West Virginia State Environmental Liaison Meeting  
Date: February 3, 2017  
Location: DHHR Coop Facility, Flatwoods, WV

PRESENT

Brad Cochran, Judy Vallandingham, Steve Hinerman, Tom Ong, Pat Murphy, Mike Trantham, Greg Young, Jennifer Beamer-Hutson, Stan Mills, Michelle Cochran, Jimmy Casdorph, Elizabeth Green

GUESTS

Sean Clark, Corey Lambert, Jim Ellars

CALL TO ORDER

Judy Vallandingham called the meeting to order at 10:35 am

MINUTES

Stan Mills moved and Brad Cochran seconded and the minutes were approved as presented.

INTRODUCTIONS


OLD BUSINESS

Environmental Health Electronic Reporting

Stacy King has been creating environmental health quarterly report that local health will use to report every quarter. Report to be created by April. Liz Green has been piloting these forms. Brad Cochran noted that the comment section was to be modified next fiscal year. Stan Mills noted that pre-inspections are not counted in reports. Stan asked if HealthSpace new contract February 15th is paid. Judy responds that there has been no discussion about payment for the next year. Stan asked how many Health Departments are using Environmental Health Electronic Reporting. Judy responded that 77% are using it to some extent. Stan asked if there would ever be a requirement to make it mandatory and Judy said not in the foreseeable future. Stan asked if there would be a discount from HealthSpace since the whole state is using it. Judy said no but administrators get a discounted price.

NEW BUSINESS

Judy stated that there was one question submitted by a Local Health Dept. On the standard form for water tests the box for E-Coli was not being marked “absent” by the lab, while the box for Total
Coliforms was being marked “absent.” Tom Ong responded that Total Coliforms are tested which would include any E-Coli. If no Total Coliform is detected then they don’t test for E-Coli because they know it isn’t present. If Total Coliforms is present then they do additional testing for E-Coli. Brad Cochran suggests that a statement be added to Policy H-12 (Home Loans) that says if a water test is absent for Total Coliforms, then E-Coli is absent as well. Judy Vallandingham also suggests putting the statement on the Home Loan Evaluation form.

**H-25 Draft**

Judy gives an update about a question regarding whether rentals in private residences such as Airbnb would go under the General Sanitation Rule. A legal opinion has been given and the short answer is “no.” Rentals in private residences will not be covered by the General Sanitation Rule. Corey Lambert asked “when does a private residence become an establishment”. Brad responds that residences become a Bed and Breakfast if food prep is involved and part of the package.

**Food Handler Management Courses Online**

There are issues of people taking courses that are not approved by the State. Judy noted that the policy says courses can be accepted if they are ANSI (or other nationally accredited program) approved. Consensus among the group is that it is up to LHD’s which courses to accept as long as they are compliant with the State Policy.

**Health Reports**

Judy reported that all 49 Health Departments submitted 1st quarter Health Reports. Next report is due February 15th.

**SF-4 Temporary Food Guide**

Food guide has been revised and approved. They will be printing 1,000 copies per district to be distributed.

**New Farmers Market Guide**

New farmers’ market guide is being reviewed and will be out soon.

**WV Public Health Association Conference**

Liz Green noted that the WVPHA is talking about having a sewage system installer training to incorporate installers into the Public Health conference. Brad noted that there might be a push to require continuing education for installers in WV.
REPORTS

Fairmont District Report

Steve Hinerman reported that Steve Coleman, a big component of the local Farmer’s Market, had been killed in a car accident. They ran into concerns about canned sauerkraut at the Farmer’s Market in Bridgeport.

Kearneysville District Report

Jennifer Beamer-Hutson noted that there had been some issues with CEH’s not being counted but they worked it out with Dave Thornton and Board of Sanitarians. It was mentioned to send all of the Agenda’s and Sign-in Sheets to Dave Thornton’s state e-mail address. Jennifer had a question of who the LHD’s could refer to since they do not have a district sanitarian. Judy said to contact Judy Ashcraft.

Mid-Ohio Valley Report

Liz Green said they were having issues with Water Buffaloes being hooked up to pitless adaptors of old wells but that it was being taken care of.

St. Albans District Report

Stan Mills noted that there were six new Sanitarians trained this year in the St. Albans district. Kanawha-Charleston Health Department has adopted Voluntary National Retail Food standards.

District Sanitarian Report

No Report

RTIA Division Report

Reported that they are still short one person in the Lead Program. XRF is out of commission but they are getting two new ones. Meth-lab busts have continued to decline in 2016. They are working with Reclaim, company demolishing flooded structures. School inspections for asbestos, radon.

WVU Report

Mike Trantham noted that the stadium and coliseum are finishing concession renovations. Arnold Hall and Arnold Hall apartments are closing. Giant pool complex being built outside of town, not WVU owned. WVU is trying to sell WVIT.

WV Office of Laboratory Services Report

Tom Ong reported that they have an office director now, Sharon Cibrik. They received a call from Greenbrier County upset about a water test bill. They wanted to remind Sanitarians to tell owners about additional lab fees. Greg noted that they are working on a pamphlet for drinking water for private wells.
Environmental Engineering Division Report

Pat Murphy reported that there is a vacancy for the Kearneysville District Office Engineering Supervisor. OEHS and DEP are working with the Berkeley County Health Department to locate wells to do P-phos testing. The DEP will be paying for the testing. The soil at the Air Guard facility tested positive for P-phos. City of Martinsburg to install Carbon filters, paid for by the military. Public water HAB (harmful algae bloom) plan in the works.

West Virginia Association of Sanitarians Report

Brad Cochran stated that Mid-Year Conference would be May 9th-11th. They will have an FDA Temporary Food Establishment Course. E-mail sent out with prerequisites to attend FDA course. Next year is West Virginia’s year to host Interstate Environmental Health Seminar.

Environmental Update

Judy reported that they have posted a position for Infectious Medical Waste Program Manager. Two former employees, Richard Wheeler and Brad Cochran, are back working part-time. There will be additional Zika training in the spring. There are two vacant district sanitarian positions in Wheeling and Kearneysville. Water Well Driller Conference will be April 11th and 12th in Flatwoods. The 2017 Sanitarian training course will be July 31st-November 17th.

Legislative Report

Judy reported that the Legislative Session will begin February 3rd. The Bureau’s position is against legislation allowing micro processing food in the home. They had a meeting with extension, Dept. of Agriculture about certain approved recipes.

Legislative rules: Clandestine Meth Lab Rule 20 CSR4 only rule OEHS has submitted for consideration. Food rule and fees for permit rule were not moved forward. WV Dept. of Agriculture herd-sharing rule was pulled back by the department.

NEXT MEETING

May 19th Flatwoods - 10:30 am

Submitted by: Jimmy Casdorph

Date: April 6, 2017