

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

January 8, 2014

Present: Francis Bell, Deborah Cardiff, Patricia Crowley, Daniel Moyle, Dawn Potter-William, Patricia Randall, Mike Wetzel, Jim Pearson, John O’Keefe, David Harn, Erich Zinser

Absent: John Taylor

Environmental Health: Vern Johnson, Heather Bishop

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions			
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes were approved for August 14, 2013 & September 11, 2013		
3. Citizen Comments			
4. Proposed Meeting Schedule Change	<p>There have been difficulties securing a quorum. Currently there are 4 vacancies, which can all be filled with a member at large. Deb looked at the bylaws and proposed to go to a quarterly meeting schedule. In order to do this the bylaws need to be changed. This will only affect one section on the bylaws. Unless there is a topic that really needs to be discussed she does not see the need to meet every month. Anyone in the council has the right to request a meeting if needed. This might encourage council members who can't make a monthly commitment to participate. Deb has made a packet that includes the proposed bylaw change along with the meeting schedule that will go to commissioners for approval. This will be in their February package. In the past we have always taken July off. This will affect the quarterly schedule.</p> <p>Pat stated that EH is the biggest and most complex department and there are so many different aspect of it. She said that the educational components along with the outside speaker that have come in have been really</p>		

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	<p>helpful to her. It seems helpful to have a good understanding to what goes on in EH departments and she thinks that 3-4 meetings a year are very few. Pat suggested doing meeting every other month.</p> <p>Dawn stated that taking time off work 4 times per year is much easier and doable.</p> <p>Jim asked for thoughts regarding canceling the July meeting or keep if EHAC goes quarterly</p> <p>Dawn suggested to meet in July and if needed meeting could be cancelled.</p> <p>Pat suggested to change the meeting to another month</p> <p>Fran stated that it has been obvious that there has not been a quorum in EHAC and he thinks that changing the July meeting to another month so that we can meet 4 times per year would be good. He also asked to get a copy of the revised bylaws.</p> <p>Deb said she included the only sheet that had changes in the agenda packed.</p> <p>Fran asked about the makeup of the committee.</p> <p>Deb said she was not going to propose any changes to that</p> <p>Patricia Randall stated that it takes her 25 minutes to get here and when there is nothing on the agenda she feels like it is a big haul out of her day. She is in support of having 4 meeting but suggested incorporating speakers in 3 out of the 4 meeting.</p> <p>Fran moved to adopt a policy to meet 4 times a year and change the July meeting to August and the October meeting to November.</p> <p>Pat asked if there is a way to partition departments business into 4 sections so that we will have a program update for those 4 times that we meet.</p> <p>Deb stated that we can certainly have an update on all the programs EH have but that is not the purpose of EHAC.</p> <p>Mike said that the city has a council and if there is an environmental defined issue then that issue is to come through the council.</p>		

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	<p>Deb stated that we are requested to give the BOC EHAC's thoughts or opinions. Deb also gave examples and changes that EH has made and have been brought to EHAC. Some examples where fee changes and the sanitary code.</p> <p>Jim suggested to make a list of topics for our meeting</p> <p>Pat stated she did not have a good understanding about sewer extension plans.</p> <p>Deb said that sewer extensions are the responsibility of LUGS. They usually have a master plan for both water and sewer extension. In regards to the sanitary code that was recently updated, the denial capacity was strengthen if there is water table within 2 feet of the surface.</p> <p>Pat said that there are still environmental limitations.</p> <p>Pat said she did not understand why some people are not required to hook up.</p> <p>Deb stated that it is up to the LUGS to decide if there is a mandatory connection.</p> <p>More discussion between members was made about this</p> <p>John asked if the frequency our EHAC's meeting had any impact with those types of issues.</p> <p>Deb stated that she didn't think it had any relevancy but also mentioned that it should be what the group wants.</p> <p>Jim suggested that septic could be a topic to discuss in future meetings.</p> <p>John asked if EHAC could meet, other than the 4 meetings, if there was a time sensitive topic.</p> <p>Deb read the bylaws that state "The Environmental Health Division Manager reserves the authority to call a special meeting of the council if warranted".</p> <p>Jim reminded everyone that Fran made a motion to meet 4 times per year.</p> <p>Dawn second that motioned and all approved</p>		
5. 2014 Office Election	<p>Jim was nominated and accepted for Chair</p> <p>John was nominated and accepted for Vice Chair</p> <p>Pat Crowley was nominated and accepted for Secretary</p>		
6. Member	<p>Jim: Council of Government has the same problems as</p>		

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Comments	<p>EHAC, not enough topics.</p> <p>David: Deb had mentioned that EHAC is in charge to advising BOC with Environmental issues. He asked how many people knew about the Groundwater Restricted Zone ordinance that went into effect. He also stated that he was not sure if EHAC could advise or even comment on this.</p> <p>Deb said no. This is in the sanitary code and there is a strict process that is followed. This is reviewed by Heather and Deb. There is an outside consultant that does the review and comments back and there is conversation. She also mentioned that if members are interested, Heather and she could talk about what a GRUZ (groundwater restricted use zone) is, when it is applied for and the process that EH uses that is contained in the sanitary code.</p>		