

DIRECTOR'S WATER WELL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Microsoft Teams/Deborah A. Stabenow Building (Brake Conference Room)
September 11, 2025
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present: Charles Sebastian, Michigan Ground Water Association (MGWA)
John Schmitt, S Representative
Chad Brewer, NW Representative
Mike Wahlfeld, SW Representative
James Welser, SE Representative
Anthony Drautz, (Local Health Departments)
Brandon Morrill, EGLE
Daniel Milan, Suppliers
Erik Kleiman, UP Representative
Sara Simmonds (Local Health Departments)

Members Absent: Adam Tippet, NE Representative
Abigail Eaton, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural
Development

Others Present: Cori Upper, District Health Department No. 2
Matthew Allen, EGLE
Dana DeBruyn, EGLE
Dave DeYoung, EGLE
Anita Ladouceur, EGLE
Elizabeth Rock, EGLE
Melissa Salyer, EGLE
Kristy Forrest, EGLE
Taylor Irwin, Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD)
Ken Bowen, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
(MDHHS)

Call to Order at 1:00 p.m.

1. Introduction of Guests: Kristy Forrest, EGLE, Taylor Irwin, CMDHD, Ken Bowen, MDHHS
2. Approval of Agenda: Approved as written.
3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting: Approved as written.

4. EGLE Updates

a. Brandon Morrill

1. Thank you to Charles Sebastian for presenting at the Noncommunity Conference.
2. Source Water Unit will be welcoming a new Geologist to the group by the end of October.
3. Alteration memo that Dana DeBruyn issued to LHD's has been discussed.
4. The first stage of the Be Well program is wrapping up. More to come on this soon.

5. Unfinished Business

a. Contractor Enforcement Update – Matt Allen

1. Seven Cease and Desist letters have been sent out since the last meeting.
2. One Consent Agreement that was entered into with a driller.
3. Held one informal conference with a well driller and are in discussions with the well driller about the terms of the Consent Agreement.
4. One team member has left the enforcement team, and a replacement is being hired.

b. Michigan Ground Water Association/Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators/Michigan Environmental Health Association/Michigan Department of Health and Human Services/EGLE Training and Outreach – Open to All.

1. Charles Sebastian spoke with Mike Frederick about making a tour around the state to speak with LHD's about issues and problems and how to resolve them.
2. Central Wells offered training on hollow-stem drilling methods to EGLE and LHD staff on May 13, 2025.
3. Charles Sebastian offered two training events on using rotary drilling methods on June 4, 2025, and submersible pump installation on June 12, 2025.

c. Pressure Switches at Buried Tank Installations – Dave DeYoung

1. The Michigan Residential Code plays a major role in this document. The update from the 2015 to the 2021 version is currently held up due to a lawsuit filed by the Home Builders Association of Michigan and Michigan Manufactured Housing Association. Once the lawsuit is resolved, the document will move forward with the accepted version of the Michigan Residential Code.

d. Revision of Best Practices Document (Vertical Closed-Loop) – Charles Sebastian/Dave DeYoung

1. Dave DeYoung has been in contact OXBO Engineering who is involved with geothermal borings proposed for installation into formations below drinking water aquifers in Ann Arbor. OXBO Engineering said the document was good for shallow U bend type of work, but not the deeper work their company does.

2. Dave will be meeting with them next Thursday to discuss their comments.
 - e. Contractor Examination Information – Dave DeYoung
 1. April 4, 2025, exam results
 - 12 new well driller registrations, three of which were previously pump installers, and six new pump installers.
 2. October 3, 2025, upcoming exam
 - Eight well drillers and one pump installer approved to take the exam.
 - The application deadline for the April 10, 2026, exam is February 9, 2026.
 - f. Part 111 of Well Code, Extensive Changes Discussion – Dave DeYoung
 1. EGLE, LHD's, and local well drillers were contacted, and there was no feedback received. EGLE is currently sticking with the original advice, and that is all to report at this time.
6. New Business
- a. Wellogic Pick List – Bentonite/Neat Cement Potential Removal
 1. Not discussed at this time.
7. Other Business or Comments
- a. The use of the International Plumbing Code (IPC) within the Michigan Plumbing Code and the use of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) in other States was discussed by the group. Charles Sebastian noted his preference to stay with the IPC. EGLE is not aware of any discussions within Michigan's Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to switch from the IPC to the UPC.
8. New Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- a. Nothing new at this time.
9. Next Meeting Date: December 18, 2025, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
10. Meeting Adjourned: 2:12 p.m.