

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

December 14, 2011

Present: Deb Cardiff, Fran Bell, Kirsten Rimes, Mike Wetzel, Aud Wierenga, , Leroy Crabtree, Jack Urban, Kathy Buckham, Jim Pearson

Absent: Pat Krause, Jeannie Himmelein, Dawn Potter-Williams, Tom Pederson, Dan Moyle, Pat Crowley Patricia Randall, John O'Keefe

Environmental Health: Heather Nicholas, Jennifer Kosak, Max Bjorkman, Tom Dewhirst, Jeff Reicherts and Linda Wright

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	None		
2. Approval of Minutes	There is not a quorum so minute approval cannot be voted on.	Not Approved	Approve at January meeting
3. EH Update	<p>Deb would like to discuss topics of interest at the January meeting and in February we will have officer elections. We are losing our Chairperson Pat Krause and Aud Wierenga. We are not mandated to fill them but if there is interest, they will be considered by the BOC.</p> <p>As of December 28th, the Lab will no longer provide water testing services for the public but the lab will remain open for our services. We are housing bottles for the State and Kent County to have available for the public. The new fees will be going to the Board of Commissioners for approval.</p> <p>Carolyn Hobbs Kreiger has accepted a new position with the State of Michigan working in the Type II program. Her position will not be filled at this time and her job responsibilities have been given to other staff with Heather taking over the Type II program.</p>		
4. EH Staff Program Updates	HHW - Tom said that they haven't had a record setting year but very close to one. Participation has increased 42 percent over the last four years. Half of their business is electronics. Once a month they ship a semi load of		

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	<p>electronics and they now get paid for televisions, computers, printers and monitors and this has added about \$12 – 15,000 to their budget this year. Tom also talked about the Red Med Box program – the web site is called redmedbox.com. They have been in business about 5 weeks and have taken in about 400 lbs of meds already.</p> <p>LWW - Deb said that we have been notified of 70 meth busts in 2011 and we currently have 44 condemned buildings. We have discontinued condemning unattached sheds and garages and we do have recommended cleaning procedures that we will provide to those owners. The container program is a huge success and when “Cops Money” was taken away in February law enforcement was very concerned about how they would pay for this program and the Container Program has brought costs down tremendously.</p> <p>Our numbers are down in the well and septic program. We just had a very successful sewage contractors meeting. The DEQ is rewriting the Michigan Criteria – this is the sewage guideline for commercial sewage facilities. Kim has been participating with the State committee on this and it should be done sometime in 2012.</p> <p>Food Safety Program – Vern put together a list of updates and Deb passed it out to the group and reviewed it. We are still seeing new restaurants being opened and this is one program that hasn’t really been stunted.</p> <p>Surface Water Program – Jeff said the last couple of years we have been approached by the Gull Lake Quality Organization with the four township water resources council which is made up of the four townships around gull lake. Through a letter of agreement we conduct monthly sampling at Prairieville Creek, Augusta Creek, and an inlet</p>		

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	<p>and outlet of Little Long Lake. Jeff started 8 sampling events and he just finished them up in November and he provides them with monthly reports. He attends their board meetings in the wintertime.</p> <p>We have received a grant from DEQ partnered with WMU's biology department to do some source tracking. Jeff said he would like Western to come to an EHAC meeting to present their findings. They targeted Arcadia Creek in the City of Kalamazoo, Bear Creek in Wakeshma Township and some of the samples taken from the gull lake group.</p> <p>Groundwater – Heather said she knows that there has been some interest in Allied Paper and the PCB clean up and there is a meeting tomorrow night at 6:30 at the Radisson. They have been monitoring the drinking water sampling that has been going on as a result of Enbridge - The Toxic Registry has partnered up with Michigan Department of Community Health to look at all of the data that has been collected and create a report and we have been able to comment on that and provide some feedback. She participates on a number of wellhead protection committees and the city of Kalamazoo has two new Movie adds at Celebration Theatre about Medication take back and another about septic system maintenance.</p> <p>Jennifer – in 2007 Michigan Dept of Community Health wrote Kalamazoo County a HUD Grant for performing lead remediation where homeowners could apply. If they qualify they could get most of their costs covered. We also try to get any EBL children's families covered that test positive. To date 52 households have applied for the grant. The CDC is looking into lowering the range from 10 Mcg/dl Venous draw or higher to the 5-9 range because the children who fall in that range do not qualify for environmental intervention or grant funding as of now.</p>		

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	<p>That would probably quadruple the amount of children so they are proceeding slowly. She is working with Jeff on some GIS Maps where they are testing in Kalamazoo; where the positive EBL's are and where the work is being done. We have done 56 lead inspections this year, the Healthy Homes Coalition meets every other month, and they have had several outreach events including two workshops on bedbugs. She is also doing DHS inspections since Carolyn has been gone.</p>		
<p>5. Member Comments</p>	<p>Aud – there will be no green drinks in December but will be back in January at Old Dog.</p>		