

West Virginia State Environmental Liaison Meeting

Date: February 28, 2014

Location: Davis Square Building, Charleston, WV

PRESENT

Brad Cochran, Denny Taketa, Judy Ashcraft, , JJ Rose, Tom Ong, Greg Young, JD Douglas, Lock Johnson, Rich Lucas, , Rick Hertges, Dr. Don Thimsen

GUESTS

Bill Toomey, Scott Rodeheaver, Brian Carr, John Bosley... DEP, Water Use Section

CALL TO ORDER

Brad Cochran called the meeting to order at 10:34 am.

MINUTES

Denny Taketa moved and Lock Johnson seconded to accept the minutes as read. Some discussion was held regarding Port-a-Johns (see under old business) and the minutes were approved as presented.

PRESENTATION: WVDHHR INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION-DEP

Bill Toomey introduced Brian Carr, DEP, Program Manager of the Water Use Section. Mr. Carr spoke to the group about the Water Resources Protection and Management Act which was passed in March, 2008. The DEP's Water Use Section was created in July of 2008 to fulfill the requirements of the Act. The Water Use Section subsequently developed the West Virginia Water Resources Management Plan (WVWRMP) and submitted it in November of 2013. The goal of this Plan is to look at water use in West Virginia by tracking the amount of water use by Large Quantity Users (LQU), calculating the amount of water in streams and lakes, estimating the quantity of water held in reserve in mine pools, and conducting groundwater surveys to better define West Virginia's aquifers.

Mr. Carr presented the WVWRMP Mapping Tool website and briefly discussed some of the information available through its use. A vital piece of data needed to improve the Tool's effectiveness in mapping WV aquifers is obtaining accurate GPS measurements for the location and depth for private and non-private groundwater wells. Mr. Carr requested that WV Sanitarians take accurate measurements of GPS lat/long coordinates as good locational data on wells is critical to the success of the Program.

Questions were asked about how accurate the locational measurements need to be and how can that accuracy be improved. The general consensus was that the Local Health Departments (LHD) would be more willing to provide consistent data if there was compensation provided to them, similar to the compensation provided in the State's Sewage Program.

There was discussion about if the locational measurements were being included on the Water Well Completion Report (SW-258). While the majority of the LHDs submit the report, some do not, and many of the reports are missing the latitude and longitude. There have been issues with the well driller not submitting the report to the LHDs. If this occurs, the suggestion was made that the LHDs contact the driller in writing and request the completion report.

There were questions about what kind of wells information can be gathered from. The types of wells include abandoned wells, old wells, and wells checked during home owner evaluations. If the State (OEHS) is notified by the LHD when a commercial or industrial well is being installed, data could be gathered from them as well.

A request was made for the Liaison Committee attendees to take discussion concerning Brian Carr's presentation on Water Use and subsequent discussion back to the LHDs for further review.

Contact Information for Brian Carr:

- Phone: 304-926-0499, xt 1757
- brian.a.carr@wv.gov

OLD BUSINESS

Environmental Health Electronic Reporting Project

Brad gave the following report:

- Meeting planned with Rick Hertges, Anna Marie Taves, Michael Kinder, and Phase I&II LHDs to finalize the fields for Land Development – Sewage Module. Questions about field calculation and additional fields that are need for complete information (i.e. distances from property lines, and calculation square footage of septic system with a reduction) were asked. Suggestions from Cabell-Huntington HD and Monongalia County HD to be incorporated into the Land Development Module. Finalize the Sewage Permit and Sewage Final and the Water Well permit.
- There was a meeting with Cabell-Huntington LHD, Rick Hertges, and Judy Vallandingham (December 11, 2013) to establish criteria for imputing data into the Land Development Module so that there is consistency with all LHDs. All of the LHDs are included at the next Go-To-Meeting scheduled for January 8, 2013 to discuss this information. This meeting was very informative meeting and we made good strides in the land development module. Thanks to Cabell- Huntington LHD staff for their time and interest in this project.

