

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

October 10, 2018

Members Present: Vern Johnson, Jim Pearson, Meredith Place, Francis Bell, Jeff Sorensen, David Harn, David Pawloski, Claudette Reid, Scott McGraw, Patricia Crowley, Andrew Nieboer, Julie Pioch

Members Absent: Louis Parker III, Mike Leeuw, Shannan Deater

Environmental Health: Aaron Hoogenboom, Lucus Pols, Doug Potter, Renee Scott

Also attending: Dan Wood, David Heywood (MDEQ)

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions			
2. Citizen Comments			
3. Approval of Minutes	Minutes were approved for August 8, 2018		
5. EH Program Updates: PFAS	<p>Vern Johnson- Welcomed Dan Wood to the meeting. Dan's company has been instrumental in helping install filters in Parchment along with the #357 plumbers union, installing 110 filters in 4 days.</p> <p>PFAS EH Updates: Vern spoke about how the staff accomplished their regular duties while responding to the PFAS situation. He explained staff has broken into teams to focus on different areas and types of contamination. Vern mentioned EH will be hiring an intern as well as a FSF supervisor.</p> <p>Doug Potter gave an update on the Parchment PFAS: 32,800 cases of water have been distributed. 207 homes are using the large jugs of Gordon's water. 313 under counter filters have been distributed. The call center when it was active fielded 1600 phone calls in about 5 weeks.</p>		

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	<p>Vern reiterated much of this was a team effort throughout the community, especially with the distribution of bottled water.</p> <p>Lucus Pols gave an update on Richland PFAS: 61 water samples have been taken. 13 of these homes got bottled water. 44 filters have been distributed since the decision was made to supply filters to anyone who has had their water tested. 4 residents have declined filters (they all had non-detect or very low results). 3 have not returned our calls, 6 are waiting for their filters to be delivered, and 1 home is on bottled water because levels were too high for the filter to work. One is a Type II public water supply facility on bottled water, the goal is to hook that property up to municipal water in the near future.</p> <p>Vern described the 4 prong approach used when dealing with PFAS. First we get the home on bottled water so they have a safe water source. Secondly the goal is to get them on an intermediate water source like a filter or Gordon's water. Thirdly is getting them on long term approved water that is not reliant on a filter, such as municipal water. The 4th prong is a health impact study to try and determine long term health effects.</p>		
<p>6. David Harn and David Heywood-PFAS</p>	<p>David Harn spoke about Richland PFAS. They expanded the original study area, and have now started their remedial investigation based on results from this expanded test area. David handed out maps of the study area and buffer area for Richland. Residents in the buffer area will also be offered point of use filters. David described the wells that were going to be put in for testing. They are also reinvestigating potential sources to ensure Production Plated Plastics is the only contamination site.</p> <p>David then spoke about Parchment/Cooper township PFAS. Georgia Pacific contacted the state and asked to</p>		

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	<p>take over and pay for the investigation of the contamination site. MDEQ has handed off that part of the investigation to Georgia Pacific. David provided a map showing the study area for Parchment/Cooper PFAS contamination. They have a pretty good boundary in terms of residential wells and are installing monitoring wells around the study area to help determine groundwater flow and contaminant distribution. There was some discussion regarding the contaminant level criteria that is set and what it is based on, and whether that lifetime exposure risk level is going down.</p> <p>Discussion about dioxins in Allegan/Cooper Township is moved to the December meeting as we will have more information at that time.</p> <p>EHAC terms coming up are Jim Pearson who has agreed to return, Mike Leeuw also agreed to apply for another term, Jeff Sorenson also intends to stay on as township representative, and Julie Pioch has agreed to stay on as MSUE representative.</p>		
7. Member Comments	<p>Scott McGraw- Appreciates conversation about PFAS and feels the government response was outstanding. Thanked Dan Wood for his company's help installing filters.</p> <p>Pat Crowley- Still struggling with high groundwater. Thanked county for groundwater monitoring. We don't have the expertise that we need to address the high groundwater issue.</p> <p>Meredith Place- Thanked everyone for their leadership, appreciates local plumbers and pipefitters union for their help. Portage residents are concerned and she gets many questions regarding PFAS.</p> <p>Andrew Nieboer- Appreciated EH's help during the</p>		

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	<p>cleanup of Bronson Park.</p> <p>David Pawloski- Also having issues with high water levels, with 2 roads closed in Texas township.</p> <p>Julie Pioch- MSUE has a PFAS response team. MSU is letting state agencies take the lead and doing some research behind the scenes. They are ready to try and respond however they can. MSUE puts together a ballot initiative with unbiased resource for people to help them make decisions on ballot proposals.</p> <p>David Harn- Thanked EH for the help, says we have been a strong ally during PFAS response.</p> <p>Claudette Reid- High groundwater is an issue in Portage. Asked the question can high groundwater potentially change the way PFAS moves around.</p> <p>Fran Bell- No Comment</p> <p>Jeff Sorenson- Glad that GP has stepped to the plate to help with contamination, but feels Cooper residents will be concerned that DEQ has turned the study over to a possible contributor. Hopes the DEQ stays very involved in the investigation.</p> <p>Vern Johnson- Responded to concerns brought up during member comments including high groundwater, PFAS county representation on state level, movement of PFAS in groundwater.</p> <p>Jim Pearson: Thanked everyone for their service. Next meeting is December 12th.</p>		