

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

October 12, 2011

Present:, Deb Cardiff, Pat Krause, Patricia Crowley, Leroy Crabtree, Daniel Moyle, Dawn Potter-Williams, Kirsten Rimes, Mike Wetzl, , Jim Pearson, John O’Keefe, Tom Pederson and, Jack Urban

Absent: Francis Bell, Patricia Randall, Jeannie Himmelein, Aud Wierenga, Kathy Buckham

Environmental Health Staff: Kim Finkbeiner, Vern Johnson, Heather Nicholas, Linda Wright

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	No Comments		
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes Approved		
3. EH Updates - Deb	<p>The ribbon cutting event is October 27th for the Red Med Box’s for the medicine collection. It will be at the Sherriff’s department. There will be four red medicine boxes all together – one at the Sherriff’s dept, Kalamazoo Public Safety at Crosstown, Kalamazoo Township Police Dept and Portage City Police Dept. Substance abuse has some dollars available for advertising – you will see bill boards, info on busses, etc.</p> <p>There will be two citizen at large openings on EHAC, Pat Krause and Aud Wierenga’s. It will be posted on the web in November. If you know anyone that might be interested please tell them to go to the web site and fill out the application.</p> <p>We had a very successful Radon and Arsenic event at Schoolcraft Township two weeks ago. Jennifer Kosak and Heather Nicholas put this event together. There was a very good turnout – we had Radon kits available and were able to do quick arsenic water testing and it was a very educational event for the public.</p> <p>The 2012 budget discussions continue. There have been three meetings where the commissioners have been</p>		

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	<p>giving recommendations and suggestions. Deb said that she has not had any information regarding the EH budget yet but she is preparing in the event that there may be.</p>		
<p>4. Allied Site PCB Resolution – Deb, Jack Urban</p>	<p>Deb was contacted by Gary Wager with the Kalamazoo River Clean Up Coalition regarding the Allied Site. He would have liked to be here but was out of town today. There is a generic Allied site PCB resolution and a copy of the resolution that the City of Kalamazoo passed in 2011. Gary had previous conversations with Commissioner Urban and was interested in bringing this information to EHAC to get support. Information being forwarded to the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners would be through Jack Urban for the County to adopt a resolution. They are looking for support of complete removal of all of the PCB's at the Allied paper site. There are currently 4 remedy options that the EPA is looking at: 1) Do nothing, let it remain and naturally remediate, 2) collect all of the material around the hot spots and put the contamination soil over what is already there 3) take all of the material that is in a holding cell that is on the south east side of the creek and put it into one big cell 4) Complete removal of the PCB's. The cost for total removal in comparison to the cost of partial removal and monitoring to be done, etc., is a huge difference in cost. Another wrinkle in the process is the estimate by the company that owns the landfill. They state that it would cost 98 million dollars to do the work to remove all of the PCB contamination at the site. The EPA's estimate is 238 million and the least expensive is 50 million. The river clean up coalition is supporting the total river cleanup if it can be done for 50 million.</p> <p>Jack said that Mike Wetzal had a lot to do with getting the lower estimate. Mike said they have had interest in this since 2007 and it has been a long process. They would</p>		

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	<p>ultimately like to see all of the contaminated paper fiber removed from the site and that it is a well head protection issue. He wants to see a lining put over the lagoons instead of just capping it which would cost 140million. He said they are in the process of discussing the differences in cost and what they are providing for those costs with the DEQ and EPA to see why the difference is so high and to see how much money is coming from the trusts.</p> <p>Deb asked Jack if the Board had discussed this and asked for EHACs opinion and Jack said they had not. He said that he is asking for EHAC's support because they are not likely to act on it unless it is supported due to a public Health concern. Mike said that the difference between the Allied site and the other landfill sites is that it is in a well head protection zone and it is a major well field. It is also right in the middle of a residential/commercial area.</p> <p>Pat asked Jack if he wanted to pass this today or come back after being able to learn more about it. Jack said that he would like there to be a resolution passed on issues that have to do with public health. Deb asked if he was just looking for support and Jack said yes and that he would draft the resolution. Jack said yes – he could bring it back to the committee before it goes before the board to get feedback. Pat suggested we wait till next meeting to make a decision and Jack agreed that that would be a good idea. Jack said that he would have a draft ready for next meeting explaining what we have discussed so far. Jack will get the four alternatives to Deb and she will email it to the group.</p>		