West Virginia State Environmental Liaison Meeting  
Date: August 28, 2015  
Location: DHHR Coop Facility, Flatwoods, WV

PRESENT

Brad Cochran, Amy Atkins, Rich Lucas, Lock Johnson, Liz Green, Denny Taketa, J.D. Douglas, Warren Von Dollen, Jimmy Casdorph, Dr. Don Thimsen

GUESTS

No attendance

CALL TO ORDER

Brad Cochran called the meeting to order at 10:37 am.

MINUTES

Denny Taketa moved and Jimmy Casdorph seconded and the minutes were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ELECTRONIC REPORTING

Brad Cochran gave the update:

“Go To Meetings” every two weeks, the format for the meetings are going to change: first part will be for questions and answers regarding the Health Space Program and the second part will be for new users with special issues, please submit topics to Judy Vallandingham, meeting dates will be on Wednesdays. Additional training for the program can be done, also contact Judy Vallandingham. Approximately 30-35 counties are using Health Space completely or partially at this time.

Health Space continued: Amy Atkins, Local Health Associate Director, looking at the distribution of local funding to health departments for Health Promotion, Environmental Health, and Communicable Disease Prevention, “accountability,” also collecting from local health departments the annual program plans. They are working to establish performance measures for funds that go out, “are the goals being met”. Collecting information from the 49 Health Departments to see how they are using Health Space and how to improve the use. Legislators want to know how the funding is being spent. We are looking at how to enter information into Health Space for some of the health departments who are not currently using the system. The program plans from health departments are approved, but looking at requesting additional information from local health departments throughout the year to improve the system.

Brad Cochran mentioned that the grant for Health Space for maintenance has expired since last year, OEHS supported Health Space for this year, but Health Departments are strongly encouraged to add Health Space cost into their future budgets. Also OEHS staff members will be using Health Space in the
near future for programs that the system can be used for. The billing cycle tool is useful with Health Space to save time for health departments.

Liz Green mentioned that using the computers for food inspections take longer, MOV staff is currently using Health Space and sometimes have been conducting food inspections on paper then entering into the system later.

Jim Casdorph stated that the billing system of the program saves a lot of time, which could offset time for inspections. Also once data is entered into the system, the data will be stored for future use, which will also save time in the long run.

**SOP W/DEP RE: CLASS V INJECTION WELL REQUIREMENTS/PERMITS**

Brad reported that progress is being made. Rick and Brad will be meeting with DEP on September 28th to discuss the permitting process and how to improve the program. Communication has improved with DEP regarding the permitting process. Hopefully after the meeting a policy will be established.

Denny mentioned about closed businesses that maybe closed for a period of time and the effect on the Class V injection well requirements for that facility.

**LAB OLS FORMS**

Brad mentioned there were no comments on the revised lab forms, but if you would like to make any comments, please contact Greg Young with OLS.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**SG 61 MONTHLY REPORT (SEE ALSO ATTACHMENT)**

Monthly activity report SG-61 that was revised in June of 2001 was handed out by Brad Cochran for suggestions for modifications. Some county health departments have not been submitting their reports. There are only 5 county health departments who currently sending in their monthly reports on a routine basis. Health Space can generate the monthly reports for almost all the programs if times are entered in and out for each program, except for some non-sanitarian duties. Brad also discussed that each agency/department can forward one activity report for the agency and not send in each individual sanitary report. Jim Casdorph mentioned about adding emails/electronic communications with telephone time (#10). Lock Johnson also mentioned that test result phone calls can take up some time because of all the questions some individuals have regarding their results. Brad mentioned that program plans only telling projections of how many inspections shall be done by the agency, the monthly reports would tell legislatures what is actually being done. Monthly reports at this time are not differentiating between a routine and re-inspections for food establishments, but Health Space can show the different inspections as long as correctly entered. Brad mentioned that we need monthly reports from all health departments to show how funding is being spent, if requested. JD Douglas mentioned a suggestion of adding 15 residential to #58 under the water section. Warren mentioned that a pool he inspects had a pool half indoor and half outdoor and what time should he enter that under as indoor or outdoor. Brad suggested that the coding could be changed to “recreational water facilities” to cover all pool/spa facilities to simplify. The committee as a whole decided to leave as is.
Liz Green mentioned that they inspect tanning beds and they have been putting it under “special projects” #23. Brad suggested that would probably work, but will look at adding a category for this program or redefine number #23 to add tanning beds. Jim Casdorph mentioned farmer markets to be added under the food section and Brad suggested of adding it under #27 and naming it farmers market.

Brad also mentioned that #38 mobile home parks will be changed to manufactured home communities. Brad mentioned that he would send out the request to sanitarian leads regarding them sending out their department’s monthly activity composite report. Changes being made will be submitted to the Committee for review.

**LIQUOR FEES FOR FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS**

Brad discussed that he had been getting a lot of questions how to apply the liquor fee for food establishments. Video lottery when first established were required to have a food permit and to justify the time to inspect these facilities the committee established a separate fee for facilities that offered only onsite hard liquor consumption, not for facilities that only offer beer, wine, and non-intoxicating beverages or retail liquor operations. The maximum fee that can be charged is one-hundred dollars ($100).

