West Virginia State Environmental Liaison Meeting
Date: May 29, 2015
Location: DHHR Coop Facility, Flatwoods, WV

PRESENT

Brad Cochran, Judy Vallandingham, Steve Hinerman, Rich Lucas, Lock Johnson, Mike Trantham, JJ Rose, Greg Young, Denny Taketa, Dr. Don Thimsen, Warren Von Dollen, Jimmy Casdorph

GUESTS

CALL TO ORDER

Brad Cochran called the meeting to order at 10:35 am.

MINUTES

Mike Trantham moved and Denny Taketa seconded and the minutes were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

Environmental Health Electronic Reporting

Judy Vallandingham gave the update:
Farmers Market Vendor Permit will be hard coded so when you use the program code FMV the Farmers Market Vendor Permit will be generated, because of the new rule HealthSpace will have this ready by June 12th.
All Local Health Departments need to have their PAC to make sure that the users in the when staff leave/switch positions and are no longer going to be using the program. The PAC can call me or HealthSpace support if there are questions.
I am currently working with Suzanne Wilson to formulate a report for DIDE so she can assess any trends statewide on foodborne illness complaints. This capability is an opportunity that BPH has never had before.

SOP w/DEP re: Class V Injection Well Requirements/Permits

Brad reported that Rick has met with Connie Anderson, DEP and that no decision has been made at DEP regarding the SOP for Class V Injection Well permits.

Members of the committee discussed the inconsistency of the permitting process and the time frames for this process. The group also discussed the process for waste load allocations and the time frames for this process.

Comments were also made to the fact that DEP’s web portal for submitting applications is confusing and cumbersome.
Brad indicated that he will get with Rick to see if they can get information out to sanitarians regarding the Class V Injection Well permits and see if they can get information about the inconsistent and lengthy time frames to get a permit or the get an answer if a permit will be required.

**Drug Rehabilitation Facilities**

Brad discussed the question that was posed at a previous Liaison meeting regarding the drug rehabilitation facilities do need a general sanitation permit from the local health department if the facility does not have a permit or is registered with Office of Facilities Licensure and Certification (OFLAC) and may also require a food establishment permit. There has been pushback from the facilities regarding this issue.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Food Handlers Card Policy**

Brad went over F-17 Minimum Guidelines for Food Handler Training. He stated that the new Food Handler Card code sections go in to effect on June 12, 2015.

There was a discussion of the group regarding issuing Food Handlers Cards to volunteers. Some members of the committee stated that their particular LHD does not charge volunteers a fee and would only be issuing a “county” food handlers cards to volunteers.

**Farmers Market Vendor Permit**

Brad discussed the new guidelines for the “Farmers Market Vendor Permits”; he stated that the Farmers Market Vendor permit would replace the retail food permit for any vendor selling phf/tcs food at the Farmers Market. He encouraged the committee members to refer to the Farmers Market Vendor guide for specific foods.

Brad informed the committee that Food Program staff is in the process of revising the Farmers Market Vendor Guide to reflect the changes in current legislation.

The members were informed that any LHD that issues a statewide Farmers Market Vendor Permit must inform the other counties that the vendor listed on their application.

JJ Rose again stressed to the committee that LHDs need to be consistent regarding the way they permit facilities.

Brad told the committee that the F-16 Farmers Market Vendor Permit will be completed and posted on the website by June 12, 2015.

Brad told the committee that PHS is still working with Dept. of AG to add the information on rabbits that are going to be allowed for sale at the Farmers Market this will be added to the Farmers Market guide when information is available.

Brad told the committee that any county can suspend a “statewide “Farmers Market Permits issued by another county. Jimmy ask if the statewide permit can be modified after it is issued – like add a county, Brad indicated that the permit may be modified after it is issued, the LHD would need to inform the additional county(s).
DOP Rule Revision

There was a discussion by the local health department members of the committee regarding the proposed rule. JJ encouraged all representatives to make your opinions during the public comment period.

REPORTS

District Sanitarian Report

No report

RTIA Division Report

Dr. Thimsen gave a report on the activities of the RTIA Division.

