

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

August 14, 2013

Present: Francis Bell, Kathleen Buckham, Deborah Cardiff, Patricia Crowley, Daniel Moyle, Dawn Potter-Williams, Patricia Randall, Jim Pearson, David Harn Erich Zinser

Absent: Leroy Crabtree, Jane Herbert, Kirsten Rimes, John Taylor, Mike Wetzel, John O'Keefe

Environmental Health: Vern Johnson, Heather Nicholas, Ryan Post

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions			
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes approved pending addition of the date	Gracie will add the date to the May minutes	
3. Citizen Comments			
4. EH Updates - Deb Cardiff	There is a proposal for some staffing increases. This will be going to Board for action on August 20. There are 2 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) technicians that are currently a 0.5 FTE and the proposal is to move them to a 0.6 FTE. Also a new position will be created for a technician at HHW with a 0.6 FTE and creating a 500 hour of seasonal HHW technician for on call basis. There have been position changes at HCS out of the health fund that made this a cost neutral change.		
5. 2014 Proposed EH Fee Increases	Back ground: The county undergoes an outside fee study every 3 years. There is an external company that does an audit to be able to calculate what our costs are. This enables our Time and Activity reporting system. All EH staff completes a daily activity sheets. They have to identify what program they are working in, what activity is done in that program and how much time they are spending. They are responsible to record every 15 minutes of their time. This allows us to see how much time staff is spending in a specific program. This is one of the	Ryan took notes of the suggestion for the fee schedule changes.	

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	<p>primary sources used to come up with EH fees.</p> <p>Proposed Increases: A change that has occurred from our previous Maximus study which used a sliding cost recovery goal philosophy of 25%-100% depending on what the service was. This philosophy has changed from administration. Now our cost recovery goal is 100% for all of our fees with the exception of in-county lead work that is done which is at 50% recovery goal. It is proposed to eliminate several fee categories and combining them together to simplify the fees. One of the big changes is profit and nonprofit which were charged at separate fees. Now with the 100% recovery there aren't any separate fees for profit and nonprofit. The work that is done for profit and nonprofit is the same therefore the fee will be the same. Another change is fees based on the number of seats that a restaurant has. Currently there are 4 different categories of how much a food service establishment is to be charged. In the past this there was a correlation on the number of seats that a facility had and time spent. This is no longer the case. The proposed change is to charge one flat fee regardless of the number of seats that a facility has. Another change is the DHS facilities. Currently there is a charge for partial inspections and full inspections. This will become on fee regardless if it is partial or full inspection. This was also done with the campground inspections.</p> <p>Process used for new fees: Utilizing the Maximus Cost Study, cost recovery goals and in some instances using a reasonable and customary amount of time it takes to provide a service and multiplying it by our hourly rate. Some of the fees are now a flat hourly rate because of the variations in the amount of time. Fees from other counties similar in size to Kalamazoo county were also looked at.</p> <p>Proposed fee changes: A copy of the proposed changes was given to EHAC members with proposed changes in red. Not all fees were on the spreadsheet, only fees with proposed changes. Deb talked about all the changes and</p>		

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	<p>100% recovery goal on the sheet. Deb stated that our hourly rate is calculated by Maximus at \$90/hour and some of our fees are based on our hourly rate. This has changed from \$66. Some of the big changes, as mentioned before, are in the food categories. Profit and nonprofit are now in one category with one fee for both. Campground has currently a campground license and a temporary license. This will now be only one fee. Property Modification is a voluntary service that is provided to assess a property for future water well and onsite sewage disposal system. The fee is currently is \$81 and proposed fee is \$230. DHS is currently divided in partial and full inspections. The proposal is to combine them and having one fee. Lead inspection is proposed to charge at hourly rate. Public septic permits fee is going up from \$162 to \$305. A new fee was created for septic tank only which is \$135. Public septic permit is going up from \$150 to \$400 because the time that is put into it.</p> <p>Members made suggestions for the fee schedule. Some of the suggestions were to put “per hour or annually” after the fee. Deb stated that lab fees and state pass through fees are not included in the fee schedule.</p> <p>Member asked why Calhoun, Ingham, Washtenaw and Ottawa counties were chosen.</p> <p>Deb said that these counties are physically comparable in size to Kalamazoo County.</p> <p>Member asked where the short fall came from before and what the revenue was for 2013</p> <p>Ryan Post said it came from HCS general fund and he did not have the exact amount with him.</p> <p>Member asked why there was only a 50% cost recovery goal for lead.</p> <p>Deb said it is because the direct health implication to children under the age of 6 living in homes with elevated lead.</p> <p>EHAC members unanimously supported the new proposed fee schedule.</p>		

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	<p>Pat: She was invited to visit the allied site by EPA. What EPA is proposing is going to cost a lot of money.</p> <p>Pat heard of one of the site commander for Enbridge leaving.</p> <p>Pat would like to know how the paperless project is going</p> <p>Pat would like a session of how the county manages contamination.</p> <p>Deb said Heather put together a presentation. This will be done at the end of the year or beginning of next year.</p> <p>Jim: Austin Lake committee is meeting at 2 review aeration project that has been going on for a year. Pat Crowley and Jim are on that board. Van Buren County Drain Commissioner will also be at the meeting along with a lake group from brighten.</p> <p>David: Allied paper: County and EPA are considering reevaluating the idea of capping</p> <p>Enbridge: They requested an extension for dredging. EPA will be doing dredging in the river after Labor Day</p>		