**GROWLER SANITIZATION**

Brad mentioned to the committee that growler beer operations have been coming up for discussion regarding how they could be handled. Growler operations fill up take home bottles at the operation using tube-like tap filler that enters into the bottle as it is being filled. New legislation passed this year, Senate Bill #273, related to the craft beer industry. The concern is the growlers, (take home container), that is filled at the facility and how they are handled. The legislation is requiring that the growlers be clean and sanitized before filling and the dispensing equipment be cleaned and sanitized. A rule (ABCA), with Health department consultation, is to be established on how to handle cleaning and sanitizing of these growlers operations. We are looking at minimum requirements such as a two-compartment or three-compartment sink for cleaning and sanitizing the growlers and also looking at filling tubes being single use for each patron. There is no air gap to fill these containers. Growler issue of cleaning and sanitizing will be discussed further at next meeting and also checking with the industry on their ideas of cleaning and sanitizing the growlers and filling equipment since there is no air gap of the tubing used to fill the containers. Lock Johnson mentioned about acid type sanitizer and test strips as a possibility.

**SEWER QUESTION**

Denny Taketa brought up a question regarding when a new public sewer system comes into a community and a questioned was asked who enforces the abandonment of the old septic tanks and also are they forced to plumb into the public system. Brad said he would ask for a more detailed legal advice and would have an answer at a later time. There is a provision in WV Code that can compel connection related to PSDs.

**SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PLANS**

Brad mentioned about some sanitarians attending meetings regarding Senate Bill 373 and Senate Bill 423 on the subject of the source water protection plans and the health departments’ roles. The local health departments’ roles are to be part of the protection team but are not required to attend the meetings if they choose to. The local health departments should know their local roles and their utilities that are in
their district and the facilities that may influence these systems. JD Douglas said that these systems should be in contact with you to participate in the planning, but also there is specific language that states the confidentiality of these plans and possible jail time if leaked.

**REPORTS**

**District Sanitarian Report**
No report

**RTIA Division Report**
Dr. Thimsen gave a report on the activities of the RTIA Division. *(See attachment)*

**WVU Report**
Not present.

**WV Office of Laboratory Services Report**
Not present.

**Beckley District Report**
No report

**Fairmont District Report**
Not present

**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 and Stan Mills could not make it, but Brad suggested that Jimmy come along with Stan at next meeting.

**Wheeling District Report**
No report

**Kearneysville District Report**
Denny Taketa asked for ideas on how to handle a person who installed a sewage system without a permit. Denny stated that they make them go through the paper work to get the permit, but wanted to know how to prevent this from happening over again and not just give the person a slap on the wrist. Brad mentioned about talking to the prosecutor regarding filing on the homeowner and go through magistrate to help prevent future homeowners from committing the same violations. It was mentioned the
homeowner who installed the system will need to get a permit, take the homeowners test, somehow prove the system that was installed by code or install a new system and Liz mentioned also since a new dwelling was installed on the same property with an existing dwelling on it that would fall under the subdivision requirements.

Environmental Engineering Report

JD Douglas mentioned about the blue green algae on the local streams and rivers and how the growth is expanding, due to the low water flow, sunlight, warm temperatures, and nutrients. The toxins that are formed are staying in the cell as long as they stay happy and alive. The toxin is released if the cells are disrupted and have mass die off, but so far not seeing this.

Lock Johnson mentioned about the dragon boat race that is a fund raiser on the Ohio River in Wheeling and they have provided them with information regarding the blue green algae. ORSANCO is testing currently of the Ohio River of the levels of the toxins on the river.

Brad mentioned that Judy Ashcraft sent out notifications to health departments along the river regarding the blue green algae concerns to have consistent information out there.

Environmental Update

Brad mentioned that the new Fairmont District is now in full operation. PHS and EED are now combined. The old Fairmont phone numbers will stay the same and EED staff will have new extensions. Philippi number is to be rolled over to Fairmont for approximately six months. Some staffing changes Ryan Pethtel has went to RTIA and Mark Uraco has went to EED in the Wheeling District Office, but at this time still the Milk Rating Officer for the State. Jarod Dellinger is in training to be the new Milk Rating Officer with Suzette Dellinger as back up. Milk Sanitarian position is posted for the Fairmont District. Beckley Office is also looking for an additional Milk Sanitarian. Judy Ashcraft or Judy Vallandingham should be contacted for the sanitary training classes or if you need additional CEHs. The Annual Public Health Conference is coming up on September 23rd-25th at Olgebay Park, Wheeling, WV.

Legislative Report

Infectious Medical Waste rule has been revised since last time in 1999. The new farmers market vendors rule, both rules have been through public comment and will be coming up in the legislative sessions. The food establishment rule had been withdrawn and will be moved forward to the 2017 legislative session. Raw milk Legislation that passed and was vetoed last year is sure to be on the 2016 agenda.

NEXT MEETING — first choice date November 13th, 2015 alternative date the 6th of November at the OEHS COOP facility in Flatwoods
Submitted by: Rich Lucas, Wheeling District Sanitarian
Date: September 9, 2015
2015 RTIA ACTIVITIES:
August 28, 2015

MONITORING DETECTED “METH” LABS
- 81 meth labs detected by WV State Police, during April through June of 2015
- total of 147 meth labs detected from 1 January through June of 2015

MONITORING ENVIRONMENTAL RADIATION
- 788 individual X-ray machines were inspected in 218 facilities so far in 2015.
- radiation-measurements from natural radon gas in WV homes is recorded, future goals are to electronically store all radon measurements

MONITORING ENVIRONMENTAL LEAD
- 8 home environments of children with high blood lead levels were tested for environmental lead levels during the 2nd quarter of 2015
- total of 20 of these home-lead inspections were performed in 2015

ASBESTOS MONITORING
- in 2015, monitoring asbestos involved 77 AHERA Inspections (asbestos-focused inspections in schools and public structures), 37 asbestos-related complaint investigations, 254 reviews for renewal of an Asbestos Handling License