



Volume 33

Number 1

# DIGEST

February 2007

## **Advancing Environmental Health: Making a Difference**



# IEHA DIGEST

Volume 33, No. 1

February 2007

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The DIGEST and NEWSLETTER are the official publications of the Idaho Environmental Health Association. The Idaho Environmental Health Association is an organization of licensed environmental health workers who are dedicated to promoting professionalism and disseminating information on environmental health matters. IEHA is affiliated with the National Environmental Health Association and the International Association of Milk & Food Sanitarians, Inc. Original contents of the DIGEST may be reproduced with proper acknowledgment.

Issue Editor/Publisher: Robert Jue, REHS, 707 N. Armstrong Pl, Boise, ID 83704

# President's Message

President's Message

Dear IEHA members –

First I would like to talk about the 2006 NEHA meeting. I appreciate the opportunity I had to attend. It would be a good thing if all environmental health specialists could attend the annual meetings and more especially the Council of Delegates meeting, Affiliate President's meeting and the NEHA General Assembly Meeting.

In the above mentioned meetings you will hear persons from local, state and national level talk about various environmental health issues. Some states are having difficulty maintaining their status as environmental health workers and some states are having no problem at all. It is interesting to be a part of the discussion of how we at the state and local level can help to maintain our professional integrity.

Some of the meetings dealt with how "we" can help prepare for and meet the challenge of impending disasters caused by fire, flood, wind and other natural occurring events. As the world population grows we can count on these problems becoming more common. We are also being faced with the potential of pandemic disasters caused by disease. With our ever increasing ability to travel the globe quickly and easily for business or pleasure the potential to carry disease to and from far places is a reality.

There are many people world wide in the environmental field who are working constantly to be ahead of the curve in prevention and cure of the expected problems.

We in the environmental health field have the option to work at the local level or move up to the state or federal level to take our part in these programs.

While attending the various sessions of the NEHA program I learned many things, some to be put to use immediately and some for future use. One particular session I attended I found very interesting and thought to my self, "I sure am glad we do not have that problem", I had not been home two months until the almost identical problem came up in our health district. Those things that are happening elsewhere can also happen here close to home. We need to prepare ourselves to meet the challenges. I do not think we can learn too

much and we should take advantage of learning opportunities as they become available to us.

Our own Annual Education Conference is coming up very soon. I strongly suggest that you attend this year and take part in the learning which will occur. If there are subjects you believe would be of value please contact the conference coordinator and suggest the topic and speaker if you know one.

It is because of the many dedicated health professionals of the past that we have the opportunity to live healthy lives today.

Your President  
Dale King



Paul Guenther passes the gavel to Dale King

# President-Elect's Message

## And Then it Yelled "GO FOR IT!!"

I have a favorite cartoon. It's a picture of two rabbits, they are looking down a snow covered hill at a skier who has "post holed" it with nothing showing but two skis sticking out the snow, the two rabbits are trying to figure out what it is, one rabbit says, "and then it yelled GO FOR IT!". I'm happy to announce I haven't post holed it. Contraire, we have one fantastic conference planned. What a great opportunity it is to attend the annual conference and meet up with old friends in environmental health and meet new ones. I enjoy talking with my co-workers in the other districts, learning what you are doing to tackle some of issues we all deal with and to exchange war stories.

The agenda is in this issue of the Digest, look it over, make time to attend. (See Agenda at end of Digest) We have possibly the best keynote speaker we have ever had, **Bill Marler** of Marler Clark law firm. Thanks go to Patrick Guzzle for using his networking to bring Mr. Marler to us. Bill Marler has represented several victims in foodborne claim cases (does Jack in the Box ring a bell?). His talk will apply to everything we do, not just in the food program, but other liability issues we may face in the public health arena.

The moderators have worked very hard to bring good sessions to the table. This conference wouldn't be possible without them, make sure you show your appreciation to them, even if you don't attend the conference.

Last but not least, contact Deb Carney at District 4 Health Department and get your nominations for EHS of the year in. We have fantastic EHS's in the state and I firmly believe they need to be recognized.

SO GO FOR IT, come to the conference, learn, meet your coworkers in the state and become a better EHS as a result.

Sincerely,

Dee Johnson, President Elect

Conference Coordinator **See next page for keynote address topic.**

## SILENT AUCTION

**Plan on bringing a unique gift from your region to contribute to the silent auction at the Annual Educational Conference. Last year gift baskets and one made by Barry Burnell of pine needles, wines and trips were items offered.**

**And bring your checkbook to bid on items. All proceeds will go towards the IEHA Student Scholarship Fund.**

**Contact Paul Guenther, NCDHD, if you have questions. He will be coordinating this event.**

**Contact him at:**

**Phone - 208-799-3100.**

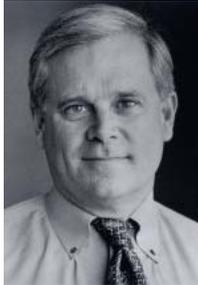
**Email address - [pguenthe@phd2.idaho.gov](mailto:pguenthe@phd2.idaho.gov)**



# **IEHA 2007 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

## **ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

### **BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION BUILDING**



#### **WILLIAM MARLER**

#### **MARLER CLARK ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**HOW TO SUE A HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** Understanding the Risk of Legal Liability for Negligent Inspections and Other Alleged Failures.

You're honest, hard-working, and good at what you do. On occasion, though, everybody suffers from a brief lapse of good judgment. What if that lapse happens while you're at work, and an outbreak happens because of a food-handling error that you should have noticed? Can the victims of an outbreak that results from that food-handling error file a lawsuit against your public health agency? Can the victims sue you, personally?

This presentation deals exclusively with an environmental health agency's liability, or the liability of its employees, for negligent inspections. There are many different rules and issues, and one state's rules are almost always different from its neighbor's. Some states have a system of immunities, some more complex than others, and other states follow what's called The Public Duty Rule.

This presentation will synthesize your state or region's rules and give you a framework from which to answer the foregoing questions about liability. We will discuss hypotheticals and certain real life situations where these liability issues were raised, and you will walk away able to analyze your agency's, or your own, potential liability in a variety of situations where a negligent inspection may have occurred.

*William Marler is the managing partner of Marler Clark L.L.P., P.S.*

He is a graduate of the Seattle University School of Law in 1987. In 1998 he became the Law School's "Lawyer in Residence." Mr. Marler received undergraduate degrees in Political Science, English and Economics from Washington State University in 1982. While attending WSU, he was elected to the Pullman City Council. At 19 years of age he was the youngest person, and first student ever elected. In 1997, Mr. Marler received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the WSU College of Liberal Arts. In 1998, Governor Gary Locke appointed Mr. Marler to the University Board of Regents.

As a trial lawyer, Mr. Marler has been involved

with several cases of national importance. He represented the children murdered by Wesley Alan Dodd; the family of William Louth, who died when a crane collapsed during Kingdome roof repairs; the Terlicker family in its suit against Martin Pang and the City of Seattle; and Brianne Kiner in her \$15.6 million settlement with Jack-in-the-Box. This settlement created a state record for an individual personal injury action. Mr. Marler also resolved several other Jack-in-the-Box cases for more than \$1.5 million each. In addition to representing other children injured in the E. coli outbreak of 1993, Mr. Marler also represented the Schuerhoff family, whose son died when pushed from a train trestle. In May of 1998, he settled the Odwalla Juice E. coli O157:H7 outbreak for the families of children who were severely injured after consuming Odwalla apple juice. He represented several children

(Continued from page 5)

in an E. coli outbreak stemming from E. coli contaminated swimming pool water in Georgia and a school lunch program in Washington state, as well as dozens of families impacted by salmonella poisoning from orange juice.

