

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH, CITY OF OAKWOOD, STATE OF OHIO, 235

The meeting was conducted at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 in the conference room at the city building, 30 Park Avenue.

In attendance were:

Dr. David Denka, D.O., Chair  
Mrs. Diane Scott, R.N., CHPN, Member  
Dr. Elizabeth Maimon, DVM, M.P.H., Member  
Dr. Bill Coyne, D.D.S., Member  
Dr. Richard Garrison, M.D., Health Commissioner  
Mr. Norbert Klopsch, Administrator/City Manager  
Mr. Paul Scaglione, R.S., Sanitarian

Also attending the meeting were Oakwood Water Plant Superintendent Gary Dursch and Mr. Tom Hut M.S., R.S., Supervisor, Bureau of Special Services in the Office of Environmental Health, from Public Health Dayton-Montgomery County.

Excused absent was Dr. Sallie Wilson, D.O., Vice Chair.

Dr. Denka opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. and led a discussion on the following agenda items.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: Dr. Denka asked that the minutes from the January 24, 2017 meeting be reviewed. There being no requested edits, motion to approve by Dr. Maimon; second by Mrs. Scott. Upon viva voce vote, motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Report from Chair: No report.

Report from Sanitarian: No report.

Report from Health Commissioner: No Report.

Report from Board Administrator/City Manager: Mr. Klopsch provided a report on a new Ohio EPA (OEPA) requirement regarding lead and drinking water. In June 2016, the Ohio General Assembly passed House Bill 512, establishing new requirements governing lead and copper mapping and test reporting for Public Water Systems. One part of the new law addresses reporting and notification requirements on water test results. A second part of the law mandates that all Public Water Systems maintain data and develop maps that reflect where potential and actual lead-containing components are believed to exist in water distribution systems. This includes the public (city) and private (property owner) portions of the system. Mr. Klopsch explained how water service lines were built prior to 1986, lead was used throughout our nation as a component in underground pipes and plumbing fixtures, and it was commonly used as solder for copper pipes. If a home was built prior to 1986, some of the plumbing components likely contain lead. This included use of lead and galvanized piping, and water fixtures containing various amounts of lead.

All Public Water Systems were required to submit the mapping information to the OEPA by March 9, 2017. This information is now available on the OEPA website. The maps are intended to show: 1) areas of the water systems that are known or likely to contain lead service lines; and 2) the homes or other buildings served by the system that may contain lead piping, solder, or fixtures. The maps are based on the best information available for each respective water system. Depending on the age of a community and its water system infrastructure, the detail and accuracy of this mapping information can vary. Regardless of the community, the information provides a general understanding of the water piping and fixtures. The construction, manufacture and/or installation date is typically used as the primary indicator of possible lead content.

The United States EPA established the first testing requirements for lead in drinking water in 1992, by publishing the Lead and Copper Rule. The Rule specifies how utilities must manage their water systems to ensure that lead (and copper) in drinking water is kept below thresholds beyond which



236 may cause harm to human health. In compliance with the Rule, the OEPA established the Ohio Lead and Copper Monitoring Program. This program has been in place since 1992 and all Public Water Systems, including Oakwood, must comply with it. Oakwood has completed 12 rounds of water testing under the program, over a period of 25 years, and has never exceeded the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile "Action Levels" that would have required public notification, additional water testing and possibly some corrosion control water treatment. Mr. Dursch mentioned that even when an individual water sample test result is above the 15 parts per billion "Action Level", it is difficult to make any conclusion about the water. History has shown that a single reading above the limit has been preceded by several readings below the limit, and/or follow-up readings below the limit. There are many variables to consider before drawing conclusions and justifying further action.

The most common cause of lead ingestion is exposure to old lead-based paint. It can also come from drinking water if it leaches from old pipes, solder, or fixtures, but this is rare. If lead is detected in water, it is usually caused by older plumbing components used on private property, and not the public water system. Studies have shown that lead service lines can build up a layer of lead dioxide on the interior pipe walls that acts as a barrier between the lead pipe and the water, minimizing the amount of lead that leaches from the pipe. Four specific study reports for the Oakwood water system confirm this condition. The degree to which leaching occurs is primarily a function of water chemistry. Short of evidence to suggest that lead leaching is a problem, and given the enormous cost of replacing lead containing piping and fixtures, the prescribed approach to addressing this issue has been to monitor the water and to replace piping and fixtures as they fail.


Dr. Denka asked if there was any evidence of lead exposure in the area. Mr. Hut responded that the incidents of elevated blood lead levels in Montgomery County are lower than the other large urban areas in Ohio and that the most common source of lead ingestion found in Montgomery County is exposure to lead-based paint. This is also the case throughout Ohio and nationally. The evidence suggests that there is no problem in Montgomery County with exposure to lead in drinking water.

Mr. Klopsch concluded his report by mentioning that the city provides information about lead in drinking water in the Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report that is publicized annually in the June/July Oakwood Scene Newsletter. That newsletter is mailed to every Oakwood property. Mr. Klopsch added that the city is prepared to respond to citizen questions about lead exposure as they may arise. Dr. Garrison commented that the city has done a good job of organizing all of the facts and data on this matter and is prepared to educate the public as needed.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

There being no other business, Dr. Denka adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

  
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Chair

  
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Secretary

  
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Commissioner of Health