

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

August 13, 2014

Present: Francis Bell, Deborah Cardiff, Pat Crowley, Daniel Moyle, Andrew Nieboer, Jeff Sorensen, Jim Pearson, Erich Zinser, Andrew Nieboer, Mike Wetzel, Jim Pearson, and John O’Keefe.

Absent: John Taylor, David Harn, Richard Ford

Environmental Health: Vern Johnson, Heather Bishop
Secretary pro-tem: Pat Crowley

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions	Welcome to Jeff Sorensen and Andrew Nieboer! Jeff is Cooper Twp Supervisor and Andrew is from Kalamazoo, works at VML ad firm and is interested in the environment.		
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes for April 9, 2014 were approved. Dan, John	Change date to April 9,2014,	
3. Michigan Clean Corporate Citizen	John O’Keefe was the first publisher to be awarded the MC3 award and he told us about the application process. He mentioned that he almost eliminated certain cleaning chemicals by spraying the presses at the end of the job. The whole process took about 3 months and he felt it was worth it in savings and in employee participation and satisfaction. The award translates into expedited permits, less monitoring and reporting requirements.E	John gave us little flyers describing the accomplishment and some EHAC members posted it in their workplaces.	
4. Citizen Comments	No citizens presented		
5.EH Program Updates	Deb 1) Sent around member info list for updates and expiring members can indicate their willingness to continue if desired. 2) 3 EH Staff vacancies to be filled. 3) Dewhirst retirement party on August 28, 2014. Tom built the very successful Household Hazardous Waste program from an original \$15k grant for 3 community events. We are very proud of him! 4) Hiring 2 new staff (food). Much training on the horizon.		
6. Member comments.	Dan: Road revenues declining because of less driving, more fuel efficiency and the same fixed tax since 1997.		

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	<p>We also discussed difficulties associated with the adoption of the Complete Streets program. Jeff: Twps will seek new road tax assessments because of plat liability. Fran mentioned difficulties of a twp with a large tax exempt base. Jeff said new development at Cooper's Landing and increased development, most since 2003. Fran: Michigan has nation's weakest regulations on septic systems. He believes we need to do more to educate the public on septic function and management. Jim: Working on county-wide transit authority, noted that neighbors of Walmart did a great job documenting problems with stormwater mgt system. Lots of new development, Mann Hummel. Mike: Reminded people of RETAP program (retired engineers who can help suggest energy upgrades). He also serves on Kal Env Council and they are trying to figure out better bicycle accommodation. Rainbarrel sale over 400! Primarily awareness builder.</p>		