Mr. Marler is a frequent speaker at high schools, colleges and law schools. He spends several days per month helping companies avoid bacteria contamination through Outbreak Inc., a consulting firm formed in 1998.

He has an AV rating (peer reviewed with 10+ years admitted to the bar) from Martindale-Hubbell, and is listed in the Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers.

Mr. Marler co-authored the article, "How to document a food poisoning case" with David Babcock for the November 2004 issue of Trial Magazine, and presented his paper, "Separating the Chaff from the Wheat: How to determine the strength of a foodborne illness claim," at the 2005 Defense Research Institute meeting on food liability. The February, 2005 Food Safety In-Sight newsletter by Environ Health Associates, Inc. featured Bill's article, "Food Claims and Litigation." He also wrote, "How to Keep Your Focus on Food Safety," an article that appeared in the June-July 2005 issue of Food Safety Magazine.

He is married to Julie Marler and has three daughters, Morgan, Olivia and Sydney. He is a board member of the Washington State Trial Lawyers, a member of the board of directors of Bainbridge Youth Services, and a member of the Children's Hospital Circle of Care.

## Sudoku

Complete the grid so that every row, column and nine 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusive. Each number can only appear once in a 3x3, row or column. Solutions on page 40.

(Easy)

		2	3		4	7		
	1					3	4	
3	6		1	2		5		
4	8			9	3			
2			7		8			6
			6	1			5	8
		8		5	9		1	3
	4	9					7	
		5	8		6	2		

(Hard)

	4		9	8				
	9					2	4	
5		7		4	6			
						3	9	1
				3				
9	7	3						
			8	7		1		4
	3	2					8	
				2	4		5	

## EDITOR'S CORNER

Robert Jue, CDHD

### “That Darn Norovirus—Again”

During 2006 and early 2007 our district and state have experienced an increase in norovirus outbreaks. Some of the increase can be attributed to the addition of norovirus to the Idaho Reportable Diseases and Conditions rules in 2006. But the increase may be noticed because it is getting in the news more. Time magazine reported that San Quentin prison experienced an outbreak that transfers of offenders in and out of the prison was suspended for a week. The ocean liner QE2 was in the midst of an outbreak in January 2007 and the Hilton Inn near Dulles airport also did not accept new guests because of norovirus.

The CDC did hold a 50 state conference call to discuss the situation so they could better judge the extent of the norovirus outbreaks. District 4 has had four outbreaks confirmed this winter associated with two restaurants and two long-term care facilities. [The Idaho Office of Epidemiology and Food Protection consider norovirus outbreaks to be confirmed when 4 or more stools from different persons are positive.]

We can and should continue to emphasize thorough handwashing as a control and must intervene by using household bleach as a sanitizer on all non-porous surfaces. Norovirus is not affected by quaternary ammonium chloride compounds (quats). A virucidal called RelyOn made by DuPont is also effective at killing the virus.

The drawback for bleach (sodium hypochlorite) is the concentration for sanitizing hard surfaces is currently recommended by FDA at 5000 ppm that is about a 1:50 dilution or 1/3 cup of 5.25% bleach per gallon of water. Drawback for RelyOn (formerly Virtek) is availability and cost, compared to bleach.

Is the widespread use of quats in healthcare and foodservice and household cleaners the reason we have this surge of norovirus outbreaks? Or is it that we can better detect it in the ill?

I will suggest that it is both. The “stomach flu” or viral gastroenteritis of the last century is today’s norovirus.

**DATE: January 24, 2007**

**TO: IEHA Members**

**RE: Election for Area A Rep**

Dear IEHA Members:

**Jesse Anglesey** from Panhandle Health District is being nominated to fill out the remaining term of Rob Miller as Area A Representative. If elected at the March annual business meeting he will serve for one year until the next regular election.

Jesse is currently the solid waste coordinator with PHHD. Rob is currently at the University of Idaho working in the Environmental Health and Safety Office as an industrial hygiene specialist. His time and interest send him in other directions and has found it necessary to step down. We will miss Rob as he has been a go getter for IEHA, and has put together some excellent area training programs.

Paul Guenther, Past President  
Nominations Committee Chair  
Idaho Environmental Health Association

From **Rob Miller**

Thank you for the compliments Paul. Bob, I just sent the letter (of resignation) to Dale by email, so now it is official. Tell Jesse if he needs anything from me I can email him what I have gathered electronically (emails, forms, etc.). I hope the position's SOP helps too. As I said in my letter, there may be a time in the future where I become involved in this association once again. All doors are open. For now I plan to fully focus on my Masters Degree project.

Thanks to all of you. I will be back in touch later down the road.....

Rob

Industrial Hygiene Specialist  
Environmental Health and Safety  
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romiller@uidaho.edu

## **Definitions of special IEHA awards, in addition to the environmental health specialist of the year award (discussed in 2006)**

### **Lifetime Achievement Award**

This award is given to those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the profession and/or to the Association throughout the years". It is more than just longevity on the job and years with IEHA. The candidate needs to have gone "above & beyond", and made special or significant contributions to the field.

This award would be on the level of the NEHA Mangold Award - for "someone who has been an innovative forward thinker, a person of action who has been an inspiration to environmental health professionals; it is designed to recognize outstanding contributions to the preservation of the environment by the environmental health professional; someone who has performed professional duties in the field of environmental health above and beyond the usual employment requirements so as to elevate the professional status of the environmental health professional".

The application could be submitted by anyone, but would need to be submitted to the awards committee chair, and must be approved by all executive committee members.

### **Service Award**

This award is for an EHS that is retiring that has at least 20 years of service and has been a long time member of IEHA. It would be a special award recognizing years of service, and their commitment to public health and the profession.

An application would be submitted by any member of IEHA to the awards committee chairman and be approved by the awards committee.

### **President's Award**

This award would be awarded at the discretion of the President to an individual for special contribution(s) in environmental or public health, or outstanding accomplishments to the profession or to the Idaho Environmental Health Association, or National Environmental Health Association.

February 3, 2006  
peg

PROXY: If IEHA members are unable to attend the AEC business meeting, be sure to fill out a proxy form (make copy) and give to a member who is attending OR mail to Steve Pew, Secty-Treasurer by March 1, 2007.

## **PROXY**

I, being an IEHA member in good standing, do hereby authorize

(print name of proxy) \_\_\_\_\_, who is also a member in good standing, to act as my proxy in any voting matter at the IEHA 2007 business meeting.

