

Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
February 11, 2009

Present: Fran Bell, Kathleen Buckham, Deb Cardiff, Leroy Crabtree, Pat Krause, Mark Miller, Daniel Moyle, Greg Nichols, Margaret O'Brien, Carolyn Rutland, Steve Yanni, Joanna Johnson

Absent: Jeff Balkema, Dawn Potter-Williams

Environmental Health: Kim Finkbeiner, Heather Nichols

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	None		
2. Review / Approval of Minutes	Margaret motioned to approve, Dan supported.	Motion passed	
3. EH Updates	<p><u>Surface Water</u> is submitting a grant application to the DEQ partnering with Sylvia Rossbach (she is with the BioScience Dept. at Western) for an e.coli DNA sampling project. The grant application is due on the 20th. They are planning to sample Bear Creek and Arcadia Creek to determine where the e.coli is coming from, whether human, or a different species. They have 10 different species. This is in an effort to create a library of samples.</p> <p><u>Staff Changes</u> – Three staff members are being moved to different programs. Frank Schenkhuizen, our lead coordinator is moving to the FSFM staff, Jennifer Kosak is moving into the lead coordinator position this is being combined with housing, as she is our Healthy Homes Specialist and Dan O'Donoghue is moving into the LWW vacated by Jennifer. These changes will be effective March 1st.</p> <p><u>Audit</u> – Our recent accreditation passed with flying colors in our food service and our sewage programs. The food program has 21 minimum program requirements and we met them all. This is a first for our department.</p> <p><u>HHW</u> – Tom advised us that on February 15th Best Buy is starting an electronic take back program, they will take up to two computer pieces a day at no charge, they will also take back televisions, but when they take those back they charge you \$10, but then they give you a \$10 coupon for Best Buy. April 1, 2010 there is going to be a requirement that manufacturers take back old units. We are not sure what kind of an impact this may have on our service. If you are interested in reading the act it is Act 451, Part 173.</p> <p><u>Prescription Collection</u>- the first date has been set, it will be 6/20/09, location is unknown at this time, will keep everyone advised. Deb and Tom are also putting together a task force to see about setting up a sustainable year round collection in Kalamazoo County.</p>	Deb to send letter of support to Kathy Buckham for the AWEP Project	
4. Election of Officers	Pat K. nominated Margaret O. for Chair person. Leroy C. supported Carolyn R. nominated Pat K. for Vice Chair. Leroy C. supported. Leroy C. nominated Fran B. for Secretary. Carolyn R. supported.	Passed by oral vote, no opposition	

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		<p>Passed by oral vote, no opposition Passed by oral vote, no opposition</p>	
<p>5. Road Commission Duties</p>	<p>Joanna Johnson gave a power point presentation regarding the Kalamazoo County Road Commission. The Road Commission is responsible for all of the roads in the county that are outside of cities and villages. The County is responsible for 75% of the roads in the county with MDOT being responsible for 8% and the Cities & Villages for 17%. The majority of funding is generated from the State. They have 5 Road Commissioners who are appointed by the Board of Commissioners. They have a staff of 55 employees, 30 are out in the field, 3 are mechanical maintenance, and 2 are office employees, they maintain 1260 miles of roads, 58 bridges and 100 miles of gravel roads. There are seven areas of focus: traffic services, driveway permits, storm water, engineering, roads, equipment and sign shop and administration. Construction projects vary from year to year, depending upon funding; all projects must meet federal and state guidelines in terms of the environment. Road maintenance activities involve chip seal operations, overlay projects, mowing, weed & brush removal, tree pruning, shoulder & guardrail maintenance, drainage, culverts, storm sewer maintenance, street sweeping, winter snow removal/clearing and surface patching of roads. Areas of mutual interest with Environmental Health would be ground water protection, water quality, ozone monitoring/air quality, subdivision of land, quality of life. KCRC efforts involve recycling, congestion mitigation for air quality projects, maintenance development review. Also involved with Wetland mitigation, soil erosion & sedimentation control, storm water run off. These activities are looked at for any project the department is involved in. Currently the KCRC, the Drain Office and Environmental health work together on Michigan National Pollution Discharge Elimination Permits. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality efforts. Projects are aimed at improving air quality, assisting in attaining acceptable ozone air quality standards, some of this is done by reducing congestion, one way of doing this is my signal upgrades and coordination. They are also involved with development review efforts in the development of sites and site condominiums and plats for storm sewer systems, soil erosion, drainage, and culverts. There is an internal system that the Environmental Health Department, the Drain Commission, and the Road Commission electronically copy each other when working with new developments, this keeps everyone</p>		

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	<p>involved and creates a dialog to be sure all environmental concerns are met. They are also working with other departments in the construction, repair and maintenance of culverts, and drains. Due to the use of Sand/Salt mixture the amount of street sweeping has increased. They are also involved in a project of replacing all regulatory signs this is generating the recycling of the old stop signs. They are doing three townships at a time. They also work with the Parks Department, Park Foundation and local municipalities on the engineering over-site for the Kalamazoo River Valley Trailways. In the future they will be looking at building energy reduction, equipment changes, fuel options and material product development. The current annual budget is \$21,636,617.00. There are funding issues, last year it was down 4%, and expect it to be down this year approximately 5%.</p>		
<p>6. Member Comments</p>	<p>Kathy wanted to mention that John Burns and Travis are doing a great job at the Road Commission.</p> <p>Fran expressed regret that we are losing Kyle Smith from EHAC.</p> <p>Deb mentioned that we have a potential new member, the BOC office is contacting him to see if he is still interested. Also mentioned that Jeff Spoelstra will be attending the May meeting to update the group on the Kalamazoo River Cleanup</p> <p>Leroy spoke with Dr. Conner re presentation on Bee population, he agreed to give presentation, so we just need to select a date for him to come. He also reminded everyone of the Green Classroom on Feb 18th at 11847 Shaver Road.</p> <p>Pat thanked Joanna for delivering presentation on the Road Commission, stating it is amazing to think that only 30 field personnel accomplish all that they do.</p> <p>Mark advised that the OWB ordinance in Kalamazoo Township is still in process. He'll keep Deb updated as to what the townships have done.</p> <p>Margaret requested that she also be advised as to what townships were doing with OWB.</p> <p>Steve mentioned that there is going to be an Agri-Energy Conference for 2 days March 30-31, at the Radisson.</p>	<p>Deb to get date for Dr. Conner to appear, and advise Leroy.</p> <p>Also will send PDF of Agri-Energy Conference Registration materials to all members.</p>	