

# CENTRAL MI CISMA MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 21, 2019  
New "Central Michigan" CISMA Meeting 9 AM – 11 AM

Clare County Court House  
Board of Commissioners Room  
225 West Main Street, Harrison, MI 48625

**Attendees:** Ashley Rockefeller, Elan Lipchitz, Julie Spencer, Melissa Townsend, Tom Lenon, Megan Rider, Mindee Goodrum, Sandy Bristol (Guest from Clare Conservation District)

## Steering Committee Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Update from Megan
- III. Guest Speaker: Vicki Sawicki from North Country Invasives
- IV. Review Documents
  - a. List of Partner Expectations
  - b. MOU
- V. Partner Meeting Date
- VI. Tool Crib
  - a. Determine who/where to house these
  - b. Review Documents
  - c. Determine check out method

**Next Meeting 4/18/19**

**Actions for Steering Committee/Decisions Made**

## I. Call to Order

## II. Updates from Megan

- a. Extension – She got approval from Kammy Frayre (DNR finance and operations for the MISGP grant) to make purchases but we have not received any official document saying we got the extension. We have roughly \$5500 remaining not allotted to spend, if GLLS uses their allotted money. If GLLS does not use any of their money we have roughly \$8600 to spend.
- b. Business Cards, Rack Cards, and the Grasshopper phone number (in Megan’s email signature) have been purchased.
- c. Rack Cards are available if people are able to have those at their organizations for people to grab.
- d. Megan has attended/will attend a few education classes
  - i. EmpowerU: Advocating Invasive Species Management course – An online course through MSU with an in person meeting at the end of month. Goes through ways of connecting with people for making a change with invasive species, where to get information, people to know, how to approach people about the topic...
  - ii. Starry Stonewort Conference held in Lansing by Michigan Waterfront Alliance– Main take away: Hard to control because you have to make a plan on a lake by lake basis. It likes clear lakes with high calcium so it is assumed that if a lake has these qualities, it is most likely in the lake already or will be. It is similar to Chara vulgaris and can be hard for people to identify if mixed in with it. Chara is also a good indicator that if it is present, starry is also probably present. Megan will send out more notes for people to look at if they would like to.
- e. Call to the Wild event at North Midland Family Center (booth)– Attendance of around 150. Megan met Annette Glenn, our state representative, so that was an important connection to make. Discussed who we are funded through and meeting in Midland if there

was ever a need to meet. The Manager of Stryker Marine was interested in brochures to pass out to boaters, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher from Adams Elementary is possibly interested in getting information. Other people took brochures and stopped to look at items.

- f. Home and Garden Show – Chippewa Nature Center was at the Midland Home and Garden Show and said it went well. Passed out a few business cards and other invasive information.
  - g. Event sharing – Megan sent an email out for some guidelines on her sharing invasive or native related events on our Facebook Page and Website. She wants to make sure she puts up the right information at the right time. **If you want information out for an event, don't hesitate to let her know.** Some guidelines were sent in the previous email about it but if you have any questions about it, just let her know. She wants to spread the word about these events for you!
- III. Update from Tom – Megan was officially signed as the new coordinator and we officially signed the papers for the 2018 MISGP grant.
- IV. Update from Ashley – They had a public meeting for the Midland County Road Commission where they had a poster board of a page Megan made and passed out some business cards. There were a few people that reached out to Megan through that event.
- V. Guest Speaker – Vicki Sawicki, coordinator from North Country Invasives.
- a. They are doing a two year project that was funded through and MISGP grant, to survey the Muskegon River. Because this river runs through Clare, they decided to continue their work through the section that runs through Clare county, and share this information with us. They will have two people that float the river and collected data on priority species/ “winnable battle” species that they have on their list. These include: Phragmites, Knotweed, Oriental Bittersweet, Buckthorn, Tree-of-Heaven, Garlic mustard, wild parnip, and bristly locus. After they collect the data, they will contact

landowners that have things on their properties and see about treatment or teaching them how to treat.

- b. They also have a goal of 50 lakes being registered in the MiCorps Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program, Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch Program. They are doing this by boat launch outreaches, trying to make contact with the main person of lake associations and partnering with the Muskegon Watershed.

#### VI. MOU and Partner Expectations list

- a. Please review these and let Megan know of any changes you think should be made. These should be done by the time we send out partner information cards (End of April).

#### VII. Partner Meeting – Megan will send out the partner card to get any last input about it. It was decided that we will send these around the end of April.

Determining a partner meeting date was discussed for June or July. It was decided we will not put specific information about this event on the partner cards and these will be used for just getting partners familiar with us and getting our name out there. We will later send out an invitation to partners for a partner event. This will allow more time to plan a worth while and impactful event. Vicki said they do two partner meeting a year. One is more business like where they go around the room and get updates from different partners. The other one is more of a working meeting where they have a demonstration or project they do and some type of learning thing. They have found that if you do it outside of business hours most organizations wont come. They do Thursdays 10-1.

#### VIII. Tool Crib – Vicki provided valuable information about their tool crib. They do not do backpack sprayers/hand sprayers, as they have found that people will put whatever chemical they find in it. They didn't feel like it was a good idea to have people do this and wasn't good on the sprayers, so they stopped renting them out. They have found good success with knotweed injectors, when used on a small amount and at 100% concentrate and haven't had any problems with these. They do a rental program, not a loan

program. The money goes back to whoever is housing the equipment. This pays for any repairs that need to be made and time spent for the process of loaning it out. It was determined that we will move forward with purchasing uprooters, knotweed injectors (which Vicki said are on back order), PPE and Decontamination supplies; enough for five counties. We will determine where these will be located at a later date. **If you are interested/able to host these at your location, let Megan know. Or if you know of a partner outside of the steering committee that may be interested/able to host these supplies.** The ideal is that each county would have a supply for people to use.

#### IX. Management Subcommittee

- a. Tom mentioned the ideas of having a subcommittee for a mangament/treatment. This was previously discussed as an option. The importance of this was discussed for the CISMA to be able to move forward with knowing how we will plan to treat invasives. Tom, Elan/Mindee, and Ashley spoke of interest on being on the committee. **If anyone else is interested, please let Megan know.** Looking at past treatments to know for future and what we may be able to do now was discussed.