Member Name (PRINTED) \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

January 2007

### President

#### **Dale King**

North Central District - Clearwater Office  
PO Box 1239, Orofino ID 83544  
Phone: (208) 476-7850  
Fax: (208) 476-7494  
email: dking@phd2.idaho.gov

### President-Elect

S. Dee Johnson, Southeast District Health Department  
55 E. 1st South  
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208-547-4375 ph.  
208-547-4398 fax  
djohnson@phd6.idaho.gov

### Past President

**Paul Guenther**, Northcentral District Health  
215 10<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lewiston, ID 83501  
Phone: 208-799-3100  
Fax: 208-799-0349  
Email: pguenthe@phd2.idaho.gov

### Secretary/Treasurer

**Steve Pew**, Southeastern District Health Department, 1901 Alvin Ricken Dr, Pocatello, ID 83201  
Home address – 957 Willow Ln  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
Phone: 208-239-5272  
Fax: 208-234-7169  
Email: spew@phd6.idaho.gov

### Area A Representative

(VACANT)

### Area B Representative

**Malcolm McGregor**, Central District Health, 707 N. Armstrong Pl, Boise, ID 83704  
Phone: (208) 327-7499  
Fax: (208) 327-8553  
email: mmcgrego@cdhd.idaho.gov

### Area C Representative

**Cindy Johnson**, District Seven Health Department, 254 "E" Street  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402-3597  
Phone: 208-522-0310  
Fax: 208-528-0857  
Email: cjohnson@phd7.idaho.gov

## IEHA COMMITTEES

IEHA has nine standing committees that offer an opportunity for you to participate in guiding environmental health in Idaho. The following is a list of the chairs of each committee and a short description of the duties.

**Audit Committee** Appointed at Annual Conference

Reviews the activities of the budget committee and the treasurer and reports findings to the general membership.

## IEHA OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

### Awards Committee, **Deb Carney**,

Central District Health Department  
707 N. Armstrong Pl.  
Boise, ID 83704-0825  
Phone: 208-327-8527  
Fax: 208-327-8553  
Email: dcarney@cdhd.idaho.gov  
Evaluates nominations for IEHA awards including the EHS of the Year.

### Budget Committee **Steve Pew**,

Southeastern District Health Dept  
1901 Alvin Ricken Dr., Pocatello ID 83201  
Phone: (208) 233-9080  
Fax: (208) 234-7169  
email: spew@phd6.idaho.gov  
Plans the expenditures of the association and maintains relevant records.

### Constitution and Bylaws **Bob Erickson**,

South Central District Health  
P.O. Box 162  
Hailey, ID 83333-0162  
Phone: 208-788-4335  
Fax: 208-788-0098  
Email: berickso@phd5.idaho.gov  
Keeps a current copy of the IEHA constitution and advises the council of necessary changes.

### Legislative Committee, **Jami Delmore**,

Southwest District Health Department  
920 Main St.  
Caldwell, ID 83605  
Phone: 208-455-5400  
Fax: 208-455-5405  
Email: [jdeltmore@phd3.idaho.gov](mailto:jdeltmore@phd3.idaho.gov)  
Keeps up-to-date on legislative activities to allow for comments from IEHA on activities that affect public health.

### Membership, **Jim Lane**,

Pocatello, ID 83201  
Phone: 208-  
Fax: 208-  
Email: [jwlane30@hotmail.com](mailto:jwlane30@hotmail.com)  
Responsible for increasing the visibility and membership of IEHA.

### Nominations and Elections **Barry Burnell**,

DEQ, 1410 N. Hilton  
Boise, ID 83706  
Phone: 208-373-0194  
Fax: 208-373-0576  
Email: bburnell@deq.idaho.gov  
Solicits nominees for position of the IEHA Executive Council.

### Professional Promotion, **Frank Isenberg**,

Central District Health Department  
707 N. Armstrong Pl.  
Boise, ID 83704-0825  
Phone: 208-327-8529  
Fax: 208-327-8553  
Email: [fisenber@cdhd.idaho.gov](mailto:fisenber@cdhd.idaho.gov)

### Program & Education Committee, **Dale King**

North Central District - Clearwater Office  
PO Box 1239, Orofino ID 83544  
Phone: (208) 476-7850  
Fax: (208) 476-7494  
email: dking@phd2.idaho.gov

Organizes and produces the annual conference.

**DIGEST Committee** Publish the DIGEST and NEWSLETTER semi-annually.

**Bob Jue - Editor/Publisher**, Central District Health, 707 N. Armstrong PL, Boise, ID 83704  
Area B (D-3 & 4)  
PH: (208) 327-7499  
FX: (208) 327-8553  
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### Area Correspondents

**Paul Guenther**, No. Central District Health, 707 N. Armstrong PL, Boise, ID 83704  
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PH: 208-799-3100  
FX: 208-799-0349  
Email: pguenthe@phd2.idaho.gov

**Bonnie Christensen**, Southeastern District Health Dept  
412 W. Pacific, Blackfoot, ID 83221 Area C (D-5, -6 & 7)  
PH: 208-785-2160  
FX: 208-785-6372  
Email: bchriste@phd6.idaho.gov

## IEHA Officers and Committee Chairs



(l to r) Front: Bob Jue, Cindy Johnson, Malcolm McGregor, Jami Delmore. Middle: Paul Guenther, Dale King, Deb Carney. Back: Frank Isenberg, Rob Miller, Barry Burnell, Steve Pew.

## Must the Person In Charge of a Food Operation Report Employee Illness to a Health District?

(From the Central District Health Department food newsletter, the Food Review)

Congratulations to food service operators for keeping us at the Health District informed when they have illness situations reported by customers or employees. Early interventions can keep the outbreak limited. Delayed reporting or interventions can allow the outbreak to spread and result in adverse publicity. Our health district has had large and small outbreaks, some local, and some national. Below are illness-related questions employers ask.

Q. Do I have to report employee illnesses to the Health District?

A. Yes. If an employee has certain, diagnosed illnesses or conditions in a communicable form, including diarrhea or vomiting, the person in charge of the eating or drinking establishment [or school or child care] must immediately notify the Health District and obtain guidance on proper actions needed to protect the public. The ill employee shall not work as a food handler as long as

the disease is in a communicable stage.

The diseases and conditions include, but are not limited to Campylobacteriosis, Diarrhea, E. coli O157:H7, norovirus, Hepatitis A, skin infections, vomiting.

Q. During an outbreak investigation, do employees have to submit a stool (or other) specimen or submit to an examination?

A. Yes, if the investigator has reasonable cause to believe the food handler is afflicted with a disease listed in the administrative rule: Rules and Regulations Governing Idaho Reportable Diseases.

More diseases are on the website: <http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa16/0210.pdf>

Q. Will the employee be restricted from working?

A. Maybe. Depending on the illness, the employee may be allowed to return to work when feeling well, or may be required to submit further specimens for testing. Each disease has its own-restriction protocol. (See the Rules website above.)

## Food Safety Can Depend on the State You Live In

By THOMAS HARGROVE  
November 20, 2006

The rate at which state health departments are able to detect and diagnose outbreaks of food illness varies alarmingly in the United States.

Worst in the nation at finding outbreaks of food sickness is Kentucky, which reported only four outbreaks affecting 35 people over a five-year period, according to a Scripps Howard News Service study of 6,374 food-sickness-outbreak reports to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Kentucky's figures are especially suspicious since state labs reported at least 3,800 individuals contracted diseases like Salmonella, Campylobacter and E. coli from 2000 to 2004. These are diseases usually transmitted through food. But few of these were linked as having common sources of illness.

