West Virginia State Environmental Liaison Meeting  
Date: May 16, 2014  
Location: DHHR Coop Facility, Flatwoods, WV

PRESENT

Brad Cochran, Judy Vallandingham, Steve Hinerman, Tom Ong, JD Douglas, Rich Lucas, Lock Johnson, Mike Trantham, Denny Taketa, Dr. Don Thimsen, Liz Greene

GUESTS

CALL TO ORDER

Brad Cochran called the meeting to order at 10:27am.

MINUTES

Mike Trantham moved and Lock Johnson seconded and the minutes were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

Environmental Health Electronic Reporting

The members would like a report at the next meeting on which LHD’s are using the program and to what extent.

Brad indicated that OEHS was going to allocate money to pay for the next year of the contract with HealthSpace, but funding after that will be determined at a later date.

Brad also told the members that OEHS has eight additional tablet computers and eight additional printers in which the LHD’s can request if they hire additional staff.

Report on Go-To-Meeting and other activities on the project by Judy Vallandingham:

- Phase III training took place at the end of March – representatives from 22 LHD’s attended. Trainings were held in Martinsburg, Wheeling, Flatwoods, Beckley and Charleston.
- Go-To-Meetings continue every 2 weeks
- Billing Training - Go-To-Meeting held
- Other on-line trainings to be held in the future
- Land Development fields have been added
- Developers still working on the field to calculate square footage for the system per bedroom
- Also field to be added for entering square footage of system when using chambers
- Print Forms for Land Development module are still in process
- Additional modifications to Land Development will come in the future, we want to get the forms completed first
- Monthly report can now be printed if all time is entered into the database.
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Next forms water well permit and inspection form
Animal Encounters DIDE staff has access to the program and the animal encounter module for each LHD, HealthSpace has formulated a report to capture data from all LHD’s that are entering data for DIDE staff.

**Class V Injection Well**

Brad informed the group that OEHS had asked WVDEP for guidance on this matter over a year ago and there has been no response for WVDEP on this issue. OEHS will continue to seek guidance and clarification on when a Class V Injection Well permit will be required or other methods of compliance.

Discussion by the members regarding the WVDEP inconsistency in their requirements for requiring a Class V injection well permit. Steve Hinerman indicated the Harrison County is not issuing STS permits until the LHD gets a definitive answer from WVDEP on their requirement for a Class V Injection permit on any STS that is not for a single family dwelling.
Brad asks if this is causing an issue with issuing the permit with in the time frames in the Sewage Rule. Steve indicated that he did not of the time frames being an issue. Mike Trantham indicated that WVU was also having inconsistencies with WVDEP requiring permits for projects at WVU.
Liz indicated that she had received information from Connie Anderson with WVDEP on this issue. Brad indicated that OEHS wants a memo or SOP from DEP for consistency. Lock Johnson indicated that in the last two years WVDEP had require an ground water protection plan for campgrounds with 6 units or less. Rich added that WVDEP also requires the campground owner to give each renter a brochure indicated that no chemicals can be used in the sewer system of the camper.

**New Environmental Health Procedures**

The procedures were sent out to all sanitarians and OEHS has received no comments or concerns on the procedures.

The Farmer’s Market procedure was for consistency and clarification. The legislature has voiced concerns about consistency in interpreting the rules from county to county. There has been legislation that proposes a $25.00 fee for food establishment vendors for a statewide permit. Brad will be attending legislative interims on this subject.

Steve stated that the vendors are angry when health department staff visit there booth, the farmer’s market vendors don’t want the health department there. Brad added that he hopes that consistency will help with this issue.

Lock asks about food handler’s cards for vendors at farmer’s market.

Brad said that legislation regarding food handler’s cards was introduced in the legislature last year, but there was no movement of this bill. He indicated that he looks for there to be legislation introduced again this year.

Lock indicated that mobile and temporary vendors must have a food establishment in each county.
Brad indicated that the difference is that the Farmer’s Markets have a lobby working for them.
Denny asked if there were going to be any changes to the “exempt” non-profit facilities. Brad indicated that exemption is in the code (Chapter 16).

Brad added that a legal interpretation in determining what constitutes an event for temporary food – is that the “season” is the event if the “season” has 14 dates or less then the event can be considered a temporary event.

**NEW BUSINESS**

In-Service Meetings – reduce the number to 2-3 per year – brought up by District Sanitarian Brad said that in his opinion that 2 would not be adequate for giving the LHD sanitarians the opportunity to get the 15 hours of CEH’s required each year. Issues are getting speakers and agenda items. Also the use of several staff from Central Office at one in-service meeting.

Brad added that the committee may want to consider three district in-services a year, but this will require an agenda with more hours and may require sanitarians look to other training opportunities to get the required CEH’s.

The State Board of Sanitarians has the option to reject hours on the agenda and have rejected hours in the past i.e. rejected the tour of Weston Asylum which was 2 hours.

If the committee decides on 3 times per year then we would need to have cooperation from the counties.

Steve suggested that the representatives take this back to their inservice districts to get feedback.

Denny added that Kearneysville district had an inservice meeting at Mineral County site about 3 times per year due to the location.

Brad added that Fairmont district has the inservice meetings in different counties.

Denny added that sanitarians do not rely on inservice meetings to get their hours.

Brad added that the State Board of Sanitarian does count other Public Health related training for hours toward required CEH’s.

Discussion of group decided to bring this up for discussion at the next district inservice meeting. It was brought up that inservice agendas and other training opportunities can be submitted to the State Board of Sanitarians for pre-approval.
REPORTS

District Sanitarian Report

Rich Lucas has had a lot of questions about backflow prevention at campground where the water connection has been installed in a “pit”. Discussion by the group that backflow prevention would be required, but what type needs to be determined on a case by case basis.

