

Minutes: March 7, 2005

**Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council
Maryland Department of Environment, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, MD**

Members Present: Cecilia T. Davoli, Maureen Edwards, Douglas D. Bradham, Benjamin A. Gitterman, Richard Eskin (Phil Heard), Judith Rozie-Battle, David Jett, Mary Ellen Setting, Vicki Taliaferro, Lorne Garretson. **Staff:** Mary Johnson.

Guest: Jim Lewis, MDE, Ed Crow, MDA, Aurora Amora, MACCHE, Betty Dabney, MDE.

Review & Approval of Minutes: January 3, 2005:

The Minutes were reviewed with no changes to be made.

Douglas D. Bradham, Dr. PH, University of MD- School of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine. Presentation: "*Cost Effectiveness Analysis in Environmental Health Applications - An Introduction or Primer*".

Dr. Bradham, gave a presentation to the Council that included the following sub-topics:

- Evaluating an environmental health innovation,
- Discussion of types of cost analyses in health care,
- Content of economic analyses in healthcare,
- Prevention effectiveness methods,
- Comparison of cost-effectiveness and benefit-to-cost analysis,
- Methods and techniques,
- Matrix of cost-effectiveness and cost analysis decisions,
- Generic decision tree processes
- Application to the example of lead poisoning

Dr. Bradham's presentation was one he offered to give at the children's environmental health conference planned for the fall. After his presentation, the Council gave the following input, suggestions and comments+

- Utilities children's example, e.g. lead,
- Add children's health into the equation,
- Add examples of the cost analysis,
- Develop slides on sensitivity analysis,
- Add economic components of the presentation,
- Where can this information be used? Research? Policy?
- Use this presentation in the fall conference with modification for the intended audience,
- Revise the diagrams to make them simpler to understand,
- Use case studies.

(See handout for more details.)

Regulation Review -COMAR 26.12.01.01 Proposed Regulation on Radiation Control:

Dr. Edwards asked for volunteers to review this regulations, and Cecilia T. Davoli, Benjamin Gitterman, and Phil Heard will report on this at the next meeting.

Dr. Edwards also explained to the new members the process of reviewing regulations and how members are chosen to review regulations.

Legislation Session-

Dr. Edwards reviewed several bills that had been introduced regarding lead, asthma, environmental tobacco smoke, flame-retardants and mercury.

Dr. Edwards also informed that group that Senator Jacobs was supporting a new task force on Indoor-Air in Schools, which they would address issues like mold and other pollutants in schools. Members who wanted input to this bill were asked to discuss them with Cecilia Davoli and Lorne Garrettson who re representing the Maryland Chapter of the America Academy of Pediatrics. Given the time frame of the hearing, there would not be enough time of the Council to submit testimony.

Updates-

Council Seat Appointments- Mary Johnson reported that the last name submitted was not considered because the individual was a state employee and could not represent the parent/guardian Governor appointed position.

Annual Report 2004- The report has been submitted for final approval. Once it has been approved, the Council will get copies.

Indicator Project- Currently the work group is working with the EPA Project Manager on finalizing some of the areas. Several indicators still need to be finalized. Dr. Edwards stated that the Council would be asked to help with the narrative sections of the report.

Announcements

SHIP Conference is coming in August. Cecilia T. Davoli, Jim Crow and Dr. Edwards are presenting at this year's conference on lead issues and a day regarding general issues of environmental health in schools is also planned. (See attach handout for more details.)

At the end of May Council Meeting, there will be an update on lead issues presented by Barbara Conrad, RN of the MDE Lead Program.

The topic in July will be on Indoor Air in Schools.

Guest Comments- None.

Meeting Adjourned.