"What we are reporting is just what we can document and substantiate from within our files," said Kentucky State Health Officer William Hacker. "I suspect we are underreporting what we deal with on a regular basis, just from my own experience."

Public and private laboratory technicians make most of the contagious-disease reports in Kentucky. But lab techs usually are not told if the blood, urine or stool samples they've been asked to test are part of an outbreak.

A month after Scripps contacted Kentucky medical officials about the state's low reporting rates, authorities announced they are "enhancing" the state's Electronic Disease Surveillance Module to require people who report a communicable disease to check "yes" or "no" to questions of whether it could be part of a food- or water-related outbreak.

*(Continued on page 21)*

**LEGISLATURE UPDATE AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 2007 (from Jami Delmore, SWDHD)**

REMEMBER: COMPLETE, UPDATED INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET: [www.legislature.idaho.gov](http://www.legislature.idaho.gov)

**House Bills**

**H0003**

**BUDGET STABILIZATION FUND** - Amends existing law to increase the maximum percentage of total General Fund receipts that may be in the Budget Stabilization Fund; and to provide that the limitation on appropriations of moneys from the Budget Stabilization Fund shall be based on the eight percent fund balance.

*(This involves if a disaster declaration is made by governor.)*

This legislation increases the percentage of the General Fund that can be deposited into the Budget Stabilization Fund. The percent is increased from 5% to 8%.

*Passed by House on 1/29/2007; went to Senate 1/30/2007.*

**H0028**

**ENGINEERS - LAND SURVEYORS** - Amends existing law relating to professional engineers and land surveyors to revise definitions; to revise compensation for members of the Idaho Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors; to revise provisions applicable to the use of seals, signature and dates on documents; to revise provisions relating to disciplinary actions; to provide an exemption for certain work conducted by professional engineers; and to provide a right of entry for private surveying.

This legislation will modify the definition of "responsible charge" to reduce the practice of aiding and abetting unlicensed persons, and it will define "standard design plan" as used in the act. It will increase the honorarium for Board Members from \$50 per day to \$75 per day. It will clarify that a professional seal, signature and date are required on final work products which are labeled "preliminary" if they are intended to be relied upon to make policy decisions important to life, health, property or fiscal interest of the public. It will clarify that documents should be sealed, signed and dated in such a manner that the seal, signature and date are reproduced when the original document is copied. It will delete conflicting language

regarding a principal sealing the title sheet. It will delete language that is in conflict with the Administrative Procedures Act. It will provide an exemption from the "responsible charge" definition in circumstances where a "standard design plan" will be used. It will exempt private practice professional land surveyors from trespass violations when conducting surveys necessitating access to property, but will hold them accountable for any damages they might cause.

*Under Review*

**H0033**

**UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS** - Adds to existing law relating to underground storage tanks to provide legislative findings and intent; to provide a program scope; to provide for rulemaking; to provide additional measures to protect ground water; to provide for operator training and inspections; to prohibit certain deliveries; to provide for an underground storage tank database; and to provide for enforcement.

Amend Idaho Code, Title 39 by adding a new Chapter, which will authorize DEQ to inspect federally regulated underground storage tanks (USTs) in lieu of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and to implement new requirements contained in the federal "Underground Storage Tank Compliance Act of 2005" adopted August 8, 2005. One requirement of this new federal act is that states have a state-run, comprehensive prevention program (in other words an UST program) in place in order to continue to receive federal funds for the clean up of leaking underground tanks. Idaho does not currently have this program in place, which could mean the loss of approximately \$750,000 per year. Passage of this legislation would give DEQ the authority necessary to administer the UST program and would allow us to meet the requirements of the federal act and ensure that no funding is lost. Additionally, Idaho is simply in a much better position than the federal government to implement the UST program and the state will benefit overall from this change.

*Passed by House on 1/29/2007; Sent to Senate 1/30/2007*

**H0040**

**TAXING DISTRICTS** - Amends existing law to provide that when a taxing district is holding an election to increase the property tax portion of its budget, it shall mail a notice of the election to every property taxpayer in the taxing district in a similar manner that property tax notices are sent out; to provide that the

*(Continued on page 12)*

(Continued from page 11)

notice shall state with specificity the date of the election, polling places, the time the polls will open, the aggregate amount of taxes that will be raised in the taxing district if the election is successful and the increased taxes that will occur to the median valued property of residential property, of business property and of agricultural property.

This legislation requires taxing districts, when holding an election to increase property taxes, to mail notices of such elections to property taxpayers.

*Under Review*

#### **H0041**

**TAXING DISTRICTS** - Adds to and amends existing law to provide a mechanism for the voters of certain taxing districts to reduce the property tax portion of the taxing district's budget for the following fiscal year, with exceptions; to define terms; to provide procedures; to provide a restriction imposed by a statute for indigent assistance; to provide the amount of the property tax portion of a taxing district's budget in the event a taxing district's property tax portion of its budget is established pursuant to a property tax reduction election; to provide for an increase of that amount according to certain factors; and to limit foregone increases.

This legislation will amend Chapter 8, Title 63, Idaho Code. By vote of the people a taxing district budget could be limited, thus lowering property taxes. The legislation would exempt school budgets.

*Under Review*

#### **H0046**

**PSEUDOEPHEDRINE** - Amends existing law to revise limitations relating to the selling, transferring or furnishing of pseudoephedrine products by retailers; to revise limitations relating to purchase of pseudoephedrine products; and to revise requirements applicable to retailers.

The purpose of this legislation is to bring Idaho code relating to Pseudoephedrine sales into compliance with Federal Law.

*Under Review*

#### **H0058**

**ORGANIC FOOD PRODUCTS** - Amends existing law relating to organic food products to revise defini-

tions.

This legislation will amend four definitions within the Organic Food Products Act; Handler, Livestock, Person and Producer. These changes will bring the state law into compliance with the National Organic Program Rules.

*Under Review*

#### **H0062**

**PUBLIC FUNDS** - Amends existing law to revise provisions applicable to the misuse of public money by officers.

The purpose of the amendment to Idaho Code, Section 18-5701, is to include all public officials that use public funds, not just those officials with a clear statutory duty to keep public monies safe. The Idaho Court of Appeals recently interpreted the current statute to only apply to public officials who are specifically charged by law with the receipt, disbursement and safe keeping of public money. As a result, public officials who misused public monies, but were not charged by law with the receipt, disbursement and safe keeping of those monies could not be punished under Idaho Code, Section 18-5701. Because public officials have a greater duty to make proper and legal use of public funds as a result of the trust the public places in those officials and because public officials have greater and more frequent access to public funds, the misuse of public monies merits a specific provision prohibiting the conduct and greater penalty than ordinary theft.

*Under Review*

#### **Senate Bills**

#### **S1001**

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM** - Amends existing law relating to the Public Employee Retirement System to reference the ability to purchase membership service related to certain active duty service in the armed forces; to revise the date applicable to eligibility for disability retirement; to clarify separation of service for retired members; to clarify separation from employment for inactive members; and to provide for the purchase of membership service relating to a member's active duty service.

