



**DIRECTOR'S
WATER WELL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WWAC)**

Teams Meeting
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
September 2, 2021

Members Present: Tony Drautz
John Schmitt
Jim Welser
Buddy Sebastian
Sara Pearson
Erik Kleiman
Laura Doud

Members Absent: Matt Bolang
Steve Buer
Dan Milan
Chad Brewer
Bob Webb

Others Present: Mike Frederick
Dave DeYoung
Michelle Crook
Kathy Gardner
Anita Ladouceur
Elizabeth Kalnins

A. Call to Order at 1:03 p.m.

B. Introduction of Guests – None

C. Approval of Agenda

D. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting – Approved as written.

E. EGLE Update –

1. Introduction of Sara Pearson, Source Water Unit Supervisor.
2. Return to office delayed until October; EGLE is making field visits as requested.
3. EGLE has made a commitment to develop training videos using federal funds.
 - a. Buddy will reach out to the MGWA membership to have them create videos/photos of wells with construction issues and send to EGLE to use in LHD training.

F. Unfinished Business

1. Ant infestation through well cap vent – EGLE
 - a. Dave summarized the history of this issue.
 - b. The Well Code does not allow EGLE or a health officer to permit a deviation for

vent screening mesh size under Rule 113. Based on current language, 40-mesh per inch vent screen is not allowed for use in well caps for wells regulated under the Well Code. A rule or statute change is required to allow the use of the smaller mesh size.

G. New Business

1. WWAC EGLE Representative Nomination and Approval – Dave
 - a. Sara is now a WWAC member.
2. EGLE Department-Wide Website Changes – Dana
 - a. The website changes have been delayed.
3. Contractor Examination Update – Kathy
 - a. Reviewed April 9, 2021 results
 - b. October 8, 2021 – next exam
 - c. We continue to partner with Valley Farms to use their building to hold the exams.
4. Contractor Enforcement Update – Anita
 - a. Unregistered Driller in Antrim County - The prosecutor authorized a warrant with 2 counts of not submitting well logs, and 6 for drilling wells without being licensed. He will need to appear in court and be arraigned. The prosecutor is going to try to get his well rig impounded.
 - b. Matthew Vergari, WD #40-2524
Initially, Mr. Vergari agreed to sign a Consent Agreement (CA). The contractor then refused to sign the CA and EGLE issued a Notice of Suspension. Mr. Vergari then requested a contested case hearing but ended up signing the CA for \$10,000 this week. The enforcement action is listed on the EGLE-Water Well Construction webpage.
 - c. Contractor Complaint regarding Supervision/Ownership
 1. Discussion of a complaint regarding a contractor in NW Michigan who is possibly aiding and abetting an unregistered contractor.
 2. It is difficult for EGLE to act on because the business owner is not required to be registered and there is no definition of supervision.
 3. This topic may be discussed outside of the WWAC meeting.

H. Other Business or Comments

1. Buddy - Please be patient. Well contractors are extremely busy right now. There is a shortage of some well supplies.
2. Buddy - WRD's Water Use Program sent out their first enforcement letter to a property owner.

I. Next Meeting Date – December 9, 2021, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

J. New Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Code Questions
Rule 113 Deviations
Fundamental's Course
Dairies

K. Meeting Adjourned at 2:51 p.m.