

**MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
March 19, 2009 @ 5:00pm
Traverse City, Michigan**

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. BOARD ROLL CALL**
- III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**
- IV. SECRETARY'S REPORT**
 - A. Review and approval of the March 13, 2008 Annual Business Meeting Minutes**
- V. TREASURER'S REPORT**
 - A. Review and approval of the 2007-2008 Annual Financial Report**
- VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
 - A. Presidential Summary**
- VII. SPECIAL RECOGNITION**
 - A. Annual Education Conference Planning Committee**
 - B. Corporate Sponsors**
 - C. Silent Auction**
 - D. Exhibitors**
- VIII. NEHA REPORT**
 - A. Delegate Report – Bob Paulus**
- IX. IAFP REPORT**
 - A. Delegate Report – Gene Paez**
- X. COMMITTEE/LIAISON/AFFILIATE REPORTS AND RECOGNITIONS**

COMMITTEES

- A. Audit Committee**
- B. Awards Committee**
- C. Bylaws/Constitution/Policies and Procedures Ad Hoc Committee**
- D. Continuing Education Committee**
- E. Endowment Committee**
- F. Food Protection Conference Planning Committee**
- G. Grants & Training Fund Committee**
- H. Groundwater Conference Planning Committee**

- I. Membership Committee**
- J. Nominations & Resolutions Committee**
- K. Professional Development Committee**
- L. Wastewater Conference Planning Committee**
- M. Website Ad Hoc Committee**
- N. Licensure Ad Hoc Committee**

AFFILIATE REPORTS

- A. UPEHA**
- B. NMEHA**
- C. SEMEHA**
- D. SWMEHA**

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Location of Upcoming Conferences**
 - 1. Groundwater/Wastewater---to be held every other year, not held in 2009**
 - 2. Food Protection Conference—Bay City in 2009**
 - 3. 2010 AEC--**

XII. ELECTION RESULTS

- A. UP Representative**
- B. Director-at-large Representative**
- C. President-elect**

XII. Passing of the MEHA Presidential Gavel to Gene Paez

XIII. ADJOURNMENT



MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

An organization of professionals dedicated to the improvement of health through management of the environment.

MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES March 13, 2008 DRAFT

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Board of the Michigan Environmental Health Association held their Annual Business Meeting on Thursday, March 13, 2008 at the Doubletree Hotel – Riverfront in Bay City, Michigan. President Janet Phelps called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

BOARD ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Secretary:

Members Present: Janet Phelps, Bob Paulus, Alan Hauck, Tracy Nelson, Erin Miller, Rodney Blanchard, John Texter, Nancy Atwood, Ken Priest, and Kristen Schweighoefer

Members Absent: Lynne Tarbutton, excused

II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Under President's Report, add items:

- B. Great Lakes Conference for Food Protection
- C. Food Continuing Education Units

Under Special Recognition, add item:

- E. Food Protection & Groundwater Conference Chairpersons

Award

Motion by Greg Brown and seconded by Bruce DuHamel to accept the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

III. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- A. Review and approval of the March 29, 2007 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the March 29, 2007 Annual Business Meeting were distributed and reviewed.

Motion by Tricia Dreier and seconded by Erin Miller to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote

Kristen thanked all committee chairpersons for submitting their committee's annual report. Each committee's report is included in the business packet.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

- A. Review and approval of the 2006-2007 Annual Financial Report. Copies of the Treasurer's Report dated July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 were distributed and reviewed.

Motion by Julie Melia and seconded by Brian Esparsa to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Highlights of the Year 2007-8
President Janet Phelps went over the highlights of MEHA at the opening ceremony of this year's Annual Educational Conference on Wednesday March 12, 2008. These highlights include the following:
- All of MEHA's regional affiliates are meeting regularly
 - MWEA, the Michigan Water Environment Association, became an affiliate MEHA member
 - MEHA Board meetings, with teleconferencing available, were held in Lansing at the Ingham County Health Department. Janet wished to thank Jim Wilson and his staff for accommodating MEHA.
 - MEHA's annual planning meeting was held at the RAM Center on June 5 & 6, 2008.
 - Lake Superior State University became fully accredited with the Environmental Health Accreditation Council, and is now one of just 31

accredited environmental health undergraduate programs in the country.

- The 2009 AEC will be held March 17-20, 2009 at the Park Place Hotel in Traverse City.
- An inventory for silent auction items was created.
- A limited number of REHS study guides are available for MEHA members to borrow for a period of 90 days with a \$20 deposit which includes a return mailing envelope. For more information, see Mike Morehouse.
- Janet wished to express her condolences to the families of three MEHA members who passed this year, Kimberly Beanum-Coleman, Ed O'Rourke, and Leon Bigelow.

B. Great Lakes Conference for Food Protection

The annual business meeting for this organization was held May 2nd, 2008 at the Barry-Eaton Health Department office in Hastings. The GLCFP was awarded \$10,000 in grant funds to allow applicants to attend training. The organization is encouraging current members to renew with GLCFP and looking for new members to join their organization. Byron Beerbower and Sean Dunleavy were chosen as the Michigan delegates for the 2008 GLCFP.

C. Food Continuing Education Units

If you are a MEHA member who needs food CEUs, you must sign up at the table in the exhibitor hall to get these food CEUs.

VI. **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

A. Annual Educational Conference Planning Committee

President Janet Phelps commended Sue Gadille and her planning committee for an outstanding conference. Janet noted that Sue set the bar very high for the next AEC. Janet was very impressed with the outpouring of community support that Sue and her committee received. To thank Sue, Janet presented her with a plaque.

B. Corporate Sponsors

Janet Phelps thanked Gil Daws, Infiltrator and Sword Solutions for their sponsorship of MEHA.

C. Silent Auction

Tricia Dreier reported that the Silent Auction benefiting the Endowment Fund will close today at 6:30pm. The winners will be announced at the banquet tonight. Additionally, raffle cards are being sold for another print to be given away at the banquet.

- D. Conference Sponsors, Exhibitors, Community Support, Donations
Janet encouraged everyone to review their programs to see the number of sponsors that helped made this conference possible.
- E. Food Protection and Groundwater Conference Chairperson Award
Janet wanted to recognize the hard work of the Food Protection Conference and Groundwater Conference chairpersons, Dur Efaw and Holly Gohlke, respectively. Unfortunately, neither could be here to accept their awards in person. Janet presented Dur Efaw the Food Protection Conference Chair plaque. Greg Cabose accepted the award on behalf of Dur. Janet presented Holly Gohlke the Groundwater Conference Chair plaque. John Gohlke accepted the award on behalf of Holly.

