

**Florida Department of Health Research Review and Advisory Committee
Division of Disease Control and Health Protection
Bureau of Environmental Health - Onsite Sewage Programs Section**

Approved Minutes of the Meeting held at the Southwood Office Complex, Tallahassee, FL
December 11, 2012

In attendance:

- **Committee Members and Alternates:**

- In person:**

- Bill Melton (member, Consumer)

- Via teleconference:**

- Quentin (Bob) Beitel (alternate, Real Estate Profession)
 - Wayne (W.B.) Crotty (member, Septic Tank Industry)
 - Paul Davis (member, Division of Environmental Health)
 - Bob Himschoot (alternate, Septic Tank Industry)
 - Kriss Kaye (alternate, Home Building Industry)
 - Carl Ludecke (vice-chairman, member, Home Building Industry)
 - Eanix Poole (alternate, Consumer)
 - John Schert (member, State University System)
 - Clay Tappan (chairman, member, Professional Engineer)

- Absent members and alternates:**

- Taylor Brown (alternate, Division of Environmental Health)
 - Craig Diamond (member, Environmental Interest Group)
 - John Dryden (alternate, State University System)
 - Nancy Gallinaro (alternate, Local Government)
 - Tom Higginbotham (alternate, Division of Environmental Health)
 - Geoff Luebkekmann (member, Restaurant Industry)
 - Susan McKinley (alternate, Restaurant Industry)
 - Jim Peters (alternate, Professional Engineer)
 - David Richardson (member, Local Government)

- **Visitors:**

- Via teleconference:**

- Damann Anderson (Hazen and Sawyer)
 - Alice Berkley (Orange County Commissioner Brummer's office)
 - Patti Sanzone
 - Shanin Speas-Frost
 - Pam Tucker

- **Department of Health (DOH), Onsite Sewage Program Section:**

- In person:**

- Eberhard Roeder, Professional Engineer
 - Elke Ursin, Environmental Health Program Consultant

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1. **Introductions** – Seven out of ten groups were present, representing a quorum. The groups that were not represented were Local Governments, Environmental Interest group, and the Restaurant Industry. Chairman Tappan called the meeting to order shortly after 1 p.m. The agenda was outlined, introductions were made, and some housekeeping issues were discussed. Since the last meeting David Richardson has moved from the alternate position to the member position and Nancy Gallinaro is the new alternate. Groups on the RRAC that have terms expiring in January of 2013 are the Real Estate Professionals, the Professional Engineers, and the Home Building Industry. Letters were sent to the appointing agencies requesting nominations in late November.
2. **Review of previous meeting minutes** – The minutes of the November 14, 2012 meeting were reviewed.

Motion by Carl Ludecke, seconded by Quentin Beitel, to approve the minutes as submitted. All were in favor and none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

3. **Nitrogen Study Update** – Elke Ursin led the discussion on the draft February 2013 Legislative status report on Phase II and Phase III of the nitrogen reduction strategies study. The format for the report is similar to what has been submitted in the past and has been updated to reflect current information and added clarification regarding the funding status of the project. Bob Himschoot asked whether the balance to complete the project was sent by the department in a legislative budget request and Elke Ursin stated that in October of 2012 it was included in the draft, but she would need to find out whether it was included in the final version that went out. She stated that she would send an email with a response to this once she found out. Bob Himschoot stated that it was critical to know who was going to spearhead this request for funding with the legislature. Elke Ursin stated that in the past this has not been included in the Department's legislative budget request, and in the past the interest groups have spearheaded the funding. Elke Ursin will research DOH's role in requesting the funding and will let the group know. The draft report was edited during the meeting. The revised report will be sent to the RRAC with tracked changes showing the changes that were made.

Motion by Bill Melton, seconded by Quentin Beitel, to move forward with the report making the changes discussed during the meeting, route the report internally within DOH, and send a copy of the report to the RRAC. All were in favor and none opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

Elke Ursin stated that Hazen and Sawyer submitted an abstract to the 2013 Florida Water Resources Conference. If accepted, the paper and presentation will provide a project overview and some preliminary results.

4. **Updates on Other Projects**

- a) **EPA Non-Point Source Pollution Grant on the Performance and Management of Advanced OSTDS** – Elke Ursin gave an update on the status of the project. Staff submitted an abstract to present the results of the study at the 2013 Florida Water

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Resources Conference, which will be held on April 28th through May 1st in Orlando Florida. A proposed timeline for the final report writing was presented.

b) Florida Wastewater Inventory – Elke Ursin presented on two potential avenues for continuation of the wastewater inventory. One is in coordination with Palm Beach County Water Resources to develop a statewide process for updating the inventory. The other is a disaster preparedness grant to work on a water and wastewater inventory, allowing for collaboration between several Bureau of Environmental Health program areas (onsite sewage, drinking water, geographic mapping and assessment, and disaster preparedness). Staff will meet in the next week to develop a project plan.

5. **Other Business** – Staff are working on updating the annual business plan for the research and engineering sections.
6. **Public Comment** – The public were allowed to comment throughout the meeting.
7. **Closing Comments, Next Meeting, and Adjournment** – The next RRAC meeting will be determined in the future to discuss the draft final report on the grant looking at the performance of advanced systems as well as to have a discussion on the process forward with research priorities. Bill Melton made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.