

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

August 8, 2018

Members Present: Vern Johnson, Kevin Wordelman, Jim Pearson, Meredith Place, Francis Bell, Jeff Sorensen, Shannan Deater, David Harn, David Pawloski, Claudette Reid, Scott McGraw, Mike Leeuw, Patricia Crowley, Andrew Nieboer

Members Absent: Louis Parker III, Julie Pioch

Environmental Health: Aaron Hoogenboom

Also attending: Jim Rutherford, John Paquin

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions			
2. Citizen Comments			
3. Approval of Minutes	Minutes were approved for June 13, 2018		
5. EH Program Updates: PFAS	<p>Vern Johnson- Welcomes members to the new facility.</p> <p>Vern gave a background on the agencies that are responding to the PFAS contamination in Parchment, as well as a timeline of the response starting July 26th including procuring bottled water, the water distribution center, press conferences, PFAS call center setup and other activities related to the emergency response. So far 14000 cases of water have been distributed and delivered. EH staff visited 1100 homes with information about PFAS and their water supply.</p> <p>David Harn- David explained what PFOA and PFOS are and where they came from. David explained what emerging contaminants are and what the state of Michigan is doing to protect citizens. The focus is on limiting exposure, especially with drinking water. There is not a lot of information yet on the health effects, but we are gaining</p>		

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	<p>on that information now. David discussed residential wells that have been sampled, the potential direction of groundwater flow, as well as the probable source of contamination.</p> <p>Vern spoke about the high water table in the area by Crown Vantage, stating that there are many shallow private wells still being used in that region. Shutting down the municipal wells in that area can also change the direction of groundwater flow, affecting local private wells.</p> <p>Jim Rutherford: What's the role of local public health? We have some phenomenal people in our community that we continue to work with. We are getting a lot of questions regarding personal health, which will be most challenging as we don't have answers to a lot of the personal health questions we are getting. We have 3 things to focus on: Richland private wells, Parchment municipal supply, and Parchment private wells. We are very fortunate to have the City of Kalamazoo abutting up to the Parchment system, they stepped in and offered their municipal hookup without even questioning.</p> <p>Jim Pearson explained how testing procedures are just now at the point where PFAS can be detected. PFAS isn't new, but it's present in such small amounts that previously we could not test accurately for it. A part per trillion is a drop in 2 Olympic sized swimming pools, it's a very small amount.</p> <p>John Paquin and Shannon Deater from the City of Kalamazoo explained where we are at today as far as the municipal water supply being extended to Parchment municipal water users. John described how they used fire trucks to separate the systems and provide pressure. He gave an overview of the Kalamazoo city water system and Parchment's system and described how it was possible to</p>		

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	<p>combine the two. They are in the process of sampling the first hard connect, scheduling the second hard connect, and then will move on to the third pressure reducing station. There are lots of moving parts going from a temporary connection to a semi-permanent connection. Shannon Deater talked about the sampling of the municipal water. Corrosion control is important and the systems are similar but slightly different so they are tweaking and adjusting as needed. Shannon mentioned each day the discussion changes based on the sample results obtained. She said all of this has been made easier by the collaborative effort of all the parties involved. They are looking at water chemistry, adverse effects of corrosion, as well as PFAS. They are monitoring lead pipes to make sure they have not been impacted. She feels comfortable that they are being very thorough in making sure the water supply is safe.</p> <p>Vern Johnson gave a quick update on Richland PFAS. The contamination came from Production Plated Plastics on D Avenue. We are still trying to determine where the contamination plume is and how large it is. Most of the impacted homes are on private wells. There are also agricultural wells in the area which can change the groundwater flow. Our department delivered bottled water and some homes are on a filter. MDEQ is doing further testing. PFAS levels were 8000-10000 ppt in the effluent at the contamination site. The highest level of private wells so far is 2500ppt. David Harn gave a brief history of the contamination site in Richland producing the PFAS contamination.</p>		

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<p>6. Member Comments</p>	<p>Mike Leeuw- Everyone involved in the PFAS incident did a great job.</p> <p>Shannan Deater- City of Kalamazoo is only working on the PFAS situation right now.</p> <p>Pat Crowley- Has a booth at the fair if anyone would like her to distribute their information.</p> <p>Claudette Reid- Portage had 2 sites that had low level detection for PFAS. They have taken those wells offline and are planning on additional testing. Impressed by coordination and transparency by all organizations involved in the PFAS response.</p> <p>Fran Bell- No Comment</p> <p>David Harn- No Comment</p> <p>Vern Johnson – No Comment</p> <p>Meredith Place- Appreciate having such a cooperative government working together on the PFAS issue.</p> <p>David Pawloski- Proud of our community and how it came together and government cooperation.</p> <p>Jim Pearson- Next meeting is October 10th. Meeting adjourned. Building tour following.</p>		