After Janet presented the awards, Bruce DuHamel raised a question from the floor. He asked why the Food Protection Conference and Groundwater Conference were pulled apart in 2008 when they were so successful together in 2007. Janet responded that the Board had given this consideration and wanted to try to combine some wastewater sessions in with the Groundwater Conference this year to help increase the attendance at the Groundwater Conference as well as to provide wastewater education to MEHA members. Wastewater and groundwater seemed like a good fit together. She also noted that the Board will revisit the issue.

VII. **NEHA REPORT**

- A. Delegate Report – as printed in the Business Meeting Packet
The Delegate Report is on the MEHA website at www.meha.net and not in the business packet.

VIII. **IAFP REPORT**

- A. Delegate Report – as printed in the Business Meeting Packet
The Delegate Report is on the MEHA website at www.meha.net and not in the business packet.

IX. **COMMITTEE/LIAISON/AFFILITATE REPORTS**

Motion by Pat Donovan and seconded by Lisa Hainstock to accept the committee reports as printed in the business packet. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Affiliates

- A. UPEHA – Christine Daley, UPEHA President, could not be at this meeting. UPEHA’s Annual Educational Conference is scheduled to be held next week, on March 26-28, 2008 at Up Front and Company in Marquette.
- B. NMEHA – Becky Krzyzanowski reported that NMEHA held two separate one day educational conferences, one in February and one in October. Attendance at each conference was approximately 25-35 people. April 24, 2008 is the next education session and will be held in Gaylord. This session will include topics on sewage, water and beaches. Additionally, this year the board expanded from 2 to 4 members.
- C. SEMEHA – no report.
- D. SSS – no report.

X. **NEW BUSINESS**

Location of Upcoming Conferences

- 1) Groundwater/Wastewater – October 1-3, 2008, Tustin (Chair: Holly Gohlke)
- 2) Food Protection – October 29-30, 2008, Flint (Chair: Janet Phelps)
- 3) 2009 AEC – March 18-20, 2009, Traverse City (also in 2011 per agreement)

XI. **ELECTION RESULTS**

Alan Hauck thanked everyone for voting & thanked the candidates for running. Ballots will be held for 30 days.

- A. Secretary – Addie Hambly
- B. SEMEHA Representative – Darren Bowling
- C. NMEHA Representative – Tracy Nelson
- D. President-elect – Gene Paez

There are four outgoing Board members.

Alan Hauck was on the board for a total of eight years and kept things running smoothly during that time.

Kristen Schweighoefer will be heading up the website committee.

Rodney Blanchard was able to fulfill a vacant seat with the Board.

Tracy Nelson has been reelected to the Board and shows her commitment to MEHA.

XII. PASSING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL GAVEL TO BOB PAULUS

Janet Phelps passed the presidential gavel to Bob Paulus. Bob outlined some of his plans for his term as MEHA President, including creating an irrevocable trust to make the endowment fund permanent, to create an electronic journal that can be accessed through the MEHA website, and to create an online payment method through PayPal or similar. Bob encouraged MEHA members to sign up for a committee, and if you or someone you know would be a good candidate for a Board opening, see Kim DeMars. Bob also stated that his “big ticket” item this year will be to appoint an ad hoc committee to work with the membership to finalize the issue of licensure and registration for Sanitarians.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Erin Miller and seconded by Mary Malta to adjourn the Annual Business Meeting. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Schweighoefer, MPH, RS
Secretary MEHA
March 13, 2008

Annual Treasurer's Report

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Beginning Balance: 7/1/2007	\$ 9,981.86
DEPOSITS AND ADJUSTMENTS:	\$ 80,521.88
DEBITS:	(\$75,283.80)
ENDING BALANCE:	\$15,219.94

BUSINESS CHECKING	10.00
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INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS:

BEGINNING BALANCE 7/1/2007		ENDING BALANCE 6/30/2008
\$15,230.96	STRATEGIC FUND	\$14,289.27
\$17,810.01	RESERVE FUND	\$ 9,852.69
\$89,059.15	ENDOWMENT FUND	\$83,650.68

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TOTAL CASH ON DEPOSIT	(ALL ACCOUNTS)
	\$123,022.58

Respectfully Submitted,

John F. Texter
July 25, 2008

**FINANCIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT
MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
JULY 1, 2007 – JUNE 30, 2008**

CHARGE: Perform an annual audit of the financial records of the Association. This audit is a non-accounting professional review and analysis of the financial records of the MEHA financial for the year identified.

The audit committee composed of Maureen Pfund, Ron Grimes, and Harry Grenawitzke met with MEHA Treasurer John Texter on January 6, 2008 to review the financial records of the Association. The committee examined the deposit/transaction records, cash flows, monthly reporting activities, conference budget reports, and the overall management of the Association’s assets. While the committee did not conduct a line item audit of transactions or line item conference revenues and expenses, we did apparently for the first time in several years assess the overall financial condition of the Association. Transactions are recorded using a Quicken software package that is backed up on a disk stored at the office of the Treasurer. Additionally copies of all records are stored on a dedicated flash drive stored at the home of the Treasurer. Hard copy of every transaction and bank statements are maintained by the Treasurer.

Our review of the financial records for the fiscal year of July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 revealed that MEHA had a net operating loss of \$9,172.36. While this number differs from the Treasurer’s annual report to the Board, our financial report reflects that the Treasurer transferred \$9,000.00 in March, 2008 from the Reserve Fund in order to have funds to pay invoices. Our report also documents that the Treasurer did not transfer the net proceeds (\$2,930.32) from the Silent Auction held during the March, 2008 AEC because he did not have sufficient funds in the operating account to pay invoices. As of the date of this final report, the Reserve Fund has not been reimbursed and the Endowment fund has not been credited with the proceeds. The Committee also did not consider the \$2,500.00 MDA grant as Association revenue because there will be expenses directly charged to that grant that did not occur during the fiscal year 2007-08.

