

Technical Review Panel
Environmental Public Health Division
Indiana Department of Health
Meeting Notes from October 27, 2023
10:00am – 12:00pm, Yoho Conference Room, IDOH and via Teams

Panel Members Present:

Mike Mettler, IDOH	Dick Blazer, IBA	John Hack, OSS contractor
Mark McClain, IRSS	Jeff Healy, PE, ACEC	Claude Goguen, IOWPA
Amanda Lahners, LHD EHS	Jason Ravenscroft, academia (via Teams)	

Others Present:

Representative Jim Pressel (via Teams)	LA Brown, Installer (via Teams)
Alice Quinn and Denise Wright, IDOH, EPH	Carlie Hopper, IBA (via Teams)
Kelly MacKinnon, IDOH, OLA	
Dawn Stackhouse, Floyd County Health Department (via Teams)	
Josh Blauvelt and Gary Chapple, Allen County Department of Health (via Teams)	

Mettler called the meeting to order at 10:00am, and introductions were made.

Minutes of the 9/22/2023 meeting were reviewed. Healy made a motion to approve the minutes. Lahners seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: McClain, Healy, Goguen, Healy, Blazer, Lahners, Ravenscroft, Mettler, Hack.

Nays:

Motion passed.

Rep. Pressel stated that this was the culmination of 3-4 years of work, and it is still a work in progress. He is excited to see how it goes.

Floyd County ordinance was presented to the TRP. There was much discussion about the ordinance and those parts of the ordinance that are more stringent than or vary from the rule. Dawn Stackhouse, FCHD, was available to answer questions about the ordinance.

Blazer stated that the TRP needed facts and data to make decisions about the ordinance; he felt this submittal did not provide facts and data. Blazer said that common sense cannot be used and if he had to go to every county and read their local ordinance before giving an estimate for a system, the purpose of this panel has been defeated. Mettler stated that the ordinance had been vetted locally, and Blazer replied that installers were often not aware of ordinance changes until after they were already approved.

Ordinance items discussed:

- Connection to sewer
- Reconnection to an existing system
- Installer/Inspector registration
- Site Approval Permits
- Enforcement
- Construction Inspections
- Soil Pits
- Residential Outbuilding system sizing

- Holding Tanks
- Risers on distribution boxes
- Pump assisted drainage
- Repair/Replacement
- Permit expiration, transferability
- House plans required

Rep. Pressel indicated that the panel cannot vote on recommended verbiage that has not been presented to the County Commissioners. The ordinance has to be approved in whole or not at all. If not approved, it needs to be sent back to the county so that the County Commissioners know exactly what they are voting on.

Dawn was asked to summarize what changes were requested to the Floyd County Ordinance at this meeting. Those include:

- Clarify that IOWPA inspections that are required to be sent to the FCHD are only those where FCHD has requested a system inspection.
- The minimum DDF for a residential outbuilding should be lowered to 150 gpd with sizing of SAF in accordance.
- The reference to pump-assisted drainage needs to be removed.
- The reference to backhoe pits should be changed to soil pits.
- The requirement for house plans to be submitted should be clarified so that it is specific to what is needed on the plans such as bedrooms, bedroom equivalents, and closets.
- The number of inspections allowed for gravity systems should be increased to 2.
- The provision for no charge for inspections due to inclement weather needs to be clarified.
- The site approval permit process should be reworded to make it clearer and to understand the meaning.

McClain made a motion to not approve the FCHD ordinance and to send it back to the county for further revision. Motion was seconded by Hack. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: McClain, Healy, Goguen, Healy, Blazer, Lahners, Ravenscroft, Mettler, Hack.

Nays:

Motion passed.

The IDOH ATU Standard was presented to the TRP. The lockout mechanism requirement has been removed from the standard and all formatting issues have been fixed. Goguen made a motion to accept the revisions to the IDOH ATU Standard. Motion was seconded by McClain. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: McClain, Healy, Goguen, Healy, Blazer, Lahners, Ravenscroft, Mettler, Hack.

Nays:

Motion passed.

It was discussed that one meeting per month will be scheduled for the TRP at least until all ordinances are reviewed. The next meeting will be set for late November. Mark McClain made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Claude Goguen. The motion passed unanimously.