I. Welcome and Introductions

- Joe Calcaterra, Mackinac Environmental Technology
- Ed Radecki, Mackinac Environmental Technology
- Hal Willens, North Central Michigan College
- Kerri Finlayson, North Central Michigan College
- Seamus Norgaard, North Central Michigan College
- Kim Struthers, Penn State University
- Jackie Pilette, Emmet Conservation District
- Amy Tweeten, City of Petoskey
- Bill McCullough, City of Harbor Springs
- Robin Hissong Berry, Melrose Township
- Randy Frykberg, Little Traverse, Melrose & Resort Twps Planning & Zoning
- Heather Huffstutler, Walloon Lake Trust & Conservancy
- Greg Goudy, MDEQ
- Noah Jansen, Little Traverse Bay Band-Odawa
- Kira Davis, Little Traverse Bay Band-Odawa
- Caroline Keson, Little Traverse Bay Band-Odawa
- Grenetta Thomassey, Tip of the Mitt
- Claire Rasmussen, Tip of the Mitt

II. Presentations

- Representatives of Mackinac Environmental Technology (MET), an environmental consulting firm located in both Petoskey and St. Ignace, provided an overview of services their organization provides. This includes preparation of risk mitigation plans, resource management, indoor air quality (e.g., VOCs, mold), spill prevention and compliance. They also do spill containment, and MET maintains a contractual relationship with the U.S Coast Guard for spill management & recovery situations. We invited them to continue to participate in our meetings.

- NCMC Environmental and Sustainability Studies program update: The current focus is on blending resources in the community for students to learn the science and cultural components during field experience. A collaboration had been established with Michigan State University’s Department of Environmental Philosophy. Next steps are to:
  - Obtain field studies gear
  - Establish a ½ time coordinator position
  - Connect to expertise to assist with marketing the program
A Community Advisory Board is being assembled to include participants working in like fields.

- Melrose Township / Walloon Village water & sewer systems: R. Frykberg & R. Berry provided an update on the significant developments in Walloon Village. A village property owner/developer has been working with the township to upgrade to a new sewer system. The proposed system is consistent with proven sewer approaches and set back regulations. They are waiting to hear if they got a grant from USDA to help move the project forward. The community is mostly supportive, but some concerns have been raised by neighboring property owners. On a separate note: the MDOT is replacing the storm drains in the village which is expected to address drainage issues in the village.

III. Grant News & Subcommittees – blended with Partner Updates – see below
IV. Partner Updates:

- K. Davis & C. Keson (LTBB) – The summer field season is complete, research was done on growing manoomin (wild rice) in the region and Fall sampling is underway. The GLRI Bear River project is complete. Four Greenbelts and other restoration projects were completed. They are currently monitoring LT Bay tributaries.

- N. Jansen (LTBB) – provided an update on the Bear River Invasive Species study.

- G. Goudy (DEQ) – The MDEQ and the Emmet Co. Road Commission are meeting this Thursday on the Melrose Township project.

- H. Huffstutler (WLTC) – a) The Walloon Trust has completed their invasive plants survey on conservancy lands and adjoining parcels. No high threats were identified. b) Cooperative Weed management project activities are expanding in the region.

- B. McCullough (City Harbor Springs) – The Army Corp of Engineers expressed concerns with a waterfront project that was being considered because it included filling Great Lakes bottomlands. So, that idea has been tabled. Other waterfront improvement projects are being considered.

- G. Thomassey (TOMWC) – updates from J. Gelb (TOMWC)
  - A GLRI grant proposal was submitted for Aquatic Invasive species treatment of over 18 inland lakes, including Walloon, and development of an early rapid response program. It includes a coordinator position and an educational component.
  - Two other grants: MDEQ 319 grant proposal for Bear River Watershed is being developed with WLTC; a pre-proposal was also submitted to MDNR Aquatic Habitat program for additional restoration work on Lower Tannery Creek.
  - An invasive species workshop for Road Commissions was held June 30th as part of a PHSACF-funded grant. It included representatives from Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet County Road Commissions as well as LTBB, WLTC, and Conservation District reps for all 3 counties.
  - Little Traverse Bay Watershed Stormwater Matters Campaign – handout summarizing upcoming promotional activities was provided.
  - Bay View rain garden project extended through 2015.
  - Watershed Awareness signs – several challenges prevented signs from being installed sooner, but it looks like we can move forward quickly now.

- K. Struthers (PSU student) – shared her highly favorable impressions observing the watershed team meeting.

- J. Pillette (ECD) – The ECD just finished the fall tree sale and forestry workshop. A Master Naturalist course is in progress. On Oct 15th the ECD is hosting a Wolf management presentation.

V. Meeting Dates Remainder of 2014:

- December 9, 1-3pm

(PLEASE NOTE: Meeting had to be moved to December 8, 1-3pm in the Petoskey News Review Conference Room)