It was also observed that financial reports of the conference chairs from last year revealed the following:

CONFERENCE	PROFIT (LOSS)
GROUNDWATER CONFERENCE	\$596.44
ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE	\$6,947.42
CONFERENCE GAIN(LOSS)	\$7,543.86

The Treasurer’s annual report to the Board which reflects the actual conference revenue deposited in the operating account and the actual expenses attributed to the conferences revealed the following:

CONFERENCE INCOME CATEGORY

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS	\$3220.00
CONFERENCE INCOME	\$1449.00
CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS	\$28,558.00
CONFERENCE SPONSORS	\$40,352.00
TOTAL CONFERENCE REVENUE	\$40,352.00
CONFERENCE EXPENSES	
CONFERENCE EXPENSES	\$40,938.31
CONFERENCE REFUNDS	\$95.00
TOTAL CONFERENCE EXPENSES	\$41,033.31
CONFERENCE GAIN/(LOSS)	(\$681.31)

The discrepancy between the conference chair reports and what actually was deposited into the operating account and the invoices paid reflects a lack of reconciling the conference chair report with the funds received into the account and all bills charged to the conference line item.

Upon further review the Committee noted that of our revenue from membership dues paid (\$21,965) MEHA paid MALPH 72.6% (\$15,945.4363), with the remainder of dues (6,019.57) to pay all other

expenses including the Board Planning Session and the President's and President Elect's expenses to attend NEHA and IAFP. All other association expenses had to be paid from conference proceeds. In the fiscal year audited, conference expenses reflected a loss. As a result, MEHA did not have the cash flow to pay all invoices without transferring funds from the Reserve Account and not paying the Endowment Fund the proceeds from the silent auction.

While our audit did not include the first six months of the fiscal year of July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009, we did question the state of the Treasury as of December 31, 2008. The Treasurer noted that the checking account had approximately \$6,000.00 in it compared to approximately \$16,000 on December 31, 2007. The concern here is that MEHA's financial strength is very weak and this assumes that conference revenue for the 2009 AEC will remain the same as the 2008 AEC and that memberships will renew at the same rate as 2008, both of which may be overly optimistic considering financial burdens facing members and employers both in the public and private sectors.

We have not as of yet verified which records are maintained at the MALPH office and which records are maintained by the Treasurer.

AUDIT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEHA BOARD ACTION

1. While it is not the Committee's responsibility to direct the Board on how to spend the revenue's that it receives, we believe that the Board needs to take immediate action to reduce expenses for the remainder of the new fiscal year to prevent another financial crisis. There is only \$9,000 left in the Reserve Fund which the Board can use, if necessary, to meet its financial responsibilities. This includes reviewing the contract with MALPH to determine if these expenses are justified considering the financial condition of the Treasury, review anticipated conference expenses to assure that the AEC will be profitable. It may be appropriate to once again use volunteer members to run the business of the Association rather than rely on paid staff.

2. The Board of Directors needs to establish and approve a policy to allow the Treasurer the ability to move funds from the Reserve Fund to the Operational checking account fund and also a policy on how and when the Reserve Fund will be reimbursed.
3. The Treasurer needs to establish a line item for grant expenses that will reflect which expenses are charged to which specific grant. This will assist if and when the grantors conduct an audit of the grants given.
4. To the best of our knowledge the Board has never adopted a written policy for investment strategy for the Endowment fund. Currently the fund is maintained on our behalf by AG Edwards with little or no direction from the Association. An AG Edwards representative does meet with the Board annually. The Audit Committee suggests that investment decisions are best made by a newly established Board Committee consisting of the President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, and Treasurer. The Committee could be called either a "Financial
5. Committee" or "Investment Committee." By calling it a "Finance Committee," the Board could charge that Committee to prepare the annual budget and closely follow monthly all financial activities of the Association.
6. While the investment strategy appears to the Audit Committee to be following a medium risk investment strategy, the Board needs to establish a policy that sets a trigger to move investment funds to less risky funds when necessary.
7. As has been noted in several past audit reports, the Board needs to bond the Treasurer for the highest estimated amount for the combination of the Reserve and Operational Funds. Currently this is estimated at \$50,000. The Treasurer should be charged with investigating and obtaining at least two proposals for review by the Board. If Conference Chairs rather than the Treasurer are also charged with accepting Association funds, bonding for them should also be established at a lower bond level
8. The Treasurer needs to conduct an audit of each conference chair's financial report before the report is accepted by the Board to assure that the report accurately reflects the revenues from a specific conference and the expenses from the same conference match with conference revenue actually deposited and expenses actually paid. This would have prevented the conflicting information identified during the audit where conference reports showed a profit of \$7,543.86 with financial records indicating a net loss of \$681.31 for some conferences during the fiscal year.
9. During the audit was noted that the Treasurer had written a personal check to MEHA to pay for another member's cash payment for a silent auction item. He deposited the cash in his personal account and then wrote a check to MEHA. He should have the authority to directly deposit the cash into the MEHA bank account without having to send the check to MALPH.

10. For any grants received, the Treasurer needs to verify and record that all expenditures against the grant are eligible expenses. Records of grant receipts and expenditures should be maintained in a separate file should the grantor decide to conduct their own independent audit of the records. This will be helpful when there is a change in Association Treasurer.
11. Because the AEC and membership dues comes near the end of the fiscal year of the Association, it is necessary for the Board to monitor expenses closely to assure financial viability especially considering the a possible wide variance in conference proceeds and membership renewals.
12. It was observed that on 3/31/08 there was a cash deposit made in the amount of \$1,695.00 with no documentation as to what it was designated for. How does MEHA know that they have received all monies for example from a conference? It should be submitted along with copies of the receipts provided to the member. All conference revenue receipts need to be provided directly to the Treasurer for review and verification.

In addition to the recommendations above, the following recommendations from the previous audit have apparently not been addressed adequately and need Board Action.

1. The Reserve Fund should be protected from depletion if the need arises to liquidate any portion of the fund. Either a written policy placed in the Policies and Procedures Manual or a by-law should require this fund to maintain a minimum balance established by the Board and establish a timetable by which it is to be reimbursed.
2. The Board needs to establish a record retention schedule in case of an IRS or grant audit. The committee would suggest that financial records be maintained for seven years; after which all financial records shall be disposed by shredding or incineration. To date all records for several years are being maintained.
3. The audit committee recommends that at least once every five years the Association fund a financial audit by a competent auditing firm. The firm should have at least one Certified Public Accountant to review and approve the work of the auditor.

