West Virginia State Environmental Liaison Meeting  
Date: May 18, 2018  
Location: DHHR COOP Facility, Flatwoods, WV

PRESENT  
Judy Vallandingham, Jennifer Hutson, Elizabeth Green, Jim Ellars, Greg Young, J.J. Rose, Lock Johnson, Steve Hinerman, Judy Ashcraft

GUESTS  
Heather Stanley, Todd Cooper, Bill Toomey

CALL TO ORDER  
Judy Vallandingham called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

PREVIOUS MINUTES  
Jennifer Hutson moved, and Steve Hinerman seconded, minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented.

INTRODUCTIONS  
Judy Vallandingham introduced Heather Stanley, Wheeling District Milk Sanitarian, Bill Toomey (EED), and Todd Cooper (EED)

PRESENTATION  
Bill Toomey and Todd Cooper gave updates on the CDC Grant project looking at private water wells in WV. Grant is titled “West Virginia Private Water Well Safety Program Through CDC”:  
- Partners include USGS, WVDEP  
- Purpose is to look at private water wells in WV, of which there are approximately 700,000.  
- Five-year grant in its 3rd year  
- Worked first two years in southern WV  
  - Spent in recon, getting participants to agree to sampling, sampling, and field work  
  - EED staff was able to get a good spread of sampling points during this time  
  - Sampling points located mainly in coal areas  
  - Approximately 60 wells sampled for about 52 different analytes  
    - BacT, Mg, Fe, Hg  
    - Got a few spikes, mostly methane and volatile metals, well water quality generally good  
  - Have “West Virginia water”, ie, spring water or more commonly, outfall of water from mines  
    - Outfall tends to have a greater possibility of testing positive for coliforms  
  - USGS and EED compiling results for report, should be available soon  
  - Fewer wells in the southern portion of WV, more municipal services because  
    - Poor groundwater quality  
  
- Currently working in about 10 counties in north central WV  
  - Tend to be more open to sampling  
  - More wells than in southern WV  

EED is also in process of developing an app where private citizens can go online and enter test results and get suggestions for treatment if needed. EED hopes to have this site up and running this year. Also, will allow info on general description of site. This may be info to present to sanitarians at quarterly in-service meetings.
OLD BUSINESS

Environmental Health Electronic Reporting Update – Judy Vallandingham
- We have talked about creating a user manual, may create a subcommittee of Liaison Committee to begin working on this and report back to Committee. Any volunteers?
- Contract was renewed until Jan 2019
  - In Nov 2018, will contact LHDs to get names of all who need to be on contract, Amy Adkins (Center For LH) would like to see everyone included
- If someone needs to be added prior to 2019, not a problem, have vacancies
- Bill T. asked when can EHERS be expanded to allow for entry of private water well data
  - Will likely not occur prior to renewing contract in 2020, but yes, it’s doable
- Steve H. asked about entering animal bites into EHERS, some LHDs enter only into WVEDDS, others into both
  - Judy V. – most only into WVEDDS
  - Jennifer H. – Need to pick one database
    - Judy V. – use WVEDDS for now, can add EHERS later
    - Steve H. asked if State can let LHDs know to enter bites into WVEDDS first. Can then add to EHERS

Rise WV – Judy Vallandingham
- Ongoing project in conjunction with Department of Commerce
- Deals with issues in homes arising from flooding in 2016
- Will evaluate asbestos
- Most will need septic systems
  - A few onsite systems installed, most will be HAU’s
    - JJ asked if still require maintenance contracts, etc. Yes

Home Loan Evaluation Procedure/Forms (H-12 & SG-55A) Update – Judy Vallandingham
- Recommendations were made to address the differences in Procedure H-12 (Guidelines for Evaluating & Approving Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Systems for Home Loan Applications) and Form SG-55A (Procedures to Follow When an evaluation of an Individual Water Supply and/or Sewage Disposal System is Requested).
- If a different lab than OLS is used (WVDA lab in Moorefield or private lab), fee charged may be different.
- Suggestion made to provide SG-55A as WORD document to LHDs, allowing them to change wording if necessary.

