

Sanitarians Liaison Meeting – February 17, 2006

Members Present were:

Steve Bayer
Lock Johnson
Arletta Lancaster
Brad Cochran
Joe Wyatt
Stan Walls
Ryan Harbison
Jon Welch

Guests

Bill Toomey
Michelle Cochran

Bill Toomey provided an update on the promulgation of the water well design standards and rules. He advised that the overview committee was going to be the same if the previous members agree to serve. The previous Sanitarian representatives were Keith Lee from Cabell County and Bill Nichols from Mineral County. They will be working on the design standards first then once completed will shift to the rule.

R-11 was reviewed with the group. It is related to the pH of water at bathing beaches. Section 7.4.c. of the Recreational Water Facilities Rule mandates that bathing beaches be closed when the pH falls below 6.5. It has been found that now health consequence results if the pH falls below 6.5. Therefore this policy negates the need to close a bathing beach if the pH falls below 6.5 and also negates the need to test for pH at bathing beaches.

R-12 was also discussed. This policy specifies when and how water samples are to be collected during the swimming season. A series of samples are to be collected within the first 30 days of operation and one additional series shall be collected during the same season. A series includes one from the deep end, the shallow end, and a wading pool or from two separate locations at a bathing beach. The policy also stipulates that bi-weekly chlorine and pH checks shall be throughout the season. (bi-weekly means every other week)

DC-9 relating to autoclave requirements in a tattoo studio that uses only pre-sterilized instruments. An autoclave would not be required if the provisions of the memorandum are met. This policy does not apply to body piercing studios or facilities that do both tattooing and body piercing.

DC-10 relating to autoclave requirements in body piercing studios was discussed. Body piercing studios must have an autoclave on site to qualify for permit even if they use

single service pre-sterilized equipment. This policy establishes the minimum requirements to use pre-sterilized equipment.

M-20 which is a list of the identification numbers for pasteurization plants, single service manufacturers, raw milk bulk tank unit and tanker truck wash stations was distributed and reviewed.

The next item on the agenda was a discussion of whether a policy was needed concerning classroom temperature and the need to dismiss school if the temperature is out of specifications. After much discussion it was decided that each representative would poll their counties and determine if they have any policies related to out of spec temperatures they follow then report back to our next liaison meeting.

Brad Cochran gave an update on the Spas and Hot Tub subcommittee. They will meet again around the first of March and will be reviewing the design standards for home spas and hot tubs. They expect to be able to make recommendations for owners of these facilities in the near future.

Brad Cochran, Steve Bayer, and Stan Walls gave an update on the Fees for permits rule. Some opposition still exists for the rule even though the Senate and House sides have made the same amendments. The amendments include a change in the definition of a mass gathering from 250 to 500 and a phase in of 25% of the current amount charged per year until they reach the maximum amount allowed. This will take 7 years for some to reach the maximum while others may reach it in 4 years provided they are at current maximum levels.

No representative was present for a nursing update.

Steve Bayer gave an update on the Food Safety Meeting at Flatwoods. This is also the Food Advisory committee meeting. The PHSD applied for a received a grant to conduct these meetings to deal with food safety issues. One of the main things they will deal with is the adoption of the 2005 FDA Food Code by reference. Standardization of Sanitarians and the use of gloves were major issues brought to the table.

It was announced that the Fairmont Sewage position has been posted as has the vacancy in the Beckley District Sanitarian when Brad took the General position.

It was also announced that the St. Albans District Position has been filled. Fred Barley accepted that position and began work on the 15th of February.

Michelle Cochran gave some TP updates. She passed around the Disaster Response Protocol Manual – For WV Environmental Health 2005 Version. These will be distributed to all the Sanitarians within the state for their use. They will also receive a ring binder which contains the documents for dealing with emergencies that protocol manual. Michelle also mentioned Haz-mat training which will be required. Some districts are already making provisions to have courses at upcoming in-service meetings. Michelle

also mentioned that vulnerability assessment protocols of food mfg. facilities were being established with the help of Linda Whaley and Bill Warnick of the FDA.