- Agendas are being formulated for the Phase I& II go to meetings – all participants are encouraged to submit agenda items and items that have been posted in the support forum are being addressed at these meetings.
- PHS staff is working with HealthSpace staff to make sure all of the items that were in the original RFQ are in process and will be completed by the end of the contract period.
- LHDs are sharing print forms they created in the HealthSpace System with all the LHDs participating in the project.
- Phase III group received training on January 29th on how to set up their own print forms.
- Invitations to both go-to-meetings are being sent to all LHDs, so that anyone who wants to participate has the opportunity to do so.
- On-site Face-to-Face Training is scheduled for the week of March 24-28, 2014. Dates and locations for each district will be finalized and sent by email next week. All LHDs will be receiving an invitation to the Face to Face trainings. Suggestions for training locations in each district would be welcomed. Training will begin in the Kearneysville District, due to Anna Marie's travel plans.
- Working with HealthSpace staff to make sure the monthly reports are compiling properly. Several LHDs are assisting in this process by recording all their time in their databases.
- HealthSpace has completed a draft report needed to pull all animal encounter data for use by the DIDE staff. Judy Vallandingham met with DIDE staff to go over the report, will be adding field for victim date of birth. DIDE is anticipating moving all animal encounter data to HealthSpace database.

The question was asked why WVEDSS is being replaced by Animal Encounters in HealthSpace. This question can best be answered by DIDE.

Port-a-Johns

Further discussion was held in regard to a question about the use of Port-a-Johns at a business. Brad stated that Port-a-Johns are not approved for residences, but that some counties do allow businesses to use them.

It was agreed that an investigation on each situation needs to be performed on a case by case basis and that generally Port-a-Johns can not be disallowed.

It was asked if any work was being done on the database for Septic Installers with the hope that the database could be changed so the entire list of Installers did not have to be accessed every time. No work is being done at this time.

WW-13 Grease Traps/Interceptors

A discussion was held to address a request made by Monongalia County Health Department for more information regarding Procedure WW-13. WW-13 was developed because the existing policy on Grease Traps (GT) was outdated and vague. The proposed procedure is based on the 2009 International Plumbing Code (IPC), the 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), and on research into how other jurisdictions handle grease traps.

NOTE: Any new construction will require an external GT. No internal GTs will be allowed in new construction

Some of the questions raised included:

1. Does an existing facility have to install an external GT if ownership has changed?

Answer: Existing external GT has to comply with WW-13 only if major renovation or new construction occurs.

2. Will this policy supersede 64CSR47?

Answer: 64CSR47 will supersede WW-13.

3. Do handsinks need to discharge into GTs?

Answer: No decision reached. If handsinks were to discharge to a grease trap only those in food prep/utensil washing areas would be considered.

4. How do local PSD regulations fit into the policy?

Answer: If local PSDs have policies in place regarding GTs, use those policies as long as they are more stringent than WW-13.

5. What are the health dangers of grease?

Answer: Dangers of not using GTs include plumbing issues, septic field issues, odors, and PSD problems.

6. When the new sewage rule is developed, will there be something in place addressing requirements for small mom and pop establishments?

Answer: Smaller mom and pop establishments are, for the most part, already in existence. If they are being built or undergoing major renovation, they will have to comply with WW-13.

7. Should the word discharge in the third paragraph be changed to solids?
No decision reached.
8. Does the word “larger” in the 4th paragraph need to be better defined?
No decision reached.

Brad Cochran, Rick Hertges, and Judy Vallandingham have developed a Gravity Grease Interceptor Sizing Data Sheet, SS-195. The Sheet was presented to the group for discussion and review.

The request was made asking the District Representatives to review the Procedure and Data Sheet and send it out into the Districts for comment. Any comments shall relayed back to the authors by the end of March, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

WW-10 Guidelines for Approval of Subdivisions Served by Individual On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems

Brad reviewed changes made to Procedure WW-10. Brad stated he was not able to send the revision to the Liaison Committee for review because an issue that could have had Legislative implications required a quick response and felt that this was the best compromise to avoid a possible rules change.

A question regarding WW-10 arose from a situation where a property owner wanted to designate a portion of their property for recreational purposes only (i.e. hunting, etc.). An exemption statement was added to the Subdivision Approval Application Form (ES-76) that says “The property referenced in this application to be divided for sale or gift is not intended for development requiring health department approval. The buyer has been informed that no soils or site evaluation has been performed on the property and that there is no proven or identified location where an onsite (septic) system can be installed. Should development of the property be proposed in the future, health department approval must be obtained prior to construction”.