NEW BUSINESS

Recreational Water Facilities Guidance (R-4 and R-5) for Local Health Departments – Judy Vallandingham
Please review and submit comments. Will incorporate Mike T.’s comments into appropriate procedure.

Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB) Plan – Judy Vallandingham
- Plan is updated and posted on website, mirrors Ohio plan. Updates include:
  - Signage has changed
  - Fishing advisory added
  - Chart showing action points (when advisory or warning)
  - Mailbox available where public can enter info about HABs
- LHDs encourage to review applicable portions of Plan
Farmers Market Rule – Judy Vallandingham

- WVDA has draft rule
  - JJ R. – How do we handle in meantime, permits end June 8, but 64CSR102 is not effective after that date? Issue one permit for June 8 – 30, 2018. 2nd permit for July 1 – June 30, 2019
- As of June 9, 2018, if there is no retail permit issued, no inspection needed

JJ and Steve H. – Is Retail Permit needed? Yes, if PHS food sold (inc. meats, eggs, dairy). Retail Food Permit obtained from LHD in each county food is sold in

- Stakeholders meeting to be held May 30th, LHDs will be included
- Comments made by June 23rd
- Out for public comment June 27th
- Sampling is addressed in legislation. Whether or not to permit will depend on type of food being sampled. LHDs investigate complaints (adulterated, mislabeled) in regard to sampling only after WVAG is consulted.
  - Jennifer H. asked if complaint came in, wouldn’t it be best to forward complaint on to Ag?
  - Judy V. replied that Environmental Health involved because of the Communicable Disease rule

- Permit fees will return to LHD
- WVAG has different list of allowable products including fermented foods, condiments, acidified foods, canned tomatoes and tomato sauces
- Ag will require some specifics be addressed in micro processing training
- Ag will charge for their inspection and permit
- If online sales go interstate, it’s up to the receiving state to regulate
- Ag redid the Farmers Market Guide

DISTRICT AND SECTION REPORTS

Beckley District - JJ Rose

- Harm reduction activity has begun, will take some time to complete
- Need info about how Farmers Markets will be regulated

Fairmont District - Steve Hinerman

- Getting lots of questions about campgrounds and UIC (need to be submitted to DEP)
- RWFs having trouble finding qualified, certified life guards. Any online courses?

Wheeling District – Lock Johnson

- Again, clarification requested about Farmers Markets
- Ohio County has “consignment” Farmers Market similar to Wild Ramp in Huntington
- Monitoring for HABs in the Ohio River
- Have had an increase in people tattooing out of their homes

Kearneysville District

- No Report

St. Albans District

- No report
MOVHD – Liz Green
- Campgrounds
  - 26 in various stages of development
  - If campground has turned water on without proper documentation, water companies have been turning water off
  - MOVHD spoke to hardware companies so they would know what to carry as far as backflow prevention
- Second sanitarian going through standardization
- Joe Faller out
- Chuck Mapes back part time

Kanawha-Charleston Health Department - Stan Mills
- Seeing uptick in Hep A cases

District Sanitarians - Jennifer Hutson
- Extend invitation to Liaison Committee meetings to all District Sanitarians, who can pass that invite on to all LHD sanitarians
- If well site is large, may need to be permitted as labor camp under GS
- Not enough people to fill environmental health positions, anything we can do to encourage recruitment and retention?
  - Judy V. – LHDs and WVAS need to communicate shortages to legislature

WVU
- Mike Trantham has had hip replacement, will be retiring, no date set

OEHS Readiness Program
- Readiness Coordinator to be hired

WV OLS – Greg Young
- Have gotten quite a few samples to test for HABs from DEP
  - Counts coming in fairly high
- Looking into getting test strips for quick results in the field
  - As counts get close to threshold, will have OLS test
- Developing procedure letter to attach to Total Coliform results for lending institutions
  - Sanitarians know there is no E. coli if no Total Coliforms, but lending institutions do not
- Some Banks are requiring nitrate
  - OLS can’t check just for nitrates because the test OLS uses has nitrate/nitrite in them and they cannot be separated.
    - Will probably develop a letter explaining this as well
  - Private water wells have no standards for nitrates

RTIA Division – No Report
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Environmental Engineering Division
Bill T., Todd C., Jim E.,
- Still trying to work with private water well database to enter info from completion reports
  - At present, ~ 4,046 well data entered. This is just a snippet of total number of wells
  - Would like good locational data, this has improved over the last year or so, need to keep adding data
    - USGS records for private water wells will eventually be hard to get, would definitely be a benefit if sanitarians could enter this into database.