This bill contains technical corrections and IRS compliance amendments as follows:

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1. Sections 1, 5, and 6, of the bill implement changes required by the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA), as amended, and final regulations recently issued by the IRS implementing the provisions of that Act. That act essentially sets forth minimum standards for the treatment of employees who are called into active duty service in the armed forces. Employers may be more generous, but not less. One of the requirements is that upon reemployment the employee is essentially treated as if he didn't leave for purposes of any retirement plan. If it is a contributory plan like PERSI, the employee will receive service if he pays missed contributions. The PERSI plan actually grants this service (known as military service) in most cases without payment of any contributions, but there are cases where a member's active duty service may be eligible for reemployment rights under USERRA, but not eligible to be credited as military service under PERSI. The new IRS regulations make it clear that in these cases, the employer must credit the additional service upon payment of the employee contribution. The amendments to sections 59-1302(23), 59-1362, and 59-1363, Idaho Code, coordinate the granting of military service (free service), purchase of additional membership service related to USERRA requirements (based on contributions), and the purchase of all other service which is based on actuarial costs. The existing section 59-1362, Idaho Code, is being replaced as it became superfluous due to the subsequent enactment of section 59-1363, which provided for purchase of service without underlying military service based on actuarial costs.

2. Section 2 of the bill is a technical correction to section 59-1352, Idaho Code. Last year this section was amended to add subsection 3 a time limitation after separating from service for applying for disability retirement. As initially enacted, the limitation period begins running "the last day physically on the job." Using this date has proved to sometimes be problematic in cases where the member is on worker's compensation or short-term disability because the limitation period may expire before it is determined that the member cannot return to work. By changing the beginning date of the limitation period to "date of last contribution as an active member," most of these problems will be eliminated.

3. Sections 3 and 4 of the bill clarify what constitutes a separation from service or employment consistent with recent guidance from the IRS. One of the requirements of qualified plans is that benefits generally cannot be paid until the member separates from service. A mem-

ber may separate from service by death, disability, retiring, or simply terminating employment. Some employers have permitted employees to change status from an "employee" to a contractor, a leased employee or a temporary services employee, in order to make the employee eligible for retirement plan benefits. The IRS has now indicated that while an employer may change the status of an employee, that change does not constitute a "separation from service" for purposes of receiving benefits under the plan. So, while the contractor, leased employee or temporary services employee may no longer be eligible to participate in the plan because of the change in status, they also are not eligible to receive benefits from the plan because they have not "separated from service." These sections of the bill amend sections 59-1356 and 59-1359, Idaho Code, to make it clear that this practice is not acceptable.

*Under Review*

#### **S1002**

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM -** Amends existing law relating to the Public Employee Retirement System to provide that certain contributions shall be held in trust; to provide that the retirement board shall serve as trustee of the trust; to set forth limitations applicable to trust assets; and to provide that trust assets may be commingled for investment purposes with other assets managed by the retirement board.

This bill makes similar amendments to section 67-5333, Idaho Code, governing unused sick leave funds for state employees, and to section 33-1228, Idaho Code, governing unused sick leave funds for school district employees. In both cases, regular contributions are collected by PERSI and managed to pay the benefits provided by those sections. In order to protect those funds so they can be used for their intended purpose, this bill clarifies that the funds are held in trust and not subject to claims of creditors. It also designates the Retirement Board, who currently manages the funds, as trustees of the trust and indemnifies them. Finally, it clarifies that assets in the trust may be commingled for investment purposes with other assets managed by the Retirement Board.

*Under Review*

#### **S1003**

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM -** Amends existing law relating to the Public Employee

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Retirement System to set forth contribution and payment provisions to apply when an employer fails to properly report the employment of a retired member and benefit payments have been made.

PERSI Employers are required to accurately report, withhold and transmit to PERSI all employee and employer contributions, under Idaho Code 59-1325. This bill amends section 59-1356, Idaho Code, to place the burden of incorrect reporting on the employer who fails to correctly report re-employed retirees. Under section 59-1356, Idaho

Code, a retiree's benefit is suspended when they become reemployed and meet eligibility for PERSI with a PERSI employer. In addition, both employee and employer contributions must commence and the retiree earns a supplemental retirement benefit related to this service. At times employers sometimes fail to report the retiree as an eligible employee and sometimes months go by until PERSI discovers the failure, usually during an audit. Because of this delay, the retiree is required to repay the benefits that should have been suspended plus interest, and pay the employee contributions that should have been withheld and paid by the employer, creating a substantial burden on the retiree. This amendment will put the burden of repayment on the employer who has the statutory obligation to correctly report eligible employees and failed to do so. It does not prevent the employer from seeking repayment from the employee, but it assures that PERSI trust funds are quickly repaid without a substantial burden on the employee.

*Under Review*

#### **S1036**

**APPROPRIATIONS** - Appropriating an additional \$5,544,100 to the Department of Environmental Quality for fiscal year 2007.

This supplemental appropriation provides \$5,544,100 in federal spending authority to the Department of Environmental Quality for yard remediation in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

Mining began in the Coeur d'Alene River Basin in the late 1880s; lead smelting started in the area known as the Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Complex in Kellogg in 1917 and continued until 1981. The area produced a significant portion of the nation's silver, lead, and zinc. It was common for mine owners to store large waste piles on site and to dispose of mine wastes directly into the Coeur d'Alene River. An estimated 62 million tons of mine wastes were dumped directly into the river and its tributaries between 1884 and 1968,

when the practice was finally halted. Smelter and mine wastes were redistributed throughout the floodplain as river, wind, and human activities reworked the soils. Furthermore, fine particle residues known as tailings were frequently used as fill for residential and commercial construction projects. In 1986, EPA began removing and replacing contaminated soils in public areas such as parks, playgrounds, and roadsides that tested above 1,000 parts per million lead. The next step was to remove and replace soil in residential yards with high lead content. A Record of Decision (ROD) for residential soils in the populated areas was completed in 1991, and EPA began replacing contaminated soils in home yards of pregnant women and young children (age six and under) at highest risk of lead poisoning. DEQ took over this responsibility in 2002, and that same year, EPA issued a 30-year cleanup plan to address mining contamination in the broader Coeur d'Alene Basin upstream and downstream of Coeur d'Alene Lake.

*Senate approved 1/31/2007; moved to House*

#### **S1056**

##### **CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS** -

Amends existing law to provide that affected persons may comment on proposed confined animal feeding operations; and to delete mileage limitations for members of the public to comment.

The purpose of this measurement is to insure that affected persons have an opportunity to be heard at a public hearing in front of local decision makers regarding Confined Animal Feeding Operations siting. It also eliminates the one-mile primary residency requirement currently in Idaho Code.

*Under Review*



Introducing Environmental Health  
Section of Southeast District Health Department—PHD 6.



Left to right: Larry Dunn, Craig Madson, Carolee Cooper, Kevin Blanch, Ken Keller, Bonnie Christensen, Brigitta Rugierro, Dee Johnson, Steve Pew, Glenna Wolley and Mike Reas. (ed. note: Glenna holds down the fort when the EHSs are away and keeps them in line when they are not!)

