallow levels.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Next regular CARD meetings:
• Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 6:00 p.m., Scio Township Hall
• Tuesday, October 1, 2019, 6:00 p.m., Scio Township Hall

Next Quarterly CARD/EGLE Meeting:
• Tuesday, August 6, 2019, 10:00 a.m., Washtenaw County Western Service Center, MSU Extension Classroom

Minutes prepared by CARD secretary Shana Milkie, with input from CARD officers and executive director.