

Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
 May 2nd, 2007

Present: Jeff Balkema, Fran Bell, Kathleen Buckham, Pat Krause, Jeremy Marr, Mark Miller, Dawn Potter-Williams, Jim Rutherford

Environmental Health: Vern Johnson, Christine Rogers, Frank Schenkhuisen

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	None		
2. Review of Minutes	Postponed due to lack of quorum.		Will be reviewed at June Meeting
3. Review of Agenda	No changes		
4. FSFM Supervisor Replacement	Jim Draze has retired from the Environmental Health Bureau. Vern Johnson is the new Food Service and Facilities Management Supervisor. Vern has been with the department 15 years, and has worked his way up through the Food Safety and Facilities Management team.		
5. KCHCSD Lead Program Enhancement	Frank Schenkhuisen is the person in the Environmental Health Bureau who is responsible to respond to children who have elevated blood lead levels. Frank goes out to their homes to do an assessment of the risks. Most of these homes tend to be pre-1950, with lead paint and lead in the soil around the house, hot spots tend to be windowsills and porches. We have voluntary testing in Kalamazoo County. Currently about 3.8% of the children in the County are found with elevated blood lead levels, and the majority are in the City of Kalamazoo. These are children with a blood lead level above 10 micrograms per deciliter, which is enough to trigger a warning sign. The state recently passed the Lead Abatement Act, which says that if a landlord is renting a house to a family with a child six years of age or younger becomes burdened with lead, with tests to confirm that, then the landlord has 90 days to remediate and remove that		

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	<p>hazard. Frank will be working on doing an environmental risk assessment on these homes, identifying to the owners what areas need to be remediated. The City of Kalamazoo recently received an EPA grant for \$100,000.00 and they will be working in conjunction with our office to educate landlords as to preventative measures, and with KVCC training contractors on lead safe work practices during the remediation and clean up.</p>		
<p>6. Meth Update</p>	<p>Kalamazoo Township and Comstock Township have been addressed. We are continuing to receive good responses. Overall compliance is happening, although it is taking longer to complete the clean ups than we anticipated. We are currently developing a six month status report. MDCH initially indicated they would help reimburse some of the clean-up costs to counties for meth busts that occurred after July 7, 2006. They have now changed that date and we have been able to tap into funds for busts prior to July 7, 2006.</p>		
<p>7. Community Septic Systems Presentation</p>	<p>Tom Burgess with Wastewater Management, LLC gave a presentation regarding privately owned community septic systems. His company provides a variety of services, including discharge permitting, design engineering, construction of wastewater treatment facilities, and provide continuous operation and maintenance services. They have numerous systems up and running , and have additional systems in various stages of development around the state.</p>		
<p>8. Member Comments</p>	<p>Mark Miller – will not be at next month’s meeting, and would like the name in Section 7, Member Comments, last page, Action Column changed from “Pat Chase” to “Kay Chase”. Pat Krause – Would like to an inquiry made as to the City of Kalamazoo’s response to the PCB issue that has been in the news.</p>	<p>Change will be made to minutes. Jim Rutherford to ask Carolyn to address this at next meeting.</p>	