The exemption needs to be read, signed, and dated by the property owner before the Application Form will be considered.

F-16 Food Permits at Farmers’ Markets

F-16 was developed in response to a request from the Farmers’ Market Association (FMA) for a policy that created more consistency county to county in permitting vendors at farmers’ markets. The Procedure clarifies the types of operational permits that may or may not be required for the vendors and is to be used for guidance only.

Three situations are reviewed. They are:

1. Food items being offered are non-potentially hazardous. In this case, an operational permit would not be required.
2. Products not requiring an operational permit and not requiring registration with the LHD.
3. Products requiring a Retail Operational Permit.

The FMA also requested a policy be developed addressing food handler cards. This is a LHD issue.

A question was raised about requirements for allergen labeling. WV Department of Agriculture has jurisdiction over this, and Policy F-7 addresses it.

Procedure F-16 will be sent to all LHDs for review and comments.

REPORTS

Beckley District Report

JJ Rose had nothing to report.

Kearneysville District Report

Denny Taketa had nothing to report

Environmental Engineering Report

JD Douglas stated there had been no questions regarding DW-17 (see minutes from Liaison Committee Meeting minutes, November 15, 2013). JJ Rose asked how the January, 2014 chemical spill situation was progressing. JD said the public still does not trust the water. Brad stated the situation was winding down, but is not over.

Office of Laboratory Services Report

Tom Ong had nothing to report.

Greg Young reported the Lab can not test for iron at this time, but the request for equipment repair has gotten through purchasing. The lab should be able to test for iron by April or May of 2014. Greg also reported that the Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometer went down during the chemical spill, but staff cleaned it and it is back in service. JD commented that he had been told how pleased everyone was that the GC Mass Spec was returned so quickly to service.

Lock Johnson asked if the water service goes down during an emergency and water from a water buffalo is used, who checks the disinfection levels. This is the LHDs' responsibility according to DW-27.

RTIA Division Report

Dr. Thimsen had nothing to report

District Sanitarian Report

Rich Lucas, Wheeling District Sanitarian, said the In-Service at MOVHD in March/April would be covering MHC.

Environmental Update

Brad reported the following personnel items:

- January, 2014 - Walt Ivey was named as the OEHS Office Director.
- Jessica Douglas was named as the Food Program Manager, effective February 1, 2014.
- The General Sanitation Program Manager position is vacant at this time. A request to fill this position has been made, however, because of the hiring freeze, it is uncertain when it will be filled. Brad Cochran, Judy Vallandingham, and Jessica Douglas are working with the District Sanitarians until the GS position is filled.
- Effective February 15, 2014 Penny Mangold was named Fairmont District Sanitarian. Her old position will be filled in the future.
- Karol Wallingford has been named as the Northern Area Asbestos Inspector.
- Interviews have been conducted for Assistant Food Program Manager.
- Tony Turner has been appointed as Director of RTIA.
- Interviews are being planned for applicants for the Readiness Coordinator position.

Brad also reported the following:

- The 2014 Sanitarian Training Class schedule had been posted on the website. The first day of class is August 11, 2014
- The Mid-Year Conference will be held at Cedar Lakes April 29, 2014 through May 1, 2014.
- West Virginia is hosting the FDA Central Milk Regional Seminar. It will be held at Oglebay Resort, Wheeling, WV on May 12 - 15, 2014.
- IEHS is being held in Savannah, Georgia July 16-18, 2014.
- The Water Well Conference and Trade Show will be held April 6-7, 2014 at the Flatwoods Days Inn. The Conference will include classes specifically held for Sanitarians.
- The Public Health Conference will be held at Oglebay Resort, Wheeling, WV Sept. 17-19, 2014.

Legislative Session Report

Brad stated Saturday, March 8, 2014 is the Legislature's last day for this session. He said there had been no motion on bills affecting LHDs with the exception of one. SB 373, Water Resources Protection Bill, which addresses public safety issues during chemical spills, passed the Senate side of the Legislature and was sent to the House. The House has added amendments to the bill, and if it passes on the House side, will go back to the Senate for consideration. It is possible the delegates may want to hold over to a special session in order to continue work on SB 373.

Meeting was adjourned

NEXT MEETING-May 16th at the DHHR Coop Facility in Flatwoods

Submitted by Judy Ashcraft

Date: March 5, 2014