



Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators MALEHA

Representing Local Environmental Public Health Departments in Michigan

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Forum Report September 2019

As my term of president comes to a close, I want to sincerely thank the members of MALEHA for their support during the past year. The dedication and leadership among this group never ceases to impress me and it was an honor and a pleasure to lead this organization. I am proud of the work that MALEHA put forward in the past year and below is a summary of our actions and accomplishments between September 2018 and September 2019.

Board member changes included incoming president Kristen Schweighoefer, incoming president elect Matt Bolang, continuation of secretary (Addie Hambley) and treasurer (Chris Westover) and incoming board members Andrew Cox and Ken Bowen. Tony Drautz was also reelected to the board for another term.

MALEHA opposed House Bills 5752 and 5753, as well as the revised/combined House Bill 5752. A formal letter went to Representatives Lower and Hammoud noting our concern on our lack of involvement and dialog in the bill creation, the lack of identified funding for additional activities required, preemption of point of sale programs and the lack of details on what a statewide code would entail. The bills did not move forward.

MALEHA created a committee comprised of both MALEHA and MALPH representatives to update the core principles document of what our agencies believe need to be included in a successful statewide sewage code. Both organizations reviewed and passed this document by their respective bodies, allowing both of our agencies to have a common set of talking points and goals for legislation moving forward.

MALEHA wrote a letter to LARA Director Orlene Hawks to request a LARA staff member attend and participate in MALEHA meetings. This has been consistently occurring and has resulted in better communication between MALEHA and LARA. One additional result was to review and provide a working flowchart of child care inspection requests and payments to ensure payments are being made.

MALEHA met with LARA and DHHS to discuss child care and foster care licensing and payment processes. Contacts were provided in each agency to assist local health departments in payments. Additionally, flow charts were drafted and contact lists were updated to assist in the payment process.

The MALEHA Board reviewed and updated the bylaws, which were passed by the membership. A summary of the changes includes clarification of duties to the Board, added some strategic planning processes and added a provision to allow for more than 2 associate members from a jurisdiction.

The MALEHA food committee worked with MDARD to update the food program MPRs.

MALEHA participated in the proposed revisions to the Michigan Food Law and discussed adoption of the 2019 Food Code.

MALEHA initiated and participates on a collaborative committee to discuss marijuana regulation and enforcement in both medical and recreational formats with MDARD, LARA and MDHHS. MALEHA provided a letter of feedback on updates to the Sanitarian rules by LARA in July of 2019. LARA incorporated the changes to the proposed rules based on MALEHA's letter.

The MALEHA president and other MALEHA members were invited to participate in the PFAS rule making session held by EGLE to provide feedback. A draft rule is expected by October. MALEHA is working with EGLE and MDHHS staff on the new lead and copper rule. Several meetings and discussions have occurred to better define the role the local health department may play in the case of a municipal water supply Action Level Exceedance (ALE).

MALEHA requested a meeting with MDHHS on the investigation of Legionella cases and outbreaks. The initial meeting occurred in September and was expanded to include MALPH members and medical directors. A second meeting is being scheduled for October.

I look forward to continuing to serve MALEHA and look forward to the continuation of this work under Matt Bolang's leadership. Matt has been a proven leader as the co-chair of the onsite committee and as the founder of the join workgroup between MALEHA and MALPH on the statewide code. In the year to come, I look forward to working with him along with the rest of the Board and membership to further MALEHA's mission to promote and strengthen all facets of Environmental Health.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Schweighoefer, September 16, 2019