## Presenting District 6 aka Southeastern District Health Department.

Led by Director Ed Marugg this district serves 8 counties. The main office is in Pocatello, Bannock County. The other county offices are in Montpelier (Bear Lake Co), Blackfoot, (Bingham Co), Arco (Butte Co), Soda Springs (Caribou Co), Preston (Franklin Co), Malad (Oneida Co), and American Falls (Power Co).

### Steve Pew—Environmental Health Director

Steve has been with Southeastern District Health

Department for seventeen and a half years. He worked out of the Pocatello office covering Bannock and Power Counties. He became Environmental Health Supervisor in about 1993, and then became the Environmental Health Director in about 2002.

Steve grew up in Pocatello attended Idaho State University and received his masters Degree in Forensic Entomology.

He loves soccer, hockey, bicycling, where he rides with the Idaho Cycling Enthusiasts. He also enjoys bow hunting, and bird hunting with his son. Steve's other favorite activities include, reviewing timesheets, answering coding questions and disapproving our requests for leave.

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### **Mike Reas—Supervisor**

Mike has been with Southeastern District Health Department since 2002 and started with Central District Health Department in 1999. We can tell Mike Reno (D4) messed with his mind as Reas is still recovering. Mike has worked in Bingham and Bannock Counties. Mike was the Food Program Coordinator prior to becoming the Environmental Health Supervisor.

Mike grew up in Burley, Idaho. He attended Boise State University and graduated in Environmental Health. He too is very proud of the Broncos this year.

Mike enjoys woodworking and all work in general. He tries to have as many full time jobs as possible. He currently owns a couple cows to mow his field and yard. He still likes to get away and go fishing and hunting. We understand he's very good at swimming in his chest waders.

### **Craig Madson**

Craig has worked for Southeastern District Health Department for 16 years. He is currently working as the Public Water Program Coordinator. He travels all over our District covering all counties. He also covers all of the general EHS duties in Power County.

Craig grew up in Elkhorn, Idaho. Don't worry if you don't know where this is, most don't. It is near Malad, Idaho. He attended Brigham Young University and graduated in Health Education.

In his spare time he enjoys gardening and taking in BYU football.

Craig enjoys environmental health because of the opportunities to meet and interact with people.

### **Kevin Blanch**

Kevin Blanch has been with Southeastern District Health Department for over a year. He covers Franklin and Oneida Counties and lives in Preston Idaho. This is a difficult area to be an EHS because of the clay soils and high ground water he encounters. That might be why Kevin claims his

favorite program to work in is foods.

Kevin grew up in Burley, Idaho. He attended Idaho State University and graduated with a B.S. in Biological Sciences and a Minor in Botany.

He enjoys spending time with his family (he has a new baby girl) and working on his new home and yard.

Kevin enjoys Environmental Health because it is making changes for the best and protecting public health and the environment.

### **Bonnie Christensen**

Bonnie Christensen has been with Southeastern District Health Department for six years and has been an EHS for sixteen years. She worked for South Central District Health Department for ten years. In Southeastern District Health Department she has worked in Franklin, Oneida and currently Bingham County.

Bonnie grew up in Shelley, Idaho. She attended the college of Southern Idaho and then Idaho State University where she graduated with a degree in Medical Dietetics.

In her spare time she enjoys riding her horses and she likes to go to her family's ranch in Bone, Idaho. If you want to have fun, just ask Bonnie to tell you a story. She has a few really good ones (holding robbers at gunpoint until the Police show up).

### **Carolee Cooper**

Carolee Cooper is the newest EHS at Southeastern District Health Department but not by much over Brigitta Ruggiero. Carolee has been with us for eight months. She is currently working as the Day Care Program Coordinator based out of the Pocatello Office.

Carolee grew up in Pocatello. She attended Idaho State University and graduated with a B.S. in Biology.

She enjoys hiking and camping and coming up with new pranks to pull on her supervisor, Mike

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Reas. I believe her husband and three children keep her pretty busy too.

Although her primary duties are in the Day Care Program it is fun to get her out on a septic inspection on a very wet and muddy day.

Oh, and good luck on your upcoming NEHA Credentialing Exam.

### **Larry Dunn**

Larry Dunn has been with Southeastern District Health Department for nearly five years. As a lot of our EHS Staff, Larry started out in Bingham County. Two years later he transferred to Pocatello to become the Food Program Coordinator.

Larry grew up all over the United States, making stops in California, Tennessee and Idaho. He attended Idaho State University where he graduated with a B.S. in Ecology. This is no surprise to those who know him. His hobbies include bow hunting, water fowling, fishing, camping, skiing, snowmobiling, motorcycling and cooking.

What Larry likes the most about being an EHS is helping people make changes and reduce food borne disease. Larry is doing a great job of that.

### **Dee Johnson**

Dee is a veteran at Southeastern District Health Department. She has been at it for 18 years, and has covered most of our counties. These counties include: Bingham, Butte, Bannock, Caribou and Bear Lake. She has been a general EHS, Senior over the Public water program and currently the Solid Waste Program.

Dee grew up in Blackfoot and Rockland Idaho. She attended Ricks College (currently BYU – Idaho) and then Idaho State University. She graduated with a B. S. in Biology.

She is as active as they come. She enjoys rock climbing, mountaineering, backpacking, kayaking/canoeing, bicycling, skiing, hunting, fishing and playing with her family.

Dee says she enjoys the sewer program the most, “especially when a homeowner puts the infiltrators in UPSIDE DOWN!” She enjoys Environmental Health

because she gets to help protect public health and educate people.

Dee was recently elected President Elect of The Idaho Environmental Health Association. She has been very busy and is doing an excellent job.

### **Ken Keller**

Ken Keller has been with Southeastern District Health Department for three and a half years. He started in Bingham County and in February of 2006 transferred to Pocatello to become the Onsite Septic Program Coordinator.

Ken grew up in McCammon, a small town in south-east Idaho. He attended Idaho State University and received a B.S. in Health Education.

Ken enjoys spending time with his wife and three children. He also enjoys camping, fishing, hunting and hiking and loves to watch and play all sports. He must not get enough abuse at work since he actually enjoys refereeing high school football and basketball.

He enjoys the onsite septic program because of the variety of challenges and the public health it works to protect.

### **Brigitta Ruggiero**

Brigitta has been with Southeastern District Health Department for nine months. She currently works in Bingham County and covers Butte County as well.

Brigitta grew up in California (in a National Park) and in Boise, Idaho. She attended Boise State University (congratulations on the huge Fiesta Bowl win). She graduated in Environmental and Occupational Health.

In her spare time she likes to do anything outdoors, especially climbing, swimming, camping and hiking. She has put quite a few miles on her Toyota Tacoma traveling to Boise to see family and friends.

She recently passed the NEHA Credentialing Exam with flying colors. She enjoys environmental health because there is always something new and exciting to do.

## WEST NILE VIRUS

While world epidemiologists were occupied with Avian Influenza during 2006, Idaho had more diagnosed cases of West Nile Fever than any state in the nation. In Ada County, squirrels apparently ill with West Nile were seen dragging their hindquarters. [Ed. note. The toll on squirrels must have been high as I harvested a bumper crop of English walnuts for the first time in 30 years. Normally, squirrels did the harvesting leaving few for me.]