Steve Bayer gave an update on the Mid Year meeting. Josh Snyder resigned from the Executive Committee of the Sanitarians Association. To fill the void Steve will be working on the agenda. The midyear will be from 1 P.M. May 2, through noon on May the 5th A CPO course will be offered for Sanitarians at cost. (\$75 + \$20 registration fee) Steve is asking for everyone to pre-register for the CPO course by emailing him. He will get an email out to all sanitarians in the near future. The second agenda will be announced later but is to include HAACP training and the WV task force by Linda Whaley, Threat Preparedness by Michelle Cochran, Sewage topic by Rick Hertges and Brad (after further discussion, it was reported that Brad will be renewing his CPO certification and would not be a presenter).

Joe reported that the PES exam was going to be given on March 9, 2006 in Charleston. Interested applicants need to let Dave Thornton now by February 21, 2006 so the proper number of exams could be ordered.

Joe also gave an update on Sanitarian Training Class. Things are going well and we are getting 2 new members when class resumes in Morgantown in 2 weeks. One sanitarian has finished her training and is now working without supervision.

District Reports

Stan: Beckley District has lost their regional epi person to Cabell County. The position has yet to be filled. Stan also mentioned we all need to be more professional in our actions and appearance. The committee agreed that it gives the sanitarian profession a better public perception if we conduct ourselves in a professional matter.

Ryan: A question was raised as to the availability of well completion forms being furnished by EED. We are under the impression that EED will continue to provide these forms. Cabell County has stated they are pleased with the way the updates of the procedures manual are now being done. We all agreed that the online format was working well and further updates would be handled in the same way.

Jon: Monongalia County has just hired 2 new sanitarians as Jonathan Hathaway has been reassigned within the Health Department and Brian Bogdan has taken a position with the coal mines. The MCHD has been proactive in educating the public concerning sub-division requirements and will also be doing some PSA on the radio.

Steve: MOVHD has also sent info out concerning sub-divisions as this has become an increasing problem in counties. MOVHD recently held a Public Health and Media Day but only 3 people showed up.

Lock: Marshall County has hired a new sanitarian. Ohio Co. still is having issues with the Clean Indoor Air Regulation. They are still receiving 10-15 calls per week. A question was asked concerning training class be spread out longer. After some discussion, the committee agreed that the BOR requirements, which require the training be completed within one year of hire date, would not make it feasible. Lock mentioned the Tri-state Environmental Health Meeting to be held February 22nd at Cabelas.

Arletta: Standardization of Food Service Inspectors to help with consistency was discussed. The committee reported that as each District Sanitarian is standardized, they will be responsible for standardizing one person in each county health department and then that person could standardize others within their health department. It was reported that Linda Whaley, Clarence Christian and Mark Uraco are the State staff currently standardized and VJ Davis is a county person recently standardized. We understand the FDA will be standardizing one more state person in the future.

Joe reported on the situation concerning forms to be used by the local health departments. They are posted on the WVDHHR Intranet page and Nathan Douglas has been creating most of them in fill-in applications at the request of local health. Each District office has been given their final allotment of printed forms and most have been distributed.

Joe also reported that a training course on Inspections of On-site Sewer Systems, Real Estate Sales and Transfer will be held on April 19-20, 2006 in Morgantown at the on-site training center. Registration is set at \$195.00. More info will be made available in the near future.

At Dave Thornton's request, Joe gave an update on the Interstate Environmental Health Conference to be held in July at St. Simons Island in Georgia. Info can be found on the PHS web page.

Brad reported that DHHR has requested assistance from sanitarians when doing Child Care Center Food Inspections. DHHR's regulations prohibit children under four years of age from having contact with styrofoam due to choking concerns. As we are doing our inspections and we notice styrofoam trays being used in food service applications, please inquire as to the age group using them and if any CCCs are in violation of this to notify the DHHR regional person for that county. They will handle it from that point. It is their requirement not ours. It was discussed that a notice be sent out and Brad has agreed to do it.

Brad also discussed a concern from a District Sanitarian as to the procedure being used by the Lab and LHDs as to giving out water bottles for sampling purposes. After further discussion, Joe agreed to contact Andrea Labik at the Lab to further discuss the issue.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2006 at the Flatwoods DHHR Building, at 10:30.