In conclusion the Audit Committee would like to thank John Texter for his assistance and his honesty in assisting us with our work. It is our hope that the Board will take timely appropriate action to address all recommendations contained herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry E. Grenawitzke, RS, MPH, DAAS

Ronald Grimes, RS, MPH, DAAS

Maureen Pfund, RS

MEHA
Committee Annual Report
2008 – 2009

Name of Committee: Award

Committee Chair: Patrick J. Donovan, R.S.

Committee Members: Harry Grenawitzke, Steven Tackitt, John Gohlke, Joe Crigier, Jeff Reicherts, Eric Pessel,

Board Liaison: Darren Bowling

Charges:

1. Secure nominations and recommend individuals to the Board (at January Bd. Mtg.) for recognition at the AEC Awards Ceremony.
2. Order awards (including plaques for departing board members).
3. Designate a member to serve as presenter at the Awards Banquet.
4. Notify award winners.
5. Notify MEHA's national affiliates (NEHA) about the recognitions received by MEHA members.
6. Develop press releases for "hometown" media when members are elected or receive an award.
7. Develop strategy on soliciting nominees for all awards.
8. Review deliberation Policy
9. Submit committee's annual report to Executive Board by February 12th.

Accomplishments:

1. done
2. done
3. Selected by Pres. Paulus
4. done
5. underway
6. underway
7. underway
8. under continuing review by the committee
9. delivered at Feb board meeting

Suggestions for next year:

Change charges to reflect the approved P&P for awards
Continue Committee work

February 12, 2009

MEHA
Committee Annual Report
2008 – 2009

Name of Committee: Constitution and By-Laws

Committee Chair: Brian T. Cecil

Committee Members:

Pat Donovan, Rodney Blanchard, Brian Cecil

Board Liaison:

Charges:

Review and complete an electronic copy of the Policies and Procedures manual.

Review the manual and recommend changes to the board.

Coordinate and create an award application for emeritus status with the membership committee.

Review and recommend and changes needed to the Constitution and By-Laws and submit them to the board for their review and present them to the membership for vote where needed.

Accomplishments:

The all documents are currently available in electronic form.

Changes made to the manual, which were to include the Policies and Procedures are near completion.

The emeritus award application is still under review and has not been completed.

No additional changes to the Constitution and By-laws were undertaken or suggested in this years work.

The on-going work of the committee is at the will of the board and the members of the association.

Suggestions for next year:

Complete the electronic incorporation of the policies and procedures manual into the by-laws documents to ensure that the P&P manual, committee charges, and current by-laws are not in conflict.

Make additional changes as requested by the board.

MEHA
Committee Annual Report
2008 – 2009

Name of Committee: Continuing Education Committee

Committee Chair: Barbra Nickels

Committee Members: Ruth Taylor, Paul Barry

Board Liaison: Lynne Tarbutton

Charges:

1. Review CEU applications and maintain a record of credits awarded to members.
2. Maintain a separate tabulation of individual members food service related CEU's from their total CEU's for the year.
3. Utilize the CEU display board at MEHA's AEC.

4. Publish CEU updates and CEU applications in the quarterly newsletter and on the web page.
5. Devise innovative means to achieve CEU's for those unable to attend training sessions and conferences.
6. Submit committee's annual report to the secretary by February 15th.

Accomplishments:

1. Reviewed all CEU applications submitted and maintained a record of credits awarded to members.
2. Maintained a separate tabulation of individual members food service related CEU's from their total CEU's for the year.
3. Utilized the CEU display board at MEHA's AEC.
4. Published CEU updates and CEU applications in the quarterly newsletter and on the web page.
5. Submitted the committee's annual report to the secretary.

Suggestions for next year:

1. None.

MEHA
Committee Annual Report
2008 – 2009

Name of Committee: Endowment Committee

Committee Chair: Tricia Dreier

Committee Members: John Johnson, Tom Olson, Suzanne Kidder, Jennifer Kosak, Terry Anderson, Virgil Cimala, Adam London, John Texter

Board Liaison: Bob Paulus

Charges:

1. Continue to coordinate the development and management of the Endowment Fund.
2. Explore, develop, and implement projects that may add financially to the Endowment Fund.

3. Organize the AEC Silent Auction, solicit money or prizes from the membership/industry/etc and place a notice in the Fall/Winter MEHA publication requesting member input.
4. Submit committee's annual report to Secretary by February 15th.

Accomplishments:

- The 2008 AEC Silent Auction was a success and raised over \$1,900 for the Endowment Fund. The Committee is currently planning and organizing the 2009 AEC Silent Auction.
- The MEHA 4th Annual Golf Outing was held on September 11, 2008 and raised over \$890 for the Endowment Fund. The MEHA 5th Annual Golf Outing is being planned and will take place on Friday, September 11, 2009.

Suggestions for next year:

- More MEHA Board participation in fundraising events. Participation could include donating items for the silent auction, bidding on items at the silent auction and participating or volunteering at the Golf Outing.
- The Endowment Committee is looking for other outings or fundraising events where the MEHA members can get out, have a good time and raise money for a good cause. Please contact the Endowment Committee with any thoughts or suggestions.

MEHA Food Protection Conference Annual Report 2009

Name of Committee: 20th Annual Food Protection Conference

Committee Chair: Janet A. Phelps, R.S.

Committee Members: Heather Alsip, Starbucks Coffee
 Scott Barr, LMAS District Health Department
 Rodney Blanchard, Monroe County Health Department
 Ruth (Taylor) Habalewsky, St. Clair County Health Department
 Rene' Hewitt-Lichota, Macomb County Health Department
 Jill Lozmack, Michigan Department of Agriculture
 Julie Melia, Kent County Health Department
 Carol Panagiotides, Michigan Department of Environmental
 Quality

Conference Photographers

Doug Christensen, Ingham County Health Department
 Carla Mitchell, Sanilac County Health Department

Technical Support Sean Dunleavy, Michigan Department of Agriculture

Charges:

Develop the program for the 20th annual Food Protection Conference

Provide the MEHA Executive Board with a conference budget proposal no later than 4 months prior to the conference.

Provide the conference revenue and expense statement to the MEHA Treasurer within 90 days from the conclusion of the conference.

Submit the committee's annual report to the MEHA Secretary for inclusion in the MEHA committee annual report for the MEHA Business meeting.

Accomplishments:

The Michigan Environmental Health Association (MEHA) held its 20th Annual Food Protection Conference October 29–30, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Gateway Center in Flint, Michigan. The conference was attended by a total 165 individuals over the two-day conference, including MEHA members, non-MEHA members, 26 speakers, 11 exhibitors, and students.

