

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

August 9, 2017

Members Present: Vern Johnson, Jim Pearson, Meredith Place, Patricia Crowley, Jeff Sorensen, Mike Leeuw, Richard Ford, Scott McGraw, Fran Bell, Shannon Deater, David Harn, Andrew Nieboer, Julie Pioch,

Members Absent: Kevin Wordelman, David Pawloski

Environmental Health: Lucas Pols, Aaron Hoogenboom, Jeff Reicherts

Also attending: Daniel Moyle, Lynne Norman (HCS), Kristin Tekiele (HCS Finance), Jason Pechawer (HCS Finance), Linda Whitlock (MSU Extension)

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions			
2. Citizen Comments			
3. Approval of Minutes	Minutes were approved for February 8, 2017		
4. Herbicide Risks and Uses: Linda Whitlock MSU-E	Linda Whitlock led a question and answer session regarding the widespread use and safety of herbicides like RoundUp. Linda mentioned that RoundUp has been banned in other countries, adding that products need to be used according to package directions. Our society often thinks more is better, and will use these products in a way or quantity in which they are not intended. Overuse of these products can create problems. The RoundUp brand is the most common herbicide in use in the country today so she focused our discussion on that product. RoundUp that is not sprayed on plant matter ends up in the soil, and the microbes in the soil break it down. A question was asked about use in and around lakes, and Linda replied that RoundUp is not labeled for aquatic use and it is not legal to use in that setting. A member inquired about RoundUp being possibly being found in water sources due		

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	<p>to commercial farming use. Linda replied that it would not be impossible, but typically in normal soil conditions RoundUp would be broken down by the microbes in the soil and would not have a chance to reach groundwater. It is considered to be one of the safest herbicides in regards to groundwater contamination. Linda also discussed enforcement of overuse of RoundUp, applicator licensing for pesticide use, the Right to Farm Acts potential involvement in violations of use, and residues on fresh fruits and vegetables. Vern interjected that our HHW program has a take back program so growers can drop off extra pesticides and herbicides.</p>		
<p>5. EH Program Updates</p>	<p>Vern introduced the 2018 proposed fee schedule. Vern stated we only do fee increases every few years so it can seem like quite a jump. In the future EH is looking to do minor fee changes every year to keep up with direct costs and the cost of living. In EH we keep track of all of our workers hours in the field to determine how much time they are spending in particular areas. Kristin Tekiele from Finance gave an overview of how she determines what an acceptable and appropriate increase in fees should be in accordance with costs and compared to other counties. She pointed out in future years increases would likely be around 3% a year. At this time we are dealing with a larger adjustment because we have not had fee increases in EH since 2012. Jim Pearson led us through the proposed fee schedule chart while Vern and Kristin answered questions regarding specific fees. Kristin reiterated our main goal is not to diminish services in EH, keeping the service level the same or higher than what it has been. Vern also mentioned that minimum program requirements for our programs change and increase, which means time spent out in the field is greater and leads to greater costs. Jim mentioned 3 motions come to mind: Approve as is, approve with a cap and spread the increase out over years, or look at individual fees. Jim walked us through each section of increases, asking if there are questions.</p>		

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	<p>There were questions on food service fees, and what was provided in a license fee and plan review fee. Vern gave a brief overview of what our food service team does. Richard Ford made a motion to approve fees with a 0% increase, and to round all other increases and fees to the closest zero or five (dollar amounts). Julie Pioch seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding rounding of the fees to the nearest \$0 or \$5. Vern stated the pass-through fees in the food program would make this impossible because the pass-through fees would make the rounding irrelevant. Julie Pioch then moved to amend the motion by striking the reference to rounding up and down to \$0 or \$5. Jim asked Richard Ford, the original motion maker, for a revised motion.</p> <p>The revised motion per Richard Ford: To recommend to approve fees with 0% increase and approve all other increases in fees. The motion was seconded and Jim Pearson asked for a vote on the amended motion.</p> <p>Vote: Jim Pearson takes a roll call vote of the 13 members present. 12 voted in favor of recommending proposed fee approval, 1 voted no. Vern reminded us that the county board has the final say on the fees, and the council will send a letter of support recommending the proposed fee changes to the board.</p> <p>Non-Potable water well program: Vern stated we are slated in October to present the non-potable water well program to the board.</p>		
6. Member Comments	<p>Mike Leeuw- No Comment</p> <p>Shannon Deater- Glad fee increase recommendation passed. Her department collaborates a lot with EH and gets great service from our group. She likes the idea of analyzing the data and feels our review seems reasonable to keep services at the appropriate level.</p>		

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	<p>Meredith Place- Too proud of work that we have done today and hopes the board realizes in October the time this committee has spent on this proposal. Thanked Linda Whitlock for her information.</p> <p>David Harn– Non-Potable well permitting program – had an experience with a residence who wanted to drill a low capacity irrigation well in a contaminated area. New program will be helpful in assisting residents with these types of situations. He is very much in support of this proposal.</p> <p>Vern Johnson-Zika Virus update. We have found none of the types of mosquitos that carry the Zika virus. We are setting traps twice a week for 24 hours around the county to monitor the mosquitoes. This is proactive surveillance, we are in the path of migration.</p> <p>Fran Bell- No Comment</p> <p>Jeff Sorenson- Cooper Township has a lot going on right now. They are working on a paper landfill in the township that they may turn into a solar farm. They may extend the sewer project as well, partnering with the Road Commission for repaving a portion of Riverview Drive.</p> <p>Pat Crowley- Last night had their first storm water tour in Kalamazoo County. Another is coming up next Thursday and everyone is invited.</p> <p>Richard Ford- Gourdneck Lake: Weed management being applied this year. They also have a new utilities director responsible for water and sewer.</p> <p>Jim Pearson-Austin Lake assessment hearing for continuation of aeration bio-augmentation project.</p>		

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	<p>Scott McGraw- Asked about Sunset Lake invasive crawfish, is that something the health department does anything with? Pat Crowley stated that falls under State jurisdiction.</p> <p>Andrew Nieboer-No Comment</p> <p>Julie Pioch- No Comment</p> <p>Jim Pearson stated the next meeting is October 11th, then adjourned the meeting.</p>		