Despite the West Nile outbreak, Idaho planners were not ignoring Avian Flu. One of the many documents about Avian Flu was the NEHA Position on Avian and Pandemic Flu adopted by NEHA on April 28, 2006. Here is the document from their website.

### **National Environmental Health Association Position Regarding**

### ***Avian and Pandemic Flu***

**Adopted April 28, 2006**

#### **Discussion**

As HHS Secretary Leavitt is quick to point out, pandemics are a part of life. They happen. Some ten pandemics have developed over the last 300 years; three within the last century. Pandemics occur largely because flu viruses easily mutate due to the fact that they lack a self-correcting mechanism to guard against mutations. If the virus mutates in a significant way and becomes unlike anything that people have seen before, a pandemic may very well take flight because the human population will not have any immunity to the virus. And as Secretary Leavitt has been quick to point out, this very scenario has played out many times over the course of human history.

At the moment, there is worldwide concern that the H5N1 virus may be evolving in the direction of becoming a pandemic flu virus. Accordingly, nations throughout the world are mobilizing to deal with what could be a serious pandemic. As a part of these mobilization efforts, nations are purchasing and stockpiling anti-viral medications just as they are developing plans

for the mass vaccination of its citizens. The United States and every state within the United States is following a similar course of action.

While in the long term, developing a vaccine and administering it to the population at large would seem to be the appropriate public health strategy, there are significant problems with this strategy in the short term. Not the least of these problems is the simple fact that with current vaccine producing technology, it could take as long as six to eight months *after* the pandemic virus appears before a vaccine could even be produced. Moreover, early trials of H5N1-type vaccines are indicating that in order to produce an acceptable immune response, at least two doses of the vaccine will be necessary. On top of that, each dose would have to be three to six times the standard dose that is administered in flu vaccines today.

And even at these high doses, information from the H5N1 vaccine trials are indicating that immunity is only conferred on about half of all who took the vaccine.

This is all troubling because it indicates that a vaccine will not be available until well after a pandemic begins (and well after the first pandemic wave goes through – which is generally regarded to be the worst). Moreover, when vaccines finally do become available, they will be available in only very limited amounts.

If a serious pandemic flu were to develop and if in fact, the vaccine crisis suggested by this discussion actually plays out as described, that will mean that our best strategy for protecting people and our economy will be the adherence to basic public health principles and practices. To limit the spread of the disease, there will have to be a heavy reliance on promoting cough etiquette, frequent hand washing, social distancing, regular disinfection in the workplace, self isolation (as in working from home), curtailment of meetings, and so forth. In order for this strategy to be effective, the public health community as a whole (inclusive of environmental health professionals) is going to have to all join together to promote and communicate these public health messages to our communities.

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## **Recommendations**

1. ***Environmental Health professionals need to help get the word out on appropriate public health messages.***

In view of the conditions that we can anticipate throughout at least the first part of a serious pandemic, NEHA strongly recommends that all environmental health professionals understand that they are likely to be involved in general public health efforts to promote public health messages about appropriate public health practices during a pandemic.

2. ***Environmental Health Professionals need to accept that in a serious pandemic, they may have to perform tasks that have little to do with traditional environmental health work.***

NEHA also urges environmental health professionals to consider themselves to be a part of the public health team. The response to a serious pandemic will largely be local event. Local public health departments are going to have to rely on all of its employees to do whatever it must do to protect the public health of its community. As such, environmental health employees may find that they are being given assignments that bear little resemblance to the typical environmental health work that they have been trained to do.

Moreover, it is expected that in a serious pandemic, workplace absenteeism could be as high as 25% and even more. If a local public health department has to carry the burden of a major response role and its workforce is significantly impaired, we can expect that health departments will quickly adopt an “all hands on deck” approach to its work. Accordingly, environmental health professionals may well find themselves involved in tasks ranging from traffic control in mass vaccination clinics, to community surveillance work to actually distributing medicines themselves. We as a profession need to embrace such assignments

understanding that in the big picture we are all public health professionals doing what we have to do to protect the communities that we serve.

3. ***Environmental Health Professionals need to help make the point that mass vaccination centers will only come into play much later during a serious pandemic.***

The overwhelming emphasis in public pronouncements, state pandemic flu plans and the like is on getting a mass vaccination program in place to defend against a serious pandemic flu. As important as this is and as the above discussion points out, a considerable part of the overall effort that will be undertaken in community after community all around the country, should a pandemic erupt, is going to be centered on getting the public to adopt basic public health practices. It is the opinion of NEHA that this has not been emphasized enough and in fact, a false sense of security is being promoted with all the talk about vaccination centers. Accordingly, NEHA urges its members as they participate in pandemic flu planning activities to emphasize the importance of engaging in basic public health practices. This will of necessity become the front-line defense for any response to a pandemic flu for the better part of the duration of the pandemic.

4. ***Environmental Health Professionals need to take this issue seriously and prepare for the worst.***

Finally, it is the position of NEHA that this is an issue that needs to be taken very seriously. A pandemic flu deriving from the current H5N1 virus racing around the world may never develop. However, if a pandemic does develop and if it resembles the deadly pandemic of 1918, the consequences to our society could be extraordinary. In fact, many commentators worry beyond the health impact itself to some degree of social disorder and economic impact. Such social breakdown could be unleashed by a public that is unprepared for mass illness and fatalities and by a public health system that is similarly unprepared for the sheer magnitude of the pressure it could be under. As Secretary Leavitt often notes, “we are overdue and under prepared”.

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Consequently, NEHA urges its members and the environmental health profession to take this issue seriously. NEHA also urges its members to avail themselves of whatever training is available in the general area of pandemic flu and emergency response. A well-prepared workforce is going to have a significant impact on how serious a pandemic flu or for that matter; any emergency situation will ultimately prove to be.

5. ***NEHA encourages environmental health professionals to in turn encourage their health departments to train both for preparedness and for willingness to respond.***

According to a recent (March 2005 – July 2005) survey of three prototypical health departments in Maryland, (published in the April 2006 journal BMC Public Health), 42% of health department employees said that they would not respond in the event of a flu pandemic. The less important the employee felt his or her role would be, the higher the percentage became. Presumably, if environmental health employees feel that their role would be minimal or perhaps even inappropriate, environmental health employees would also be less inclined to report for work.

The study's co-author (Dr. Daniel Barnett, an instructor at the Johns Hopkins University Center for Public Health Preparedness) noted that the public should be concerned about these results, as the system cannot function during a pandemic if many key workers don't show up. The author also assumes that these findings would apply throughout the country.

The co-author further recommends that "health departments can and should develop clear and coordinated response plans and raise the prevailing level of flu knowledge among staff. NEHA would offer that the more knowledgeable the staff, the more willing they might be to participate in whatever response the health department would be conducting.

## **Idaho Mosquito and Vector Control Association - potential legislative changes**

I attended the second half of the Idaho Mosquito and Vector Control Association workshop yesterday (Nov 27, 2006). There were several county commissioners from the state that attended. Also in attendance were Tony Poinelli (Deputy Director of the Idaho Association of Counties), Senator Brad Little and Representative Darrel Bolz. They gave several suggestions on potential problems with the proposed changes. They are looking to add "Vermin" along with "Vector".

