

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

February 13, 2013

Present: Francis Bell, Kathleen Buckham, Deborah Cardiff, Leroy Crabtree, Daniel Moyle, Patricia Randall, Mike Wetzel, Jim Pearson, John O’Keefe, David Harn

Absent: Pat Crowley, Jane Herbert, Dawn Potter-Williams, Kirsten Rimes, John Taylor, Erich Zinser

Environmental Health: Heather Nicholas

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions			
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes for January were approved		
3. Citizen Comments			
4. 2013 Officer Elections	Leroy Crabtree – Chair Jim Pearson – Vice John O’Keefe – Secretary		
5. EH Updates - Deb Cardiff	Sanitary Code goes into effect on March 11, 2013. A hard copy of the sanitary code will be sent to those that EH regulates. Deb and Tom D. will be at the township supervisor monthly meeting on Wednesday. Deb will talk about the changes to the housing regulations. Deb will also talk about meth and the need of having as much cooperation with the local units of governments. There will be speaker in March from DEQ to talk about Hydraulic Fracturing. Jim Pearson mentioned that there was something in the news about a sewage leak. Deb said there were two at private residences. Deb said the EH does not get involved in regards to sending out a press release when they are around a 1000 gallon. By law the city has to send out a press release. Mike said that one of the overflows was at the same location from 2 weeks ago. It concluded that the first time		

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	<p>through they used a mini jet to open up the blockage. It is in a heavy wooded area and most likely the cause was tree roots. They did not grind up the tree roots enough the first time so they did a more thorough job the second time. Deb asked why the sewer lines are not replaced when there are tree roots intrusions. Mike said is very costly. A lot of times the joints are not done depending on the way leads are laid out. Sometimes the roots find their way where the lead to the houses joins to the public sewer. Mike explained when it is the homeowner's responsibility vs. the city. Deb asked if homeowners are aware that they need to take care of their own clean up if the problem is on their side of the lead and on their property. Jim asked if there are signs that a homeowner can look for. Mike said if toilet is not flushing quickly. If water is draining slowly. Deb mentioned said that she does not think that homeowners are aware that they have any responsibility for cases like this. Deb asked if there is ever education sent out with water bills. Mike said there has been talks about this and what message can be sent out. Patricia mentioned information of sewer insurance for homeowners. Patricia will give the information to Mike.</p>		
<p>6. Member comments</p>	<p>Kathy- Putting together the tree seedling order form Three workshops for farmers. They have to report how much they pump Fran- Wanted to confirm Jane Herbert is the new representative for MSU Extension. Also wanted to confirm that John Taylor is the new assigned commissioner Jim- Austin Lake Aeration Program started a 5 year project a preliminary report will be out the after the first year John- Heard the Best Way Disposal advertisement. Deb had mentioned this to Tom Dewhirst, but does not have an update on this yet.</p>		