

Allegan County Water Study Workgroup

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 2:00 pm

Member Name	Group	Attendance	Notes
Dean Kapenga	County Commission	Zoom	
Chad Kraai	Well Driller	Absent	
Brian Talsma	Conservation District	Zoom	
Doug Sweeris	Municipal Water Supply	Present	
Ruth Kline	MSU Extension	Zoom	
Brad Lubbers	Agriculture	Present	Joined at 2:20 pm
John "Ric" Curtis	Community	Present	
Liz Binoniemi-Smith	Tribal	Zoom	
Jaclyn Hulst	Community	Present	Joined the meeting at 3...
Tom Kunetz	Community	Zoom	
Zachary Curtis	Consultant	Zoom	

Guests and staff: In Person: Randy Rapp, Jill Dunham, Maleah Rakestraw and Dan Whalen
Zoom: Scott Jones, Ashley, Audrey, Abby, Emily and Bridget

Next meeting: April 17

I. Approval of Agenda

A. Agenda approved

II. Action Items from previous meeting

- A. For any Red Zones not covered, Randy to check with MGS if they intend to install any of these wells in 2024, or the County needs to proceed the advertise for bids for wells on County property, and coordinate with LGUs to have well drilled on their property. **Yellich is still compiling the list of wells they will drill in 2024.** – **OPEN**
- B. Jill will send out invite to everyone for the April 23 meeting at Trestle Stop. **DONE**
- C. Randy will connect Lindsay Maunz with Ruth and Jaclyn. Share document that Ruth and Jaclyn created and advise on which items to share on the website. **DONE**
- D. Jill will discuss Well Assistance Program direction with Rob. **DONE**
- E. Randy will identify a DNR contact and invite them to our initial Groundwater Workshop. Doug was contacted by Mark Mills with DNR and will send Randy his contact info. UPDATE: Randy emailed Don Poppe (reference from Mark Mills) at DNR twice – no response so far. **DONE**

III. Discussion

A. **Monitoring Wells Update (Rapp)**

1. John Yellich cannot give us a schedule yet. Allegan is not first for 2024 wells.
2. Randy will get an updated monitoring well targets map from Zach to give to John Yellich.
3. In the event that Allegan County chooses to have additional monitoring wells beyond what MGS is drilling, we will need to identify a vendor and get a contract signed. Using a new vendor may require board action.

B. **Contamination Source Inventory and Groundwater Assessment Report Draft (Z.Curtis/Maleah)**

1. Maleah presented the Ground Water Assessment Draft, which includes the Contamination Source Inventory.
2. Much discussion with the group and W&W about how detailed to make the information. Tom acknowledged that different people want different levels of detail. Generally, bottom line info in the presentation with details in an appendix.
3. GWS workgroup members are asked to review the draft of the GAR and provide input and feedback. Please send all feedback to Tom Kunetz and Tom will pass along to Maleah.
4. Tom will provide input for an Executive Summary for the presentation.

C. **April 23rd Workshop update (Dunham/Maleah)**

1. GWS members need to RSVP for workshop – Jill will send the RSVP link.
2. Jill will make calls to LGUs next week and again after Spring Break.

D. **Private Well Assistance Program (Rapp/Dunham)**

1. Rob and Randy have reviewed the draft joint proposal from Allegan County Community Foundation and Community Action of Allegan County.
2. Once project scope and parameters are finalized, Rob expects that other agencies, such as Michigan Water Trust, could identify recipients and submit to ACCF for grant funding.
3. Once we get a final version of the proposal from ACCF/CAAC, the proposal will be shared with the GWS workgroup for their review and input.

E. **Public Education Update (Kline-Robach)**

1. Web based repository for communications about groundwater. Ruth has a website template for providing information to residents.
2. Jaclyn and Ruth had a great discussion with Lindsay Maunz about options and methods for public education.
3. Plan to use the libraries to promote this to residents.

IV. New Action Items

- A. Zach will update the target Monitoring well map based on groundwater demand projection and provide to Randy to give to John Yellich.
- B. Randy will contact John Yellich:
 - 1. Confirm the well monitoring equipment installation plan.
 - 2. Confirm which locations will be done by MGS, once Randy supplies the updated monitoring well target locations.
- C. Workgroup members to send feedback on the draft to Tom Kunetz.
- D. Tom Kunetz will provide input for an Executive Summary for the presentation.
- E. Jill will send the RSVP link to the GWS workgroup members for their RSVP.
- F. Jill will call each LGU to follow up on the cards and capture RSVP info.
- G. Jill will schedule a meeting with Rob, Randy, Tom, Valdis and John Yellich meeting to review Monitoring Wells.

Next meeting April 3, 2024 - Meeting adjourned 4:11 p.m.