Jennifer B. – asked if it would be helpful to have both sanitarians and well drillers enter data?
Judy V. – Can enter this info into EHERS now, could make site public facing so drillers could enter info
Bill T. – some drillers not comfortable enough with computers, as drillers get younger, more likely to access database on computer

Jim Ellars, EED, discussed HABs (Harmful Algal Blooms), as well as other EED updates
- There have already been two HABs this year
  - Moorefield (Hardy County)
  - Fort Ashby Lake (Mineral County)
  - Unusual because weather has been cool, HABs more common in warm weather
- Not all HABs harmful, OLS very helpful in determining if it is. There is also the possibility of using detection strips to determine if HAB is toxic or not
- If HAB impacts public water, engineering identifies alternate source
- Blooms do not become toxic until algae dies, therefore public water service may discontinue pre-chlorination
- There is ongoing monitoring of surface spills
  - Any time there is a possible harmful/harmful spill, DEP receives report and generates email to other interested parties (ie, OEHS) about the spill
  - Majority of spills do not impact surface water plants
  - Most are sewage overflow, hydrocarbons (fuel) also occur
  - When we receive report of spill, it’s forwarded on to the appropriate Engineering District Office personnel
    - At this time, District Office staff forwards info on to water operators about 75% of the time
- Question re: surface spill notification process from JJ Rose
  - What would it take to report spills to LHD?
  - Jim E. says LHDs can be added to the notification lists
- Seeing shortages of certified and trained water operators
  - Attempting to increase pool of certified water operators

Environmental Report – Judy V.
- Hep A outbreak Update – associated cases in CA, MI, IN, KY, VA, TN
  - KCHD has 100 cases, 6 food handlers (3 at chain restaurants, 3 not) so far. They will be doing a press release on Hep A incubation, symptoms, etc
  - CHHD has 1 food handler
  - Most cases occurring in Non-IV/IV use drug users, homeless also affected

Steve H. asked if Hep A vaccines mandatory for food handlers? No, but coworkers do need vaccinated
- Confirmed case of Campylobacter, apparently from raw milk obtained from a herd share
  - Not aware that any herd shares were operating in WV
• Jamboree 2019 – planning began in March
  o ~ 50,000 (scouts and staff) on site next year with 2 dining halls, 3 base camp stores, 3 retail outlets planned
  o Will be using precooked product for TCS foods
  o Projected to have 10 prepackaged snack/drinks stands, 6 – 7 outside vendors, and about 15 international food houses
  o Will have mosquito surveillance and provide dunks again
  o No news on status of scuba pods
• SB 463 Milk (to WVDA) rule
  o Workgroup supposed to be formed, may reintroduce next year
• HB 4478 – Distribute excess food to students. Policy must come from BOE and will have to meet all federal and state standards
• Hoping to move 64CSR17 through legislature next year
• 64CSR43 – Food Manufacturing Rule – update CFR
• Presentations on DIDE’s revised Foodborne Outbreak Investigation manual have been made in all but 2 DIDE Districts
• OEHS has 5 vacant positions
  o Sewage Program Assistant
  o Infectious Medical Waste Inspector, Southern District
  o District Sanitarian – Kearneysville District
  o Secretary in Central Office
  o District Sanitarian/State Milk Rating Officer – Beckley District
• State assisting in Jefferson County until they get more staff on board – Judy V.
• Tentative agenda for 2018 Sanitarian Training class set – Judy V.

Next Liaison Committee Meeting date scheduled for August 3, 2018 @ WVRETI

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM

Submitted by: Judith Ashcraft
Date: June 1, 2018