

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

October 11, 2017

Members Present: Vern Johnson, Kevin Wordelman, Jim Pearson, Meredith Place, Patricia Crowley, Jeff Sorensen, Richard Ford, Fran Bell, David Pawloski, Shannan Deater, Andrew Nieboer, Scott McGraw

Members Absent: David Harn, Julie Pioch, Mike Leeuw

Environmental Health: Lucas Pols, Aaron Hoogenboom, Jeff Reicherts

Also attending: Lynne Norman (HCS), Jim Rutherford (HCS)

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions			
2. Citizen Comments			
3. Approval of Minutes	Minutes were approved for August 9, 2017		
4. PFAS Update – Jeff Reicherts	Jeff Reicherts spoke about PFAS. Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances are manmade emerging contaminants being found in drinking water. The EPA has set a lifetime health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion of the two compounds combined. There are 3 sites in Michigan that are getting some attention. Two are air force bases which are contaminated from the use of firefighting foam that contains these chemicals. In Kent County, Wolverine Worldwide dumped chemical laden sludge that contains the compounds. There are water treatment units that can remove the contaminants from the water, a short term solution that is being utilized in Kent County. In Kalamazoo County we are currently looking at sites for potential monitoring for these compounds.		

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<p>5. EH Program Updates-Vern Johnson and Lucas Pols</p>	<p>Vern Johnson- EH Fee package will be going before the board on November 7th to be voted on. Non-potable water well program is moving forward. We have had a change in corporate counsel with Thom Canney moving to work in the courts. Amber Beebe will be interim corporate counsel. It may hold up the non-potable program since Thom has been involved with it since the beginning. We did not find any aedes albopictus mosquitos during our Zika monitoring over the summer. We will continue monitoring next year as well.</p> <p>Lucus- Sewage Appeals Board update: This year we have had 4 appeals on denied septic permits. Lucas described the process of permitting a septic system and the things that can hamper a new system, such as a high water table, lack of space, or nearby bodies of water. When we deny a septic system the property owner can then choose to go before the appeals board to try to come up with a solution, such as pump and haul, pressure dosed mound systems, or the Waterloo Biofilter systems we have recently approved through the appeals process. Lucas described how the Water Loo system works. He also described the makeup of the appeals board and the appeals process. Vern emphasized that when we look at nonstandard septic treatment in appeals, the system proposed needs to be the same or better than what our sanitary code requires.</p> <p>Vern asked the board members to please e-mail him regarding topics they would like to see discussed at future EHAC meetings. Algal blooms and vapor intrusion are on the list.</p>		
<p>6. Member Comments</p>	<p>Scott McGraw- The county board passed the budget. They are moving forward with the new county courthouse complex. Do we monitor lead levels in drinking water? The city does monitor their water supply. The county monitors wells that are for public use.</p>		

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	<p>Shannan Deater- Lots of construction in the city. They are being more aggressive about lead service removals. Lots of lead testing and service removals are scheduled and they are looking at adding a second team as well.</p> <p>David Pawloski- The Road Commission is gearing up for winter. Trying to work with municipalities when replacing roads to coordinate with utilities replacement.</p> <p>Fran Bell- No Comment</p> <p>Vern Johnson- No Comment</p> <p>Jim Pearson-Portage City Council appointed Meredith Place on the Planning Commission. Congratulations Meredith.</p> <p>Jeff Sorenson- Thanked the Road Commission for road work in Cooper township. They are also looking into a multiyear sewer project on Riverview and Keyes Drive covering almost 1000 homes. The township is looking at turning an old fly ash land fill into a solar energy farm, working on a lease agreement now.</p> <p>Pat Crowley- Finally finished Lexington Green project drain. Primarily serves an industrial area along Sprinkle Road as well as some homes. It's a new drain which happens very rarely anymore. The MS4 program required they update site development rules.</p> <p>Richard Ford- In addition to appointing Meredith Place, they confirmed the new city clerk as Adam Herringa. Adam was the deputy city clerk. Jim Hudson, the current city clerk, is retiring. Also they reserved some funding for a nature preserve.</p> <p>Meredith Place-no comment</p>		

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	<p>Kevin Wordelman- Would like an update on needles disposal through household hazardous waste. Affordable housing is an issue in the urbanized area of Kalamazoo County. Landlords are charging whatever they please and there is not a lot of affordable housing. In some cases a home that maybe shouldn't be habitable are being exploited because of the housing shortage. Bedbugs, lead paint etc aren't always being monitored. May be a good topic for future meeting discussion.</p> <p>Andrew Nieboer- No Comment</p> <p>Jim Pearson announced the next meeting is December 13th and adjourned the meeting.</p>		