

**Lower Menominee River Area of Concern
Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

March 21, 2013
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. CDT

Call in # 888-363-4734 Passcode # 5805677

Geography/Geology Classroom, UW-Marinette YMCA/Max E. Peterson Field House
Corner of University Drive and Shore Drive, Marinette, Wisconsin
([Google Maps link](#))

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- CAC members are aware of progress being made at the Ansul and WPSC cleanup sites and have an opportunity for discussion with company representatives
- Meeting attendees have a better understanding AOC delisting processes
- A 2013 waterfront cleanup date is selected and next steps are identified and assigned
- Agenda items and a date are selected for the next meeting

Participating: Mark Erickson (Co-Chair), Steve Zander (Co-Chair), Jim Cox (Tyco), Larry Wilson (Tyco), Ben Uvaas (WDNR), Keith West (UW-Marinette), Trygve Rhude (Chappee Rapids Audubon), Sharon Baker (MDEQ), Nancy Douglas (City of Menominee), Chad Cook (UW-Extension), Michelle Bruneau (MDCH), Steve Galarneau (WDNR), Cheryl Bougie (WDNR), Brian Batroszek (WPSC), Mike Bryant (EPA)

Introductions and Overview of Agenda – Mark Erickson & Steve Zander, CAC Co-Chairs

To maintain progress restoring Area of Concerns across the Great Lakes, EPA has designated Task Force Leaders for each AOC. These new EPA positions will be more active in day-to-day activities of the AOC than previous EPA staff. Mike Bryant is the New Task Force Leader for the Menominee River and Lower Fox/Green Bay AOCs, contact information is below. Welcome aboard Mike!

Monthly TYCO Sediment Remediation Update – Jim Cox & Larry Wilson, TYCO

Tyco is meeting with EPA and WDNR to discuss the treatability study results, hazardous waste variance, and 2013 work plan. Permanent reinforcement of the barrier wall will be completed in April, with dredging anticipated to begin in May. Approximately 244,000 cubic yards of sediment are expected to be removed in 2013. To accomplish this task, Tyco has proposed modifying operations in the following ways:

- A single mechanical dredge will be replaced with two hydraulic dredges, and four additional scow barges will be added, bringing the total to six. Dredging will take place 24/7.
- An onsite lab is being brought in to evaluate the arsenic concentration on each individual scow barge to optimize arsenic treatability.
- A dry ferric chemical will be used to stabilize arsenic, instead to the liquid ferric used in 2012. While this chemical is more difficult to acquire, it will not add to the moisture content of sediment, a disposal concern.
- Truck traffic will increase from last year to about 200 trucks per day. Trucking will take place 6am-10pm Monday-Saturday following the same trucking route as last year.
- The site layout has also been changed to accommodate large sediment storage bins and an additional truck scale and wash station.

Even with these increases in capacity, Tyco anticipates the cleanup running two weeks longer than the 11/01/2013 deadline. CAC members in attendance praised the company's planned amplified efforts to meet the cleanup deadline.

Monthly WPSC Sediment Remediation Update – Brian Bartoszek, WPSC

The sheet piling wall was been removed and decontaminated. The shoreline and outfall structures have also been restored, although some planting will occur in the spring. A portion of the project area contained irretrievable residual contamination which was covered with 10-20" of clean sand. Over 15,000 cubic yards of material was removed as part of this project. The dredging portion of this project is essentially complete.

- If CAC members are interested, WPSC has offered to conduct a post-remediation site walk once the weather improves.

Discuss AOC Delisting Language & Process – Baker, Bryant, & Uvaas

Specifically related to the Tyco cleanup, questions have arisen as to when the cleanup is complete and can contribute to the removal of BUIs. The approved 2008 Delisting Target for *Restrictions on Dredging and Degradation of benthos* contain the language:

“All remedial actions for known contaminated sediment sources are completed and monitored according to the approved plan and have met their remedial action goal.”

As part of Tyco's approved plan with EPA, the remedial action goal arsenic concentration is 20 ppm. In 2013, Tyco plans to remove all sediment contaminated with 50ppm arsenic or more. Sediment impacted with 50-20ppm arsenic will remain in place, and the approved plan calls for Tyco to monitor its natural recovery down to a concentration of 20ppm or less by 2023. Until the remedial action goal is met (20ppm) these BUIs cannot be removed.

However, once all management actions (i.e. dredging or habitat restoration) have been taken in the AOC, it can enter an official “state of recovery”. During the recovery stage additional monitoring data is collected to confirm that the environment is responding as expected to completed cleanup and restoration actions. The recently delisted Presque Isle Bay AOC used the state of recovery to show progress towards delisting.

MI PAC Support Grant Proposal – Baker, Douglas, Erickson

Douglas and Erickson have been in contact with the M&M Community Foundation in regards to acting as the CAC's fiscal agent. The Foundation needs to work with a legal entity, and Douglas is uncertain if the CAC would qualify as such. CAC members in attendance voted unanimously in support of applying for the MI PAC support grant.

- Douglas and Erickson will follow up with the Foundation about the CAC's legal entity status.
- If the M&M Community Foundation cannot be the CAC's fiscal agent, Baker and Uvaas will follow up with other potential partners.

Waterfront Cleanup Activity

CAC members seemed to agree that a cleanup would be a good community outreach activity. Before setting a date and recruiting participants, scouting should be completed to determine the level of effort needed.

- All CAC members are invited to scout the community for public waterfront in need of cleanup.

Agency Updates, Public Comment, & Future Agenda Items

- Baker stated that the title/deed search final report has not been received yet. She will follow up with Bay Title for an explanation.
- Bruneau provided an update of recent MDCH fish consumption outreach efforts. Educational materials have been dispersed to Menominee County public health agencies including WIC programs. Bruneau has also made contact with the organizers of local fishing derbys as outreach opportunities.
- The Spring Lake Michigan Stakeholder's Meeting is being held at UW-Marinette May 22nd. More information is available at www.lakemichiganstakeholders.org
- The annual Chappee Rapids Audubon Society banquet is April 5th at Schusslers Supper Club in Peshtigo. The Society will also be celebrating International Migratory Bird Day May 11th, 6:30am-noon at Red Arrow Park in Marinette. There will be family activities, bird walks, and demonstrations. More information on both events is available at <http://craudubon.com/>

Contact information

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Online Resources

EPA – <http://www.epa.gov/grtlakes/aoc/menominee/index.html>

MDEQ – http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313_3677_15430_57388---,00.html

UW-Extension – <http://fyi.uwex.edu/aocs/>

WDNR – <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/greatlakes/menominee.html>