RTIA Division Report

Dr. Thimse RTIA is working on grant applications for the upcoming year. One grant if they get it would be doing bio-monitoring with OLS.

Mid-Ohio Valley Report

Liz Green reported that Mid-Ohio Valley has 1 job opening for a sanitarian.

Mid-Ohio Valley is promulgating a regulation for tanning salons.

Mid-Ohio has had some staff changes and are currently looking for an Executive Director.

Mid-Ohio Valley has a lot of campgrounds opening in their counties due to the gas well drilling industry.

WVU Report

Mike inquired if swimming pools were an issue during the water crisis; Brad indicated that swimming pools never really became an issue.

Mike is going with Morgantown Utility Board on their backflow preventer survey, he indicated that he is learning a lot, but MUB does not have a consistent program. Mike is making sure that the new buildings constructed at WVU have backflow prevention installed at the time of construction.

Also making sure there are grease traps on all the new building being built on campus in case there is a need for a grease trap at some future date. Several new food establishments being built on campus.

WV Office of Laboratory Services Report

Tom reported that they are still looking for a lab director. The lab passed the FDA inspection. And the lab has a new somatic cell count machine.

Tom indicated that some counties are still having trouble getting water samples to the lab in the required time frames by using USPS. He suggests that the LHDs use UPS for water samples. Discussion on using a private lab for samples, it was pointed out that the lab would need to be certified as a water lab and the LHD would have to get water sample bottles from the lab that was going to do the analysis. It was pointed out that the LHD can raise the fee for a water sample to cover the increased shipping costs.
Environmental Engineering Division Report

JD Douglas reported that due to the January Elk River Chemical Spill a bill was passed in the Legislature regarding source water protection for public water systems EED is currently working out the details of how this will be done.

The bill regarding tank monitoring will affect all public water systems with water tanks.

No additional monies were made available for these items.

LHD’s will be involved the public hearings for the Source Water Protection Plan and will be kept in the loop on the tank monitoring program.

Beckley District Report – No Report

Fairmont District Report

Steve Hinerman had inquiry about why the question is on the 188-A - Site is not suitable to install alternative soil absorption systems, such as LPP, peat, contour, etc., because. He added that he feels that we are pushing individuals toward certain types of systems.

Brad indicated that WVDEP is looking to limit waste load discharge.

Brad added that WVDEP is looking at making changes to the general permit for surface discharging septic systems again.

Saint Albans District Report – No report

West Virginia Association of Sanitarians Report

Liz Greene reported that the Sanitarian agenda for the September WVPHA Conference is finalized and posted on the WVPHA website and the WVAS website.

Wheeling District Report

Lock reported that the campgrounds in the district are not as full as they once were.

The labor camps at the gas well sites are not being permitted or inspected, because they are gone before the LHD receives a copy of the holding tank permit.

Lock reported that the district had a rabid raccoon that had been in contact with a dog and the dog is under strict confinement for 6 months.

Discussion by members about the WVDEP e-permitting process, comments made that the e-permitting process is difficult.

New food service establishment opening in Ohio County.
Kearneysville District Report

Denny Taketa reported that a city pool in his district wanted to fill the city pool with water from a creek. Brad said that it is not prohibited to use non-potable water to fill a pool; the water would have to meet the parameters required by the Recreational Water Facility Rule prior to opening the pool to the public.

Mike indicated that after the pool was filled the CPO would need to make sure that the pool water was shocked test and the filters would have to be backwashed numerous times to make sure all of any contaminate were washed from the filters.

Brad added that the make-up water for the pool would have to be from a potable water source.

Mike said that the quality of the water source be the difference to how much treatment the water would be required to meet the RWF parameters.

Environmental Update

Personnel changes at PHS:

Jessica Douglas is the new Food Program Manager, but is currently on maternity leave.

Wayne Powell is the new Food Assistant; he started with PHS on May 1st.

PHS has interviewed for the Sewage Assistant position and hopes to have a person in that position soon.

PHS has posted the General Sanitation Program Manager position.

Mike Waugh is leaving PHS; his last day will be June 19th.

Sanitarian Training Class

Starts August 11th

Contact Judy Ashcraft if you have anyone who needs to or wants to attend the sanitarian class.

Currently have 2-3 new sanitarian trainees and 4-5 retuning sanitarian trainees

Additional Training Opportunities

Center for Threat Preparedness Conference June 2014
Northern Panhandle Public Health Conference June 2014
Interstate Environmental Health Seminar July 16-18, 2014 – Savannah, GA
West Virginia Public Health Association Conference – September 2014
Legislative Report

Raw Milk Sales – this bill got some movement last year, the bill was about raw milk sales and cow sharing,

2 Bills were introduced regarding Food Handlers cards – these bills may show up again in the next Legislative session.

General Election in November may see the House of Delegates change controlling parties, the number of Democrats and the number of Republican members is very similar.

64 CSR 3 Public Water Rule – if submitted in time may come up in the next legislative session.

No plans for any other PHS Rules in next year’s Legislative session.

Sewage Advisory Board is taking suggestion for changes to both sewage rules. There will be a working group (stakeholders group) to work on the rule before submission to the Legislature.

Brad stated that he will keep everyone updated on any issues with Farmers Markets.

Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING — August 22, 2014 at the OEHS COOP facility in Flatwoods

Submitted by: Judy Vallandingham
Date: July 15, 2014