

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
September 10, 2008**

Present: Jeff Balkema, Fran Bell, Deb Cardiff, Leroy Crabtree, Pat Krause, Sarah Reding, Daniel Moyle, Greg Nichols, Margaret O'Brien, Dawn Potter-Williams, Carolyn Rutland, Gene Clydesdale, Barb Clydesdale, Tony Badalamenti, Joan Badalamenti

Absent: Kathleen Buckham, Kyle Smith, Steve Gianni

Environmental Health: Vern Johnson, Tom Dewhirst, Kim Finkbeiner, Randy Riggs, Jeff Reicherts, Frank Schenkuizen, Heather Nichols, Diane Hindbaugh

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	Barb Clydesdale discussed the use of wood fire boilers in Kalamazoo. Her neighbors have had one in use for the past 3 years, in operating their swimming pool, water heater and heat. She is an at risk person, and the effect of the smoke has been detrimental to her health. She would like an ordinance passed in the City of Kalamazoo restricting the use of wood fire boilers. She would like to enlist the assistance EHAC to take the matter before the City Attorney. Tony Badalamenti, reiterated that they are in need of help in getting this problem before public officials. There are currently twelve in Texas Township, with four located on R Avenue. Texas Township has an ordinance, however, he feels that it is not being enforced. Many variances are being issued. They would like EHAC to look into potential problems, and create guidelines to help the townships use to guide them in writing effective ordinances.	Barb Clydesdale left reference materials. Pat Krause made a motion this be a standing item on EHAC agenda and look at research to see if they can make recommendations. Carolyn Rutland, seconded motion. Motion passed.	Item to be a standing item on agenda, committee to gather additional information to proceed.
2. Review/Approval of Minutes	A correction was made to Item 4. Proposed fee increases, last lineit passed 9 to 1; should read 8 to 2	Carolyn R. moved to approve the minutes. Motion passed.	
3. EH Program Updates	Surface Water – Jeff Reicherts: We had one violation of water quality standards during this past beach sampling period this was at Ramona park. We were approached earlier this year from MDEQ from Lansing staff about doing water sampling on Bear Creek in Wakeshma Township. We have been sampling Bear Creek for years, and the state inquired as to whether we could sample outside the county to look at a watershed basis, as opposed to county jurisdictional boundaries. This will be ongoing for one year. The samples are going to KAR lab, due to methods used. We are collecting three samples at each site, which the state is paying for. Pat K. inquired as to whether precipitation data is collected. Jeff mentioned that he is capturing that from a couple of websites in addition to collecting data that enables them to calculate flow, from measurements the state made on culverts (he measures the mark on the culvert to the top of the water). They are also targeting rain events, collecting within 24-48 hours of the event. There were discussions with the four-township water resources council (Ross, Richland, Barry Township and Prairieville Township) along with the Gull Lake Water Quality Organization regarding doing monitoring (again outside the county) along Augusta Creek and Prairieville Creek which go		

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	<p>into Gull Lake. We developed a letter of agreement and have just started these collections. We are doing four sampling events this fall. We are also looking at the potential of Microbial Source Tracking. We have approached Silvia Rossbach with WMU to develop a plan to do a pilot study on Arcadia Creek. Jeff supplied a hand out regarding microbial tracking.</p> <p>HHW – Tom Dewhirst: The Medication Collection that was completed in June was a cooperative effort between Environmental Health, USEPA, and the Sheriff’s Department. It was a success; we are having our next collection on September 20th in the Loy Norrix parking lot again. We have received permission from the EPA to hold two additional collections next year utilizing unspent funds from this grant. Next year the department hopes to explore the possibility of a permanent collection site in the community. Different communities have come up with different ways of doing these collections. There has been no slow down of other collections at HHW. We continue to receive a steady stream of collections.</p> <p>Meth – Randy Riggs: I have a handout showing a graph of the county meth busts. It’s difficult to predict or find correlations. There have been 218 sites cleaned, 36 are condemned or in the process of being cleaned, and we’ve had 15 new busts during July and August. There has been no noticeable decrease in the number of busts, and there is a lag time between the actual bust and the time we receive the information. We cannot take any action until we receive the EPIC form. We frequently have to re-placard the houses, as people attempt to take them off. There are also times when we have to convince the residents to leave. Since this is a countywide program, it takes planning to perform the site visits. We have also noticed a need to explain the regulations in simple terms, there are plans in the works to put together a handout, (maybe a check sheet type) to give to the home owners.</p> <p>Lead – Frank Schenkhuisen: In January we lowered the level for response from 20 mcg/dl to 10 mcg/dl. The first two quarters we had 8 children, so far this quarter we have had 6 referrals, including a set of twins with elevated blood lead levels. Like the meth program, we sometimes encounter difficulty contacting parents and homeowners. Our intention is to get these homes lead free. The State of Michigan has funds available to help with the cost. We supply this information along with the risk assessments to the property owners. They apply to the state, if accepted, the state will bid out the costs and make sure the work gets done, and provide clearance. We are still working on the process, and the flow for the follow-up of these sites. I believe it was mentioned at an earlier EHAC meeting that we received an EPA grant partnering with the City of Kalamazoo to provide seminars to property owners/landlords on the lead</p>		

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	<p>law and how they can comply. It also will provide training at the MTEC Center for them to learn how to take care of lead prior to rental. We also do contractual lead work. Our biggest client is KNHS.</p>		
<p>4. Proposed Body Art Regulations</p>	<p>Vern Johnson gave a brief power point presentation to update the body art regulations. Senate Bill 593 passed in December 2007 and goes into effect January 2009. The owners of Body Art facilities must apply for a license through the state, and for an inspection from our office. Their license will not be issued unless they have the inspection of their facility. The regulations are based on a NEHA model code. The regulations have eight sections; Manager Responsibilities, Technician Responsibilities, Equipment, Facilities, Tattoo and Piercing Procedures, Cleaning and Sterilization of Equipment, Records, and Patient Notification. Once EHAC gives their support, the regulations will be presented to the body art industry on September 30, 2008, they will then be presented to the BOC, a public hearing will be held, with the end result being the adoption of the regulations by late October, early November, so inspections can begin in December. The state is charging \$500.00 for an initial 3-year license. So far we have no information from them regarding local cost sharing. The department is proposing a fee to recoup our costs for providing the inspection. Margaret proposed meeting with Senator George to see if he could help work with the state in getting money back from the state. The facilities are in good shape, the meeting for September 30th is to let them know what is coming and give them time to make any changes in their facilities they need to. There are approximately 20-30 facilities in Kalamazoo County. Currently the larger shops have a medical waste carrier that costs about \$75.00 for three years. With the regulations all will have to have this service.</p>	<p>Since members had to leave early, Margaret moved to have minutes reflect that all members present support the regulations. Oral vote was taken and approved.</p>	
<p>5. Member Comments</p>	<p>Leroy Crabtree mentioned that he is looking forward to participating with the committee. Daniel Moyle requested a copy of the power point regulations. Carolyn expressed how impressed she was when working with the Body Art Work Committee, especially the owners of the facilities. Deb mentioned that she had sent a letter to Bryan Bowne asking him let her know if he intended to participate with EHAC, as requested at the last meeting. There was no response back it has been three weeks. The next step is to prepare a letter to be sent to the BOC to remove him, so we can fill the member at large position. He has not been to a meeting since November of 2007. If anyone knows of someone who is interested, direct them to go to the county web site and apply.</p>		<p>Nancy to mail to him. Dawn to contact the BOC to ask for his removal.</p>