

# minutes

HPAB Biannual Meeting		
10.23.2013	9 AM -4:30 PM EST	GLRO Board Room - Windsor, ON
Dial In	1-877-413-4781	
Conference ID	4399414	
Meeting called	Jennifer Boehme	
Attendees	Present: Marg Sanborn (chair); John Dellinger; Howard Shapiro; Kate Bassil; Russell Lopez; Jennifer Boehme; Shahbaz Ahmed; Stephen Locke; Matthew Child; Mark Burrows; Li Wang; Norm Granneman; John Lawrence Webinar: Peter Orris; Tim K. Takaro; Drew Brodtkin; Paul Allen; Vic Serveiss	

## Agenda Approval – Marg Sanborn and John Dellinger

Agenda reordered to accommodate late arrivals of some board members

## Report out on HPAB Presentation to the IJC - Dr. John Dellinger; Dr. Tim Takaro

Indicators feedback was focused on justification of Drinking Water indicators focus on source waters

- Current Indicators allow a source protection approach; similar to WHO source-to-tap
- Ignoring source water reduces our constituency that we monitor
- HPAB are charged to give indicators of progress in the source water; EPA's concern is inconsistent; if they are concerned what people are drinking they should measure at the tap
- Need: estimate of number of people drinking different types of water in the Great Lakes;
  - Can approach that by looking at populations on municipal system, and the rest are not
  - locations of Canada and US drinking water plants are being addressed through GLRI project proposal (IJC lead – Arvai), expected in early 2014

HABS: Conclusion – not much health or economic data exists for Great Lakes Region

IWI: discussion of increasing the distribution of previous HPAB reports with Rainy and St. Croix, Compromise - confirm these reports reside on the HPAB website

Action Items	Person Responsible
Publicize HABS report globally due to interest in SE Asia	Jennifer Boehme; IJC Staff
Confirm IWI reports reside on the HPAB website	Paul Allen (confirmed on 12/18/2013)

## Human Health and Environmental Databases - Database Integration Working Group

Consensus: develop case study project that examines for Port Sarnia and Port Huron based on S. Ahmed's air quality and human health project for the IJC

- Use parameters identified by Database Integration report and apply to state/ prov/national data identified and then survey data users to identify operational obstacles to data merging; then political/legal inability to share data across the border
- Also include early on the charge to identify priorities Ex. reaching out to vulnerable populations
- Contract to develop a survey sent to medical officers/health officers for environmental health that asks about health priorities related to air and water
  - What sources of information do they currently use
  - What are their future priorities
  - What would they like to do but can because of gaps
- Survey recipients
  - ATSDR for federal US; talk to their Region 5 directors
  - Start at county level in US: St Clair county health department and MI Dept. of Public Health
  - Lambton County Health Unit Officer;
  - Community groups, environmental NGOs, First Nations;

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- Timeline: Send Survey in March 2014; Finish report of findings by September 2014, followed by request for public input on IJC website rather than convene workshop

Action Items	Person Responsible
Coordinate with S. Ahmed on Port Huron/Sarnia project proposal	Jennifer Boehme
Ask Commissioners if they are receptive to a "Health Effects of Air" review	Jennifer Boehme

## Human Health Indicators: Report Update – Human Health Indicators Working Group

Review of indicators status and measures for Recreational Water and Source Water including Q&A for HPAB outside of working group

Proposed modifications to the report draft and executive summary to incorporate reorganization based on all comments from working group and staff

- Reconvene with Howard and Matt once Vic and Tim have concluded revisions

Aim to conclude internal review and move to public distribution ASAP

Shift in approach for discussion human health indicators in Great Lakes

- Can we characterize risk rather than outcomes? If you lessen risk, you have improved the Great Lakes
- Could use a risk assessment process for contaminant levels to track progress in the Great Lakes, to demonstrate progress

Action Items	Person Responsible
Complete comment process for report draft	Tim Takaro; Vic Serveiss
Finalize report draft for circulation with HPAB	Jennifer Boehme; Matt Keifer; Howard Shapiro

## Human Health Indicators: Planning for Human Health Outcomes indicators meeting

Co-leads for project are Sanborn and Dellinger

Title language: Human Health Effects Indicators - Risk and Outcomes for Future Development and Consultation (Phase 2)

Meeting scope

- Clinician oriented; projected date September 2014; 5-7 participants per topical area

Topic focus

- Endocrine disruption/metabolic syndrome
- Metals (ties to neurological disease)
- Gastrointestinal (GI) Illness (climate change and recreational water use)
- Health effects of extreme weather events, non-GI (from HABs, heat illness, secondary effects of spending time outdoors, temperature induced "increased ozone" effects)

## Indicator Coordination with nominated co-chairs, SAB Research Coordination Committee - All, John Lawrence (Canada); Norm Granneman (US)

Future Coordination

- J. Dellinger: HPAB will stay as involved as RCC requires in phase 2 work.
- Li Wang: if the HPAB wants to transfer indicators to RCC, and keep certain people involved with the RCC, the two groups can coordinate; IJC staff are further refining definition ecosystem indicators in this way

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Presentation of indicators - current scope and measurements scheme.

- Source Water indicators
  - Not intended that source water indicators to be presented as an index.
  - Note from N. Granneman: Groundwater annex will examine some contaminant loads that move from groundwater into the Great Lakes; but will not examine groundwater contaminants for groundwater used as drinking water.
- Recreational Water Indicators
  - Illness Risk: examines actual bacteriological levels E. coli per specific calculation (95 percentile)
  - Identified Risk: a calculation to produce a fixed number of beaches, though the calculation is not certain as sanitary surveys are established by beach managers
- Fish consumption indicators: Scope and measurements are being recommended for future development and so no work needed by RCC at this time

Next Steps

- Granneman and Lawrence will review indicator descriptions in greater detail and brief RCC once it is constituted

Action Items	Person Responsible
Invite N. Granneman and J. Lawrence them to January HPAB teleconference	Jennifer Boehme
Share EPA's contact information on microcystins measurement with N. Granneman and J. Lawrence	Jennifer Boehme

## Harmful Algal Bloom Review

Presentation by Matthew Child on LEEP and staff work on developing LEEP Phase 2

- Scope including literature review and workshop to develop criteria for drinking and recreation water in the region for HABS; also advance modelling work on basin specific loads; also perform more specific economic impacts analysis
- HPAB comments
  - Q. Did LEEP 2 consider rec. water exposure? Matthew - that could be included
  - HABS and its data is a broad transboundary issue, ex: Rainy River watershed impacts; hotspots in Kingston; Quebec includes microcystin-LR in their beach tests; sloughs in the prairies get HABS; farm ponds
  - HPAB aims to include recreation water in its proposal to examine HABS impacts in transboundary of US and Canada
  - Note - MODIS imagery used to direct sample surface waters for HABS presence

## Transboundary human health issues raised with IWI

Talk with Mike Laitta about new GIS initiative with HPAB

- Marg - worth 2 hours at the next full meeting; ask Mike how long it would take to give the basics on GIS capabilities

Action Items	Person Responsible
Discuss new GIS initiative and GIS strategy development for HPAB with Mike Laitta	Jennifer Boehme

<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>Next HPAB meeting: in Washington the same week as IJC meeting</b>
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