

**Kalamazoo County**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**February 7, 2007**

Present: Fran Bell, Kathleen Buckham, Pat Krause, Greg Nichols, Dawn Potter-Williams, Jim Rutherford, Carolyn Rutland, Kyle Smith

Environmental Health: Tom Dewhirst, Kim Finkbeiner, Carolyn Hobbs-Kreiger, Steve Leuty, Randy Riggs, Christine Rogers

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	None		
2. Review of Minutes	Did not have a quorum.	Approval postponed until March 7 <sup>th</sup> meeting	
3. Review of Agenda	Environmental Health Program Presentation postponed.	Jim Rutherford to give presentation at March 7 <sup>th</sup> meeting.	
4. Nominations Chair/Vice Chair	Due to lack of quorum, postponed until March 7 <sup>th</sup> meeting.	Will be placed on March Agenda.	
5. Licensing Solid Waste Haulers	Fourteen of the local communities in the county have a solid waste ordinance. In the past solid waste haulers were licensed through the planning department. Steve Leuty was responsible for reviewing applications, checking insurance, and see that proper services were being provided. He did this from 1999 until 2004. Since 2004 this service has not been provided. Township supervisors would like this service to be revived, and in 2005, Household Hazardous Waste was approached as to their interest in providing this service for the fourteen municipalities. Household Hazardous Waste is willing to do this, with an emphasis on the recycling aspect of the program. The four haulers would be charged an initial licensing fee (\$350), and then an annual renewal fee (\$150). The townships would be charged a small administrative fee (approx. \$100). The possibility exists that these charges may be folded into the current HHW Contracts.	Steve Leuty and Tom Dewhirst to meet with township officials in the near future.	
6. Meth Update	City of Kalamazoo had 40 letters sent, of which 21 are cleaned, 10 are in the process of being cleaned remaining 9 are abandoned or condemned and we're working on locating owner info. City of Portage has had 22 letters sent, of which 11 we are awaiting		

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	<p>responses on. Next townships to receive the coordinated effort are Comstock and Kalamazoo Townships. The support and collaboration with the communities has been very positive. MDCH is working on their state regulations. Billing has begun to the state for the \$800 reimbursement for busts, which occurred after July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006, that have been contacted and cleaned. We have submitted 16 requests for reimbursement. Funding for the program is secure for 2 years. BOC is very pleased with progress in this regard.</p>		
7. EH Budget	<p>Budget was approved last month by BOC. However, Medicaid has done an audit of reimbursement funds over past five years and indicated that they have overpaid the State of Michigan and local health departments. This is being challenged by the State, however our department has been told to anticipate a loss of \$150,000, of which environmental health would be responsible for 1/3 of that cost. We must change our budget to come up with that amount as a permanent change.</p>		
8. VDS Farms – CAFO Update	<p>Scott Miller and Jarrod Sanders from the DEQ contacted our office to schedule a meeting regarding CAFO's in the county. We have 7 licensed CAFO's in the county. 2 of which are owned by VDS Farms, LLC with one in Scotts, and one in Fulton. They shared a copy of regulatory correspondence to VDS citing numerous violations with regards to the way waste is being processed. We have been asked by the DEQ to collaborate with them regarding groundwater/surface water sampling down the road. They have concerns with contamination around these areas. DEQ is going to put us on all their cc's for their regulatory letters regarding CAFO's in Kalamazoo County. Jeff is going to fold CAFO's into his surface water program, and he is going to do an inventory of the farms we have in the county. DEQ has indicated they will pay for sampling.</p>		
9. EH Program Presentation		Postponed until March 7 <sup>th</sup> meeting	

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TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
10. Member Comments	<p>Carolyn R.- Let her know if there is interest in giving presentations to Environmental Concerns Committee regarding licensing of solid waste haulers or the meth presentation, she can schedule with committee, to be put on the agenda.</p> <p>Kathleen B.- The annual tree sale is coming up, and they are doing a storm water presentation at the Home Expo, March 7-10, 2007.</p> <p>Jeff R. – Environmental Health will be having a booth again at the Home Expo. It will be in the main area, with a rolling power-point presentation with about 40 slides giving information about groundwater, sewage, household hazardous waste, beach monitoring, along with passing out brochures and other freebies.</p> <p>Fran B. – Reminder to all members to contact Jim R. if you cannot attend the meeting.</p> <p>Jim R. – Will send out an e-mail to remind everyone about letting him know if they are unable to attend. If we get people who are not regularly showing up, that position may have to be opened up to someone who can attend.</p>		