

**Kalamazoo County  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

March 13, 2013

Present: Francis Bell, Deborah Cardiff, Patricia Crowley, Leroy Crabtree, Daniel Moyle, Dawn Potter-Williams, Mike Wetzel, Jim Pearson, John O'Keefe, David Harn, Erich Zinser, William Mitchell

Absent: Katheleen Buckham, Jane Herbert, Patricia Randall, Kirsten Rimes, John Taylor

Environmental Health: Todd Jaranowski, Vern Johnson, Jennifer Kosak, Heather Nicholas, Lucus Pols, Frank Schenkhuisen, Connie Selles, Mark Thomas, Samantha Thorson

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions	Welcome and introductions were made		
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes for February were approved		
3. Citizen Comments			
4. EH Updates - Deb Cardiff	Paperless project is moving forward. Sanitary Code became effect on Monday March 11, 2013. John O'Keefe included a Red Med Box advertisement in the Welcome Home Magazine which was distributed at the Home Expo. Pat asked what programs will go paperless. Deb said the Land Water and Wastewater. Pat talked about the system being confusing in her office and questions about it. Vern will talk with Pat about this.		
5. Hydraulic Fracturing	Geologist Bill Mitchell works for the Department of Environmental Quality Office of Oil, Gas and Minerals (OOGM). OGM regulates the oil and gas industry for any oil and gas drilling wells from the permitting until the time the well is plugged and enforce the laws and rules that are passed by legislators. Hydraulic fracturing is a completion process after the well is drilled. There have been over 52,000 wells drilled in the state of Michigan since 1927. What is happening is Michigan is not uncommon to what is happening around the country. There are no active well in Kalamazoo County. Part of permitting is to evaluate the proposed location and make sure the site is fitting for a		

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	<p>drill site location. Most well drilling locations have a reserve pit. Reserve pits can only have drilling fluids and rock pipes going to them. Anything that has chemical additives has to be contained in above ground steel tanks. Hydraulic fracturing is allowed to put in a separate reserve pit to store fresh water. Reserve pit have to maintain a minimum distance above ground water. During drilling OOGM is out on the site regularly for inspection to make sure that they are following the conditions of the permit. A drill rig never shuts down, it is working 24 hours.</p> <p>Once the well is producible OOGM is out on site regularly to monitor the production and condition of the well. Any kind of clean ups have to be in compliance with part 201 of the environmental rules. OOGM is also responsible for overseeing that the drill location and storage facility are restored to their original contour and making sure the well is plugged properly.</p> <p>Hydraulic Fracturing is a completion process. The drilling of a horizontal well has nothing to do with the fracturing. Water is pumped at high pressures to create fractures in rocks that allow oil or natural gas to flow more freely..</p> <p>Deb asked where Michigan falls in comparison with other states with our regulations. Bill said Regulators in Illinois came up with a type of compromise. They talked about reporting the chemicals that are used. These are things that are already implemented here in Michigan. Deb asked about the permit fees Bill said it cost \$300, but the state gets a percentage of revenue from oil companies</p> <p>Deb asked if there any initiative on putting together and information brochure for citizens. Bill said that they don't have the money to do it. Michigan Oil and Gas Association has accurate information about</p>		

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	hydraulic fracturing. There is more information on the state's website and <a href="http://www.geology.com">www.geology.com</a> . If anyone has questions they are encourage to call Bill		
Member Comments	Pat: TMDL on call that meet occasionally. Pat had questions and wanted clarification on something Deb asked if she was talking about surface water Pat said yes Deb said that the county does not do surface water anymore, and asked Pat to email her for more information. Leroy: There won't be a meeting in April	Pat will email Deb about this to get more information.	