

Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
December 6, 2006

Present: Pat Krause, Mark Miller, Ann Nieuwenhuis, Margaret O'Brien, Dawn Potter-Williams, Jim Rutherford, Carolyn Rutland
 Kyle Smith, John Taylor, John Paquin, Dale Hein

Environmental Health: Jim Draze, Carolyn Hobbs Kreiger, Kim Finkbeiner, Deb Werner

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	None		
2. Review of Minutes	Accepted as presented		
3. Review of Agenda	No changes noted		
4. Well Head Protection Ordinance	<p>John Paquin, Manager of City of Kalamazoo Water Resources gave a presentation on the wellhead protection ordinance. City of Kalamazoo is the second largest ground water based public water supply system in the State of Michigan. It is a limited treatment system, in that they do add some chemical to the water supply, such as fluoride, chloride and phosphates, etc. There are 8 pressure districts, 19 well fields, 18 water pumping stations, 8 water storage facilities, and over 100 active wells. They serve over 123,000 customers, with agreements with 10 local units of government. They pump between 20-40 million gallons of water a day. The ordinance was developed in response to an amendment in the State of Michigan safe drinking water act, Section 1428 (PL 93-523). The state requirements are in the ordinance because the city has to meet them to get a new permit for a Type 1 well. The city has taken the state requirements and enhanced them. The group looked at locating areas that needed protection, identified were the risks were, how best manage that area, how does that effect production levels, etc. The ordinance focuses on TOT (time of travel), and the amount of time it would take the contamination to reach the well. The state requires a 10 year TOT plan, the city went further and incorporated both a 5 year and 1 year TOT plan. The city has spent millions of dollars on investigating and</p>		

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	<p>treating contaminated groundwater at its well fields. It is most cost effective to be proactive rather than reactive. We also did a risk assessment, taking each site and using land use and additional variables to assess what is going on at the sites. There are 241 sites within the city, which this ordinance focuses on. Of those sites 72 have known contamination. 22% are contaminated with a one-year TOT, and 78% with a 10 year TOT. The city recently contacted businesses in the highly sensitive wellhead protection areas and used grant monies to encourage the businesses to develop spill protection plans. 59 businesses came close to meeting the requirements for spill protection plans. Of the 59, 20 participated with the city in developing plans. It is important to note that most of the new business developments going on in Kalamazoo are outside the wellhead protection areas.</p>		
5. Meth Update	<p>Jim presented an update on recent meth activity. A few homes have been cleaned, more are in the process of being cleaned, and a number of letters have been sent to homeowners advising them of the need to do the cleanup. Handouts were provided, indicating the status of the addresses, along with GIS statistics, and a copy of a new brochure that has been developed to give to homeowners explaining how to hire cleanup contractors and consultants. Christine will be available to give presentations to townships, along with updating the Cities of Kalamazoo and Portage as to recent activity. We have partial funding for the 2007-2008 year. Also we are getting \$800.00 from the State for every house that is condemned. The Arcus Foundation has been re-contacted, and they have expressed an interest in meeting regarding possible funding for 2007-2008.</p>		
6. 2007 Agenda Items	<p>Jim passed out a list of potential agenda items for 2007, asking everyone to let him know which items they are interested in pursuing.</p>		

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7. Member Comments	None		