

The Environmental Board met on 8 May 2013 at 5:30 pm at Town Hall. Attendees were Sue MiHalo, John Morris, Bob Cattani, Judy Mollway, Sharon Guy, and Tom Clouser.

The minutes of the last meeting (March) were read and Bob moved to accept them as read, which Sharon seconded. The motion carried.

Susan raised the issue of the notice of a violation (failure to test) that was included with the last water bill. This notice caused some confusion and concern among the residents. She proposed posting an FAQ section on the town web site with suggestions which were listed in an email from 5 May 2013, viz.:

- What drinking water MONITORING (?) standard was violated?
<http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/stage2/basicinformation.cfm>
- What contaminants might have been tested for with this sampling regimen?
- How can my health be potentially impacted with these contaminants (you already mentioned some of this).
- How was this violation detected? (self-reported?)
- Where and how often is this kind of monitoring supposed to be done? (quarterly?)
- How serious of a violation was this? (Tier 3??? – which only requires annual notification?)
- It appears that the issue has been resolved, but what sort of corrective action was taken to resolve it?
- How can this violation be avoided in the future?
- Does Ogden Dunes Water Works have a Standard Monitoring Plan that they follow?
- What can you tell me about how we manage compliance with Drinking Water Standards to give me assurance that our drinking water is safe to drink after it is passed to Ogden Dunes Water Works?
- How often is our drinking water program inspected by IDEM?
- Have there been any other violations of USEPA drinking water standards that we need to be aware of?
- How would we ever be notified if there was an emergency with our drinking water?
- What other kinds of parameters do we test for in our system?
- Why do we have to run these tests when our water comes from Indiana American Water?

Bob contended that this was the Water Board's task, but if we chose to add this to the Environmental Board's page, there were other areas we should address, to be consistent.

Indiana American Water has a proposal to close the lagoon behind the plant. IDEM is not pleased with the plan, as it did not address ecological risk. We did not comment on the plan, but it does need to be redone.

The cleanup weekend was discussed. All went well; more waste was collected, although some construction debris seems to have been placed in the dumpster at night, when no supervisors were present. Judy said that the donations to Habitat for Humanity went well, but notice of this recycling effort needed more notice, perhaps on the website.

Septic Awareness Week was discussed. Response to the web survey was small – only 25 responses. John noted the appearance of increased trips by septic companies. Porter County Health indicated that they could provide GIS mapping of the septic systems in town. This might aid homeowners who are not provided information by the realtor when they buy. Judy suggested scheduling a speaker for the Lions Club next year.

Judy has a grant to educate children about recycling on 27 June. She will try to schedule the Firehouse. The money would go for signs and prizes for the children.

The beach cleanup will just be the national September event, since Tom said the town cleans the beach just before Memorial Day weekend.

Testing for *E. coli* starts 24 May. Karen Berrier will use judgment to post closures based on experience so that the 24-hour delay for results does not affect the health of residents.

Work continues on Long Lake Marsh. The bald spot where the tree was removed must be replanted. Sue proposed getting funding for a brush cutter to be shared with the Beautification Committee, the Park Board, etc.

A suggestion was made to obtain a barrier to hide the paint cans and e-waste since they must remain there until the county picks them up.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.