

Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered
Chronic Illness
(RSA 126: A: 73)
June 1, 2018
Minutes of the Meeting

- I. Hearing was called to order at 10:07 with the introduction of Jay Chiles a film producer.
 - a. Minutes of the meeting from 4/13 were distributed.
 - i. Rep Pearson reported that HB 1356 was passed by both Houses and been sent to the Governor.
 - b. Dr. Bush and Jackson will attend the next meeting.
 - c. Thanks to Mike Dumond for his service
 - d. Motion to accept minutes made and seconded.
- II. Chairman Pearson has asked that Dr. Sherman's report be circulated to the commission.
 - a. House Bill 1592 re: arsenic and cancer has passed both houses and gone to the Governor. This is a successful outcome of the Commission.
 - b. Sen. Fuller-Clark suggested that the Commission send a letter to our Congressional delegation requesting that the EPA release its data on risks in NH.
- III. James Martin of DES joined us to discuss his role as Public Information Officer for DES.
 - a. Rep Salloway posed a detailed set of questions about how information gets distributed.
 - i. The NH media market is not segmented. Press releases go out to TV, radio and joint media.
 - a. Posts go to DES's webpage.
 - b. There is an email list for those who request it. And a Twitter account, these are about 6,000 hits
 - c. Chairman Pearson asked about out of state TV.
 1. Mr. Martin noted that these are minimal.
 - d. Sen Fuller-Clark asked how media are promoted.
 1. Chairman Pearson suggested an op-ed in the Union Leader to promote email & Twitter contacts
 - e. Chairman Pearson asked how to protect about panic.
 1. Mr. Martin offered examples.
 - ii. One was the St. Gobain situation in southern NH this led to a very large ground water investigation.
 - iii. Rep Messmer asked for further details.
 - iv. There has been direct communication with residents.
 - f. DES puts our monthly municipal eco letter. Drinking/groundwater puts out a quarterly newsletter.

- g. Rep Salloway asked about direct communication with residents.
 - i Mr. Marting chronicled DES efforts to disseminate information.
 - ii. Sen Fuller Clark asked if resources were adequate for Incident Command System
- IV. Jake Lion, Director of Public Information for DHHS
 - a. He described DHHS Incident Management Model.
 - 1. He described a blood testing management program.
 - a. Challenge is balancing public demand and program availability.
 - b. Sen Fuller Clark asked about resources for the Incident Command System.
 - 1. Mr. Leon was reassuring
 - 2. Sen Fuller Clark asked what demand was.
 - 3. Mr. Dumond described continuous training needs.
 - c. Rep Messmer asked if training ought to be expanded on a state level. Mr. Dumond agreed.
 - d. Chairman Pearson asked how broad training is for Incident Management.
 - 1. Mr. Leon described coordination of the top levels of DHHS, DES, Homeland Security, etc.
 - 2. Mr. Dumond asked if recipients of notices respond.
 - 3. Chairman Pearson asked about how close Mr. Leon is with local reporters.
- V. Dr. James Chethaler, State epidemiologist for state public health lab.
 - a. Rep Salloway asked for details
 - i. Dr. Chethaler described his responsibilities
 - b. Rep Messmer asked for details on water tests vs. serum tests
 - c. Rep Salloway asked if resources were adequate.
 - i. There are so many new chemicals-no lab could trace them all.
 - d. Mr. Dumond asked about federal grant support
 - i. He asked what path of results exists. How are results reported?
- VI. Commission continued with review of letter to Congressional Delegation
 - a. The letter will come from legislators.
 - i. Letter was edited.

Meeting was adjourned 11:30.