
Absent: Mike Trantham, and Nurse Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by Joe Wyatt

Joe announced that he will be retiring as of October 31, 2006.

Arletta reported on the progress of the Water Well Variance Committee. Committee created due to the lack of uniformity between counties. They are reviewing waiver notices from various counties and the requirements they impose. The committee is requesting comments, they will be working on getting waiver information included in the revisions of the Water Well Rule.

Brad reported on an issue raised by Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department – the definition of a park, and what is the trigger for requiring the issuance of a permit (picnic tables, trash cans, playground equipment).
- Parks are defined as public access properties with any facilities (e.g., picnic table, portable or permanent toilets, trash cans, playground equipment) and should be permitted.
- Permitted facilities that include a playground should not be permitted twice, any problems with playground should be indicated on the same inspection sheet.

Petting zoos were brought up in relation to the need for public health to establish a policy and/or guidelines for personal hygiene. Linda Whaley will check with the Department of Agriculture to determine if they have established any requirements and report back.

Steve reported on the progress of the A-4 Revision Committee. The committee has completed a majority of the necessary revisions. Several program areas still need work and Steve will be getting with Public Health Sanitation (PHS) staff who head up those programs.

Joe provided the following environmental updates: Penny Mangold is Public Health Sanitation’s new sewage assistant based out of the Fairmont District Office. PHS is still interviewing for a Food Sanitation/Training Assistant position, and is waiting on personnel before announcing the new Assistant Director position.

Based on concerns about uniformity, the Public Health Partnership Committee requested that PHS develop a survey for local health department sanitarians to complete. Joe will discuss the survey results at the WV Public Health Association Annual Conference in September.

Bill Toomey discussed Water Well Regulation updates. It was asked of Bill whether distance waivers could be worked into the revisions of the Rule. Source Water Assessment & wellhead Protection (SWAP) staff will be looking at that issue.
- Rule revision and work group information is now available on the SWAP web site:
  - http://www.wvdhhr.org/oehs/eed/swap/rule-revisions.asp
- Some areas of continued contention in the revision process include: inspections (how many and when needed) and testing (bacteriological and nitrate, continued vs. one time). Well
sample data from the eastern panhandle indicates that approximately 43% of wells are testing positive for fecal coliforms.

- Another area of concern is training on both sides, enforcement and drilling. SWAP is studying the feasibility of adding a new position in each district to assist LHDs with spot-checking well completions.
- SWAP is also involved in reviewing design standards and responsibilities for installation of geothermal wells.

Bob Hart and Don Wang discussed public water systems with food establishment permits. The Environmental Engineering Division (EED) realizes that working with LHDs to affect food establishment permits is a very effective means of gaining water system compliance.
- EED wants to make this process as easy as possible for LHDs and is seeking comment about how to do that.
- Linda Whaley expressed her concern about revoking a permit without conducting an inspection. The Food Code provides for a compliance schedule and notice requirements that must be adhered to.
- Stan requested that EED notify LHDs of every notice of violation so that LHDs are aware of the compliance issues and can take steps to ensure that permitted facilities remain in compliance and their permits are not impacted. Email notifications were deemed to be acceptable.
- As part of the process, EED will be copying LHDs on notices sent to public water systems with food establishment permits. The water system notices will indicate that LHDs are being copied so they’ll know LHDs are aware of the situation.

Joe discussed DW-27 Potable Water Haulers. Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department had an issue with a fire department hauling drinking water. Joe and JD Douglas, St. Albans District Engineer, met with the State Fire Marshal’s office.
- The Fire Marshal’s office will be putting out a notice to all fire departments as a reminder that they cannot haul potable water unless they comply with all requirements of DW-27.
- The notice will also address filling of private pools. Fire departments will be urged to provide the homeowner with a notice stating that the water is not potable and must be disinfected before use.
- LHDs will still be responsible for permitting, inspecting, sampling, and reviewing the records of all potable water haulers operating in their county.

Brad discussed DW-18 Boil Water Orders and public facility guidelines. A school in Greenbrier county requested a set of guidelines about how public facilities should proceed with a boil water order is issued.
- PHS is working on the requested guidelines. They will likely result in modifications to DW-18.
- Bob Hart, EED, indicated that Boil Water Orders and Advisories will now be combined and called Boil Water Notices (BWN). Notices are issued primarily by the water system, and then by EED if the system refuses to issue.
- BWNs are required when pressure drops below 20 p.s.i., water is cloudy, and when there is no water in storage tanks.
- Issuance of a BWN does not mean the water is contaminated, it means there is potential for the water to be contaminated.
- Notices are lifted when bacteriological samples return negative.
- Should be reissued every 90 days, if they are necessary for extended periods.
Michelle discussed Threat Preparedness issues. A Spanish version of the public information booklet is still in the development process and being reviewed for proper grammar.

- A training session was held at Cedar Lakes for PHS staff. During the session all District Sanitarians were trained on responding to medical waste incidents. Additionally, each district received a medical waste incident response kit.

- Reviews of LHD grants continues.

- For the future, OEHS has a large list of things to address. The top priorities include: updated food outbreak protocols, map regulated environmental health assets, printing and distribution of nuclear incident first responders guides, and printing and distribution of emergency response flip charts for retail food establishments.

Ryan presented issues from the St. Albans District. There was a question about individual water well distance requirements from a cemetery plot on private property. There is no regulation stating a minimum separation distance, but it is recommended that the distance be 100 feet.

Lock presented issues from the Wheeling District. Brooke County had a question about the sewage regulation requirement for a 20 foot set back from man-made cuts, would a foundation cut through rock or shale be applicable to this requirement. No answer was provided and the issue will be addressed to Rick Hertges, PHS Sewage Program Manager

- Another question pertained to the requirement for homeowners to pass a test. Is this required if the owner only wants to conduct a percolation test? No answer was provided and the issue will be addressed to Rick Hertges, PHS Sewage Program Manager.

Jon presented issues from Fairmont District. There was a question about food establishments with public water systems on-site. This was already addressed.

- There was a question about abating the nuisance of pigeons. No regulation exists though several Sanitarians have taken on the nuisance first hand. Bob Allen, R.S., from Kanawha County has addressed the issue, as has the Berkeley County Health Department within the City of Martinsburg.

Arletta presented issues from Kearneysville. As with all other districts, Sanitarian turn-over continues to be a very critical situation for many LHDs.

Steve had nothing to report from the Sanitarians Association or Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department.

Brad raised the issue of lifeguard waivers. It is highly recommended that LHDs issue a waiver in writing for facilities that do not specifically apply to the exemptions in Section 10.8 of 64CSR16, the Recreational Water Facility Rule.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 17, 2006 in Flatwoods @ 10:30, Room 5.

Meeting adjourned.