WVU Report

Mike reported that the food establishments at the football stadium will be renovated at the end of the 2015 season. The new baseball stadium was opened spring 2015. There is also a lot of new construction on campus. He has been providing contractors with the new guidelines for grease traps.

WV Office of Laboratory Services Report

Greg informed the group that the collection information for samples is being revised. The lab has obtained a new system for testing organics and will begin using this system soon. If a sample needs to be analyzed under the chain of custody then the sample needs to be hand delivered to the lab to preserve the chain of custody. Samples that need to be maintained at a certain temperature need also to be hand delivered, because when samples are sent via USPS, UPS, FED Ex, etc. the samples do not arrive at the lab at the proper temperature.

OLS may be proposing a change to their fees for service, by bundling tests together for one fee, still in the discussion phase.

Brad mentioned that the fee for analysis and handling for a Bacti sample is $20.00.

Beckley District Report

JJ discussed the submission of the program plan and the submission of fees for service for approval and with included in the program plan.

Fairmont District Report

Steve led a discussion regarding the anode wells (cathodic wells) that these wells are being drilled in areas that are extremely hard to access. Brad indicated that the LHD use the DW-51. Jimmy said that he is working covering this issue at WVPHA conference.
OEHS Readiness Program Report

No report

Saint Albans District Report.

Jimmy reported that since he is no longer at a LHD there will be a new representative.

Wheeling District Report

Lock commented that the next group that may ask for a statewide permit is mobile food vendors.

The LHDs in the Wheeling District are seeing pushback from the video lottery for installing grease traps. There was a discussion by the committee of the problems with installation of grease traps.

Kearneysville District Report

No report

Environmental Update

Brad informed the committee members that the PHS Fairmont District Office has moved to the new WV DHHR building in Fairmont, and the EED Philippi staff will also be moving to this location in June 2015. He provided the members with the new address for the Fairmont District Office and indicated the phone numbers will remain the same for the PHS office and the Philippi District office phones will be forwarded to the Fairmont Office.

He informed the committee that Jimmy Casdorph is the new District Sanitarian in the Fairmont District beginning May 1, 2015. Mark Uraco, Wheeling, District will be moving to a position with EED. Rich Lucas will assume all of the District Sanitarian duties for the Wheeling District.

We will be training a person and a backup for the Milk Survey Officer Duties and hope to have this person in trained by the end of the year.

Brad informed the committee that Sanitarian Training Class will begin on August 3rd in Charleston, WV. A change to the schedule due to several factors is that Recreational Water Facilities course will be held at the beginning of week 2. On-Site Sewage – week 3 will again be held at Cedar Lakes Conference Center in conjunction with the Environmental Training Center.

Just a reminder that the Interstate Environmental Health Conference will be held at Cumberland Falls State Park in Corbin, KY, July 29-31, 2015. JJ ask when WV will be hosting again, Brad said in 2018.

WHPHA Annual Conference will be held September 23 – 25, 2015. The entire conference agenda will be posted on the WVPHA website and the Thursday agenda for Sanitarians will be posted on the WVASH website. The agenda for the Sanitarians will include FDA Imports, Ice Machine – how they work, Farm to School and Cathodic Wells.
Legislative Report

Brad informed the committee that the bill to allow cow sharing (Senate Bill 30) did pass both the Senate and House, but was vetoed by Governor Tomlin, but he expects to see legislation regarding this issue or the sale of raw milk again in the 2016 session.

Senate Bill 273 passed this will allow craft breweries to sell growlers and requires the ABCA to involve BPH in the guidance for sanitation in the rule. He will provide more information as soon as it becomes available.

Brad also discussed some other bills that may be of interest to the committee and that there may be other legislation introduced in 2016 that will impact local health departments.

PHS will have 2 rules introduced in 2016 session: Infectious Medical Waste Rule 64 CSR 56 and a rule for Farmers Market Vendor Permits – this year’s legislation required that PHS promulgate a rule. PHS will not be introducing the Food Establishment Rule this year.

NEXT MEETING — August 28, 2015 at the OEHS COOP facility in Flatwoods

Submitted by: Judy Vallandingham
Date: August 24, 2015