Five nationally recognized speakers were brought to the conference through a grant made possible by the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) Industry Training Fund. They included **Dave Babcock** of Marler Clark Associates, delivering the keynote address, "Liability of Environmental Health Officials for Negligent Inspections," and "Some Things to Keep You Up at Night: Greedy Managers, Sick Employees and Crappy Procedures"; **Captain Wendy Fanaselle**, FDA/CFSAN, presenting "Options for Controlling Norovirus from Farm-to-Fork in Ready-to-Eat Foods"; **Dr. David McSwane** of Indiana University presenting "Establishing Effective Field Training Process for Food Safety Inspection Officers"; **Ken Pearson** of Professional Food Safety Solutions presenting "The Magic of Food Safety"; and **Kelly Engelhart** of Portage County Health Department discussing the local health district's response to a Norovirus outbreak.

In addition, the MDA grant made educational scholarship funds available to 23 MEHA members to cover the cost of their registration and lodging. Each attendee received an ethnic food CD-ROM, MEHA lunch tote bag and various snack foods donated from contributors.

Wal-mart provided sponsorship for the Wednesday luncheon which included entertainment from the "Steelheads" Mott Middle College Steel Drum Band.

Conference Exhibitors included:

Gabriel Group Association	Michigan Restaurant
Great Lakes Conference on Food Protection	Michigan State University
ICON Systems LLC (CleanTech Handwashing System)	NSF <i>International</i>
Macomb County Health Department	Oscoda Plastics
20 years of MEHA Food Protection Conferences	Renew Systems

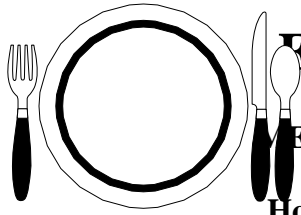
Conference Contributors included:

Meijer, Inc. – 2 gift baskets (\$500 value Meijer Brand Electronics)
Thompson Creek Turkey Farm Deli and Café - \$100 donation, 4 \$25 gift certificates, 15% store discount
Gabriel Group – 3 Knife sets (\$100 value each)
SEMEHA - \$150 donation
SSS - \$100 donation
Michigan State University – BBQ gift basket (\$100 value)
Wal-Mart – Grocery Tote bags
International Association on Food Protection – IAFP bundle (membership, T-shirts)
MEHA Corporate Sponsor: Sword Solutions – Key Chain Lights, SS Clips
The Blueberry Store – dried blueberries
Brevis – Glitterbug Bundle (Tottle Kit, T-shirt)
Crispy Kurls – discount on product
Gordon Food Service – 10% discount on in-store items
RockCity Food Safety – apples, food safety educational literature
United Dairy Industry of Michigan – recipe cards
Flint Area Visitor’s and Convention Bureau – Flint pins

Organizations providing information for the literature table included:

Brevis/GloGerm Company
Central Michigan University
Flint Area Visitors and Convention Bureau
International Association on Food Protection
Lake Superior State University
National Environmental Health Association
Shat-R-Shield
Sword Solutions – MEHA Corporate Sponsor
University of Michigan

Evaluation Results and Suggestions for next year
see attached



EVALUATION RESULTS

EHA 20th Annual Food Protection Conference
October 29-30, 2008

Holiday Inn Gateway Centre – Flint, Michigan

Conference Evaluation Form

(46 evaluations returned from 165 attendees)



1. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rank this conference?

1 <u>0</u>	2 <u>0</u>	3 <u>3</u>	4 <u>17</u>	5 <u>25</u>	1 – did
not mark					
Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent	

2. What part(s) of the conference did you like the most?

Keynote Speaker – David Babcock (17)
 Magic of Food Safety (8)
 Microbiological Safety of Fresh Produce (7)
 Captain Wendy Fanaselle was outstanding! I'd like to see her again (9)
 Rose Pest Speaker (made an unpleasant subject entertaining yet informative) (7)
 Dr. David McSwane's presentation- the delivery of the food safety information
 Urban pest management
 Donations 101 (3)
 Unique Ethnic Food Treats (2)
 Salmonella presentation (2)
 Michigan's Wine Industry
 Darden Foods – good to have industry input
 Networking with others in the profession, the way the agenda was arranged
 Examples of Grant Projects – thanks for sharing ideas (3)
 Cross connections (2)
 Chipotle Norovirus Outbreak (3) – great to hear other state's experiences
 FSIS Food Defense – good information
 Great Exhibitors and Door Prizes – someone went the extra mile to organize this (3)
 Music at lunch was great!
 Case histories, examples – like example Fresh Produce, Norovirus Outbreaks, Ethnic Food Treats
 Great variety of national speakers (2)
 Very high caliber of speakers and topics
 I also liked the format with group sessions beginning and end of conference – it's good to not have small breakouts with only a few people at the end of the conference
 Topics all timely and relevant
 Variety of topics and speakers – some from out of state for different perspective
 Totally enjoyed every seminar on Wednesday in the Lincoln Room- Donation 101 was very informative, learned a lot and enjoyed networking with the field personnel

Well organized – several great speakers, location and the ability to utilize grant money, cost was very reasonable – worth \$80.00!
Speakers and topics were great – experts in their fields
Variety of topics & the quality overall of the presentations
Venue was excellent, topics on current issues, talented speakers (3)
Scholarships

3. What future topics would you like to see?

Best Practices for local health departments
– best foodborne illness investigation procedures, best food program, etc.
Any topic in actual events (like the FBI) is good to hear
New equipment and new processes (2)
Common violations and techniques to resolve them
Parasite free certified fish – sushi salmon, etc. (2)
HACCP – How to write and approve one (2)
Approving Time as a Public Health Control written procedures
Food nutrition/safety combined
Temporary license requirements
More food safety research
Food processing
Commercial restaurant perspective on how best to achieve food safety goals in facilities
Ethnic foods – Arabic
Fermentation processes
How to get the food safety information across to person that do not speak English as their primary language
Medical information on allergens
What are the steps of a proper inspection
Emergency management
Vending machines
Vegan friendly/vegetarian options in restaurants, more education about vegans and non meat eaters in industry, kind of relates to allergens too
Plan review updates (2)
Employee health issues- better ways to communicate, causation of FBI to PIC and employees, simple fact sheets made available
More of the same as this conference
Current events and emerging technologies and equipment
Maybe how USDA works with MDA and Health Departments
Rapid cooling training – verified SOP's for rapid cooling
More definitive answers from MDA on Manager Certification
Possible one or two sessions relating to on-site water and sewage topics and food facilities
Information on using Incident Command System with feeding site or outbreak
More info from FDA and USDA
Session on effective auditing to standardize inspectors in the state, more quality assurance applications, working with managers on root cause, written effective risk control plans and SOP's to work with people in management positions on risk control
Chemical test strips – which are the most accurate?
Food Defense information – contact Brad Deacon of MDA for speakers
Accreditation Option 2 inspections
Foodborne illness investigation

Green pest control/Integrated Pest Management
Reduced Oxygen packaging and botulism and parasites

MEHA
Committee Annual Report
2007 – 2008

Name of Committee: Grant and Training Funds Committee

Committee Chair: Holly Gohlke, R.S.

Committee Members: None

Board Liaison: Lynne Tarbuton, R.S.

Charges:

1. Research foundations for possible education training funds
2. Submit letter of interest to those foundations with all necessary paperwork.

3. Submit committee's annual report to Secretary by February 15th.

Accomplishments: The committee was inactive during 2008

Suggestions for next year:

MEHA Committee Annual Report 2008

Name of Committee: Groundwater Conference Committee

Committee Chair: Holly Gohlke, R.S.

Committee Members: Bryan Brewer Leon Moore
Joe Crigier Maureen Pfund
Mike Jury Ronda Page
Ron Holben
Bob Paulus (coordinating wastewater topics)

Board Liaison: Nancy Atwood

Charges: To organize and sponsor the Annual Groundwater Conference.

Accomplishments:

15th Annual MEHA Groundwater Conference in
conjunction with Wastewater Sessions
October 1-3, 2008
Kettunen Center, Tustin, Michigan

Committee Recommendations:

The GW Conference Planning Committee recommends that we hold the Groundwater Conference every two years with the next conference to be held in 2010. We also recommend that a GW committee member be a MEHA affiliate liaison to help coordinate groundwater topics/speakers at the affiliate conferences, thus providing GW education & training throughout the State on a yearly basis. We recommend that a GW committee member be a MEHA AEC Conference Committee liaison to communicate actions & ideas that the GW Conference Planning Committee came up with the year previous to the AEC. We believe this will help prevent repeat topics & speakers that the membership does not want (through GW Conference evaluations) and will help provide the AEC committee with GW topic ideas that we were unable to incorporate into our previous conference.



**2008 GROUNDWATER CONFERENCE
Final Budget**

*Speakers given gratis meals & lodging for total cost of \$755.75 which is included in these expenses.

INCOME:	\$ Amount	
Registration (includes lodging cost with some) Members Non-Members Students	Attendees	
	78	\$12,422
	53	
	25	
	0	
Sponsors	7	\$1,250
Exhibitors \$250/table	6	\$1,500
TOTAL INCOME:		<u>\$15,172.00</u>
EXPENSES:		
Facility Fee		\$2,907.00
Lodging 59 people reserved lodging 21 did not reserve lodging		*\$4,882.00
Meals (Food, service & tax) 2-lunches, 3-breakfast, 2-dinners		*\$4,985.00
A/V Equipment		\$0
Hospitality		\$111.43
Speaker Expenses		\$1,122.74
Speaker Gifts (29 @\$15.48)		\$448.92
Door Prizes		\$183.32
Tri-fold Printing		\$94.05
Postage – Tri-fold (535@0.42)		\$224.70
Agenda Printing		\$113.60
Supplies		\$0
Misc. Expenses		\$1.20
Refunds		\$0
TOTAL EXPENSES:		<u>\$15,073.96</u>
Excess		<u>+\$98.04</u>

MEHA

Committee Annual Report
2008 – 2009

Name of Committee: Membership Committee

Committee Chair: Kevin Halfmann

Committee Members: Larry Johnson and Tracy McDade

Board Liaison: Erin Miller

Charges:

1. Publish biannual membership directory on even years. **The membership directory was published and distributed at the AEC in March 2008.**
2. Maintain the “Historical Development of MEHA” information sheet. **The committee continues to update the historical section to bring it up to date.**
3. Review the new membership packet, and update as needed. **Ongoing**
4. Coordinate the creation of an application for award as emeritus status with the Bylaws Committee. **No action at this time.**
5. Investigate creating a lifetime MEHA membership. **No action at this time.**
6. Submit committee’s annual report to Secretary by February 25th.

Accomplishments:

2008 Membership Directory completed.

2008 Membership Directory distributed at 2008 AEC

Secured multiple sponsorships for Membership Directory

Suggestions for next year:

Continue to look for sponsorship opportunities for Membership Directory

MEHA

Committee Annual Report
2008 -2009

Name of Committee: Nominations and Resolutions Committee

Committee Chair: Kimberly De Mars

Committee Members: - Joe Crigier - MDEQ, Pat Donovan - MDEQ, Scott Barr- LMAS

Board Liaison: Darren Bowling

Charges:

1. Enlist members to run for board positions for the 2009 MEHA Board.
2. No resolutions or bylaws charges were charged to our committee in 2008.

Accomplishments:

- MEHA has candidates running for the President-Elect, Member at Large and Upper Peninsula representative.

Suggestions for next year:

To continue to search for the best candidates to fill upcoming MEHA Board vacancies.

Revise the Candidate Data Sheet to include a short bio to be used on the Web-site

MEHA

Professional Development Committee

Annual Report

2008 – 2009

Name of Committee: Professional Development Committee

Committee Chair: Mike Morehouse, RS

Committee Members: Sarah Conlin, REHS

Board Liaison: Nancy Atwood

Charges:

1. Conduct a workshop on sanitarian registration for REHS/CFSP examinations.
2. Develop and implement new seminars that may assist in the professional development of environmental health professionals.
3. Promote the Membership Development Fund.
4. Promote scholarship criteria for high school or college students to attend Environmental Health Programs.
5. Submit committee's annual report to Secretary by February 15th.
6. Obtained for membership NEHA study guides for loan and created loan policy.

Accomplishments:

- There was 1 Membership Development Fund application awarded an amount of \$150.00.
- There was 1 Membership Development Fund application awarded an amount of \$136.50.
- There was 1 Membership Development Fund application awarded an amount of \$35.00.
- There was 1 \$500.00 Scholarship Fund application received / awarded.
- There were 7 Sanitarian Registration Study Guides checked out to prepare for Registration.

Suggestions for next year:

- Promote individual preparations required for the REHS / RS - CFSP Exam preparation more aggressively so that more individuals are qualified to sit for the REHS / RS - CFSP Exam
- Coordinate and promote the REHS/CFSP Exam criteria. Submitted Journal articles for publication.

- Promote the MEHA Membership Development Fund more aggressively with a flyer at conferences.
- Develop and implement a seminar to assist health professionals in obtaining credentials and maintaining requirements of CEU's in their practice.

MEHA
Committee Annual Report

2008 – 2009

Name of Committee: Website Development ad hoc Committee

Committee Chair: Kristen Schweighofer, MPH, RS

Committee Members: Erin Miller, REHS
Sean Dunleavy
Carolyn Kreiger
John Demerjian

Board Liaison: Erin Miller, REHS

Charges:

1. Oversee the maintenance and updating of the website.
2. Review the website regularly to make sure information is current.
3. Solicit the membership for ideas and items to be placed on the website.
4. Ensure responses are sent for e-mail received through the website.
5. Inform all committee chairs of who to contact for posting of information to the website.
6. Submit committee's annual report to Secretary by February 15th.

Accomplishments:

1. Continued to update the website on a routine basis & completed above charges.
2. Created an email list of MEHA members for distribution of electronic information, such as MEHA journal.
3. Created MEHA Discussion Forum to discuss environmental health topics, conference information, etc.
4. Posted information to the site and responded to email inquiries on a timely basis.
5. Began archive of past conferences for reference.

Suggestions for next year:

1. Update pictures of the new Board members at the MEHA AEC Conference.
2. Research social networking for MEHA, such as facebook, myspace, etc.

3. Research adding paypal, or similar, option for membership dues and conference registration fees.

MEHA
Committee Report

February 12, 2009

Name of Committee: Ad Hoc Registration and Licensure Committee

Committee Chair: Patrick J. Donovan, R.S.

Committee Members: Harry Grenawitzke, Dick Fleece, Steve Tackitt, Bob Paulus, Barb Nickels, Jim Dingman,, Eric Pessel, MALEHA Rep. (ex Officio)

Charges:

Review the New Sanitarians Administrative Rules
Review Statute Language from States Other than Michigan where licensure is mandated
Draft a definition for a scope of practice for Michigan
Propose a strategy for inclusion of current local and state practitioners who are not credentialed
Outline a draft of legislation to mandate licensing the profession in Michigan

The Michigan Environmental Health Association (MEHA) is a Statewide Organization, comprised of more than 500 Environmental Professionals dedicated to improvement in public health by management of human impacts on the environment. The Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators (MALEHA) is a Statewide Organization of the Directors of Environmental Health Programs which provide service to the 44 Local Public Health jurisdictions in Michigan. The MEHA Committee has been working with a MALEHA Committee to establish language for a Scope of Practice and the definition of Environmental Health. **MEHA seeks to develop a definition and a scope which will be acceptable to the membership, be consistent with current regulatory statutes and be acceptable to MDCH regulatory requirements.**

Attached are current statute excerpts for reference:

**PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (EXCERPT)
Act 368 of 1978**

333.18401 Definitions; principles of construction.

Sec. 18401.

(1) As used in this part:

(a) "Environmental health" means an area of activity dealing with the protection of human health through the management, control, and prevention of environmental factors that may adversely affect the health of individuals. Environmental health is concerned with the existence of substances, conditions, or facilities in quantities, of

characteristics, and under conditions, circumstances, or duration that are or can be injurious to human health.

(2) "License", except as otherwise provided in this subsection, means an authorization issued under this article to practice where practice would otherwise be unlawful. License includes an authorization to use a designated title which use would otherwise be prohibited under this article and may be used to refer to a health profession subfield license, limited license, or a temporary license. For purposes of the definition of "prescriber" contained in section 17708(2) only, license includes an authorization issued under the laws of another state, or the country of Canada to practice in that state or in the country of Canada, where practice would otherwise be unlawful, and is limited to a licensed doctor of medicine, a licensed doctor of osteopathic medicine and surgery, or another licensed health professional acting under the delegation and using, recording, or otherwise indicating the name of the delegating licensed doctor of medicine or licensed doctor of osteopathic medicine and surgery. License does not include a health profession specialty field license.

(3) "Licensee", as used in a part that regulates a specific health profession, means an individual to whom a license is issued under that part, and as used in this part means each licensee regulated by this article.

(2) "Registration" means an authorization only for the use of a designated title which use would otherwise be prohibited under this article. Registration includes specialty certification of a licensee and a health profession specialty field license.

(3) "Registrant" as used in a part that regulates the use of a title means an individual to whom a registration, a specialty certification, or a health profession specialty field license is issued under that part, and as used in this part means each registrant regulated by this article.

The proposed definition of Environmental Health, accepted and endorsed by the MEHA committee is submitted for your attention:

Environmental health is the practice of minimizing risks posed by environmental factors including interrelationships between people and their environment that may adversely impact human health or the ecological balances essential to long term human health and environmental quality whether natural or manmade. This activity is concerned with the existence of substances, conditions, or facilities in quantities of characteristics and under conditions, circumstances or duration which are or can be injurious to human health. Such factors include, but are not limited to air, food and water contaminants, radiation, toxic chemicals, wastes, disease vectors, safety hazards, and habitat alterations.

I request the Board compare the proposed definition to the current statute definition and advise if we are ready to proceed with getting approval from the membership.

The proposed Scope of Practice (activities which would require a license to be able to perform) remains unresolved. The proposed scope language is:

Individuals who work within the field of environmental health shall be licensed if they meet any one of the following criteria:

A. Work for, or in, an Environmental Health regulatory agency within the Provision of the Public Health Code, Act 368 of 1978, or other state or Local Environmental Health regulation.

B. Work within the Practice of Environmental Health in three or more of The following areas:

- General Environmental Health: Epidemiological Investigations
- Food Protection
- Wastewater
- Solid and Hazardous Waste
- Potable Water
- Institutions and Licensed Establishments
- Vectors, Pests, and Poisonous Plants
- Swimming Pools and Recreational Facilities
- Housing
- Hazardous Materials
- Radiation Protection
- Occupational Safety and Health
- Air Quality and Noise
- Disaster Sanitation and Emergency Planning

C. Work under the title of sanitarian, environmental health specialist, environmental health practitioner, environmental health scientist, environmental health officer, etc.... (we can add more EH names here).

I have attached a thread from Adam London, President of MALEHA which denotes progress to date:

In the matter of the proposed scope:

Donovan NO
Paulus YES
Tackitt YES
Grenawitzke has not voted
Nickles NO
Fleece YES
Dingman YES
Pessell YES
Hall YES
Duhamel YES
London YES

The vote currently stands at 8-2 in favor of YES.

Comment from the Chair

As your committee chair, I endorse the Item 'B' and the item 'C' in the thread below, I oppose item 'A'.

Current propose language in scope for B and C, says, in effect., " if you perform these functions, or call yourself by these titles, or hold yourself out as able to be and do these things you must be licensed".

Item A says, "Work for, or in, an Environmental Health regulatory agency within the provisions of the Public Health Code, Act 368 of 1978, or other state or local Environmental Health regulation. "

I oppose this language as incomplete, divisive and redundant

Review by DEQ, MDA, DCH and any other State Agency who administers Act 368 will likely oppose the language

For the record Act 368 doesn't cover all of our functions, Act 451, of PA 1994 , as amended [NREPA] covers a lot of what we do, water quality for instance is in the NREPA, not in the Public Health Code, Act 399 for public water supplies isn't mentioned here either.

Whether or not you enforce a code or a statute is a political determination made by local and state elected and appointed officials, I do NOT want that group to have ANY determination about whether or not a Sanitarian should be licensed or not licensed. The regulation of any health professional is intended to ensure the general public that the people who are identified as a specific type of health professional are qualified to practice. Even when a profession has been working in the health care industry for a number of years without regulation, establishing requirements for Licensure are setting the stage for the future of the profession.

We are attempting to license what we do, not where we work.

The Southeastern Michigan Environmental Health Association held its Winter Education Seminar on December 4, 2008 at the Bavarian Inn Restaurant in Frankenmuth, MI.

The seminar began with an informative presentation entitled “Ten Essential Environmental Health Services” by Bryant Wilke, Director of Environmental Health Services for Saginaw County. Mr. Wilke’s presentation stressed the need for collaboration and teamwork between health departments and other environmental health agency affiliates in order to achieve the desired outcomes of our profession.

Following Mr. Wilke, Dave Drullinger of MDEQ presented “Reducing Pollutants and the Urban Stormwater Permit Process”. Mr. Drullinger’s presentation was followed by Joel Strasz, Public Services Manager for the Bay County Health Department who followed up with “Phosphorus Reduction Strategies”. Both presentations addressed the need to find ways of reducing all pollutant and especially phosphorus due to the muck build up and cladophora issues in the Saginaw Bay and surrounding areas.

After a great lunch featuring the Bavarian Inn’s traditional chicken dinner, members were treated to a very interesting presentation on “Prison Foods Preparation and Inspection Process” by Dan Welihan of the Michigan Department of Corrections Office of Environmental Health and Fire Safety. Members were interested to learn about the intensive and varied aspects involved in the daily operations of food service within the prison system.

The seminar was then closed out with “Body Art Inspections – The Wayne County Way” by John Demerjian. In addition to some very interesting photos, Mr. Demerjian presented excellent insight into inspection process for the new Body Art/Tattoo regulations that are forthcoming for all local health departments.

The SEMEHA business meeting included the elections and several re-reelections. The 2009 SEMEHA Executive Board is as follows:

President
Jamice Landrum
Saginaw County

Treasurer
Theresa Brestovanski,
Wayne County

Secretary
Deb Socier
Saginaw County

Region A Representative
Dan Dicks
Bay County

Region B Representative
Mike Dey
St. Clair County

Region C Representative
Lisa Hodgkins
Wayne County

Region D Representative
Dawn Pickard
Genesee County

MEHA Representative
Darren Bowling
MDEQ

Planning for the SEMEHA Spring 2009 Seminar is well underway. Details will be posted on the MEHA website as soon as they are finalized.

Southwest Michigan Environmental Health Association

Once again the Southwest MEHA arranged for a gorgeous autumn day on which to hold the Fall Seminar. Approximately 50 attendees met at the Kellogg Biological Station on Gull Lake (the summer residence of W. K. Kellogg) near the Barry and Kalamazoo counties border for a one day educational session. President Suzanne Kidder welcomed the attendees.

The first speaker was **Dr. John Tilden** of Michigan Department of Agriculture's Animal Industry Division. John spoke passionately on the spread and methods of containment for bovine TB, Chronic Wasting Disease, and pseudorabies in captive and wild cervid herds in Michigan. This presentation touched on MDA and DNR efforts to monitor illegal livestock movement, management of unburied animals, feeding garbage to swine and baiting of deer. With swollen deer herds, Dr. Tilden emphasized that 2008 is definitely the year to hunt!

The second speaker of the morning was **Michelle Davis-Poeder** of the Kent County Health Department. Michelle gave a fascinating presentation on home hazards with a plethora of examples of how your own home environment can affect your family's well being. Remember, your family also includes your pets.

Wrapping up the morning presentations was **Kris Lachance** from Splash of Color Tattoo & Piercing and Health Educators, Inc. Kris has been instrumental in the passage of the legislation providing for licensure of all body art facilities in Michigan. The legislation aims to ensure the safety of Michigan residents and to protect them from unsafe practices and especially the risk of transmission of blood-borne diseases. Kris kept the audience spell bound with her in-depth analysis of hazards regarding body art procedures and lack safety for both the artist and patient. Before you even think twice about attending a tattoo party, talk to Kris.

Following a delicious hot lunch, the afternoon began with **Ron Steiner** from The Starting Block which is located in Hart. The Starting Block is the first kitchen incubator in Michigan, where it houses a commercial USDA certified kitchen. Ron enthusiastically explained the dynamics of entrepreneurship necessary to start and build a successful food business with the use of their facility.

Ending the educational seminar, **Jim Haywood**, Senior Meteorologist with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality captivated the members with his sense of humor in explaining air quality standards for ground-level ozone. Simply because of geography, several communities in western Michigan (such as Holland) are in non-attainment for the new ozone standards. Jim not only explained - he entertained!

2009 Southwest MEHA board members are:

Suzanne Kidder, MDA
Carolyn Hobbs Kreiger, Kalamazoo County
Dennis Smith, Kent County
Abbie Harding, MDA
Jill Lozmack, MDA
Spencer Ballard, Ottawa County
Jeff Reicherts, Kalamazoo County