"Vermin" would be defined as small animals or insects of public health concern which are difficult to control when they appear in large numbers. "Vector" is defined as "An animal (such as an insect) that transmits a disease producing organism from one host to another." The vermin definition appears to be related to the black fly problems occurring in the Magic and Treasure Valley areas.

Another issue is for the ability to include non-contiguous areas into a Mosquito Abatement District. The area would have to be at least 640 acres in size or include complete political subdivisions (counties, cities, towns and rural communities) and their impact areas. The political subdivision would have to be at least 40 acres.

They are also proposing several new sections that would include disaster/emergency/interim pest management provisions. I don't have an electronic version yet. They are tweaking it some more. They said they would send it over so I can distribute it to you soon.

Jack Bennett, Ada County Mosquito Abatement District, is currently the main contact. Bob Hays has also been working on the changes.

They are a new association. We may want to invite them to the IEHA conference to talk. It would also potentially give both associations new membership opportunities.

Jami Delmore  
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*(Continued from page 10)* **Food Safety**

"We really hadn't been categorizing food- and water-borne outbreaks," said Kentucky Epidemiologist Kraig Humbaugh. "This will help us with our reporting system. It should increase the number of food outbreaks that CDC sees from us."

Ten other states reported food-sickness outbreaks at a rate of only half the national average or even less. They are: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Delaware, Indiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oklahoma and West Virginia.

The best is Washington, D.C., where the public health network does a good job of monitoring food illness among a mostly economically disadvantaged population, health experts said. The city detected 28 outbreaks that sickened 1,024 people during the five years studied.

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services is detecting food-borne illness at a rate more than 80 times that of Kentucky. The state reported 138 outbreaks that killed or sickened 4,105 people. Most of those reports came from doctor's offices.

Wisconsin also has the nation's best record in diagnosing the causes of food illness, confirming the specific bacteria or virus involved in 90 percent of its outbreaks.

"This is not a magic trick. It has to do with our total system," said Wisconsin Health Secretary Helene Nelson. "We have local public health departments, we have clinicians (doctors and nurses) who are first encountering the diseases, we have a state public health division that coordinates and communicates and helps analyze with the epidemiologists, and we have really good state lab facilities. It is all those parts working together."

Wisconsin was first to detect a death from September's nationwide outbreak of E. coli-infected raw spinach. Wisconsin identified one of the three confirmed deaths and 49 of the other 199 known cases, more than any other state. And Wisconsin was the first to post the DNA characteristics of the outbreak on the CDC's database of communicable diseases.

The Scripps study found that other states with large numbers of outbreaks also have performed well. Hawaii diagnosed 78 percent of its 185 outbreaks. Minnesota identified the cause of 66 percent of its 204 outbreaks. Tennessee discovered the source of 64 percent

of its 108 outbreaks.

But 24 states failed to identify the cause in at least half of their food-sickness outbreaks. States with worse-than-average diagnosis rates are Alabama, Florida, Montana, New Jersey, Washington state, Michigan, California, Maryland, Illinois, Mississippi, Delaware and Missouri.

Alabama epidemiologists found the cause in only nine of their 180 outbreaks that sickened at least 718 people. That is a 5 percent rate of diagnoses.

"We just lurch from day to day. It's a real struggle," said Alabama State Epidemiologist John Lofgren.

"We've never identified a virus at the state level. We've always had to send viral specimens to the CDC for testing."

New Jersey offered a diagnosis for only 195 of the 1,134 people sickened in outbreaks, a success rate of only 17 percent.

Deputy Health Commissioner Eddy Bresnitz said the state recently has shown improvement, thanks to monies offered by the Department of Homeland Security and the Health and Human Services Department to fight bioterrorism threats. "It comes down to a matter of resources," Bresnitz said.

Florida epidemiologists failed to diagnose the cause of food illnesses that sickened 5,051 of the 8,126 people reported in outbreaks. The state had some embarrassing failures, including a bout of diarrhea that struck members of the Monroe County Health Department after they ate at a local buffet. The staff ultimately was suspected of psychosomatic illness.

"There was an immediate investigation because we had our entire food-illness staff present. This was a best-case scenario for an investigation," said Dr. Susanna May, the county's health director. "But we never found conclusive evidence of what it was. Although it is purely conjecture on my part, there is something to the power of suggestion."

(Fore [sic] more stories go to scrippsnews.com)

(Distributed by Scripps Howard News Service, <http://www.scrippsnews.net>)

contributed by Chad Waters, PHD4

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*Comment on Food Safety story.*

The database the Scripps News used for their story was gleaned from the CDC state reports for 2001 thru 2004. CDC relies on the reports sent by the states. During the study period, Idaho sent in 17 reports and only 24% of those did not have a cause/agent reported.

The drawback to the data, and I would guess that most epidemiologists would agree, is that not all suspect foodborne illness reports are investigated to the point that a CDC report is sent. The CDC data shows that Idaho's health districts received and investigated 17 food illness complaints in five years. We know we do more than that statewide.

The conclusion from looking at the database may be that Wisconsin may not be the best state for knowing the illness causing agent (90% of reports) since most of their reports were from doctors offices. In Idaho a physician is required to report positive cases of foodborne illness agents. Care should be taken to how those reports are counted. If the Idaho health districts were to report those positives as an outbreak then the numbers in Idaho would be much higher.

At the opposite end of the database, Florida reported 1,071 cases but could only find an agent in 12% of the cases. It would be interesting to know the characteristics of the cases they are reporting.

I know that Idaho's health districts could do a better job of collecting food samples and of convincing ill persons to submit specimens. But would the lab budget manage the increased costs? Could the health district's budget?

See these stories at the ScrippNews website. Search for "food illness" to see links to the data, their methods and other related stories.

comments by Bob Jue, PHD4

**More Senior Citizen Humor** from Elder Robert Webster, foreign correspondent to the Digest..

**I Can Hear Just Fine**

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day.

One remarked to the other, "Windy, isn't it?"  
"No," the second man replied, "it's Thursday."  
And the third man chimed in, "So am I. Let's have a beer."

**Old Friends**

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years, they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards. One day, they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me. I know we've been friends for a long time, but I just can't think of your name! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon to you need to know?"

REMEMBER —  
LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE.

Sign on Septic Pumper Truck:  
"Yesterday's Meals on Wheels"

Seen on another Pumper Truck:  
"We're #1 in #2 business"

On Proctologist office door:  
"To expedite your visit, please back in"

On Maternity Room Door:  
"Push!  
Push!  
Push!"

## **Executive Council Business Meeting 3/15/06**

**DRAFT**

### *Present:*

Paul Guenther, President  
Dale King, President-Elect  
Steve Pew, Secretary-Treasurer  
Malcolm McGregor, Area B Rep  
Barry Burnell, Past President  
Cindy Johnson, Area C Rep

### *Excused:*

Rob Miller, Area A Rep

### *Invited Guests:*

Deb Carney, Awards Committee  
Frank Isenberg, Promotions Committee  
Dee Johnson

Paul began by reviewing the agenda for the meeting. Three items were added to the agenda: under new business survey of key individuals, location of conference, and brainstorming for next year.

**Motion: Dale King moved to approve the agenda with additions**

**Second by Malcolm McGregor  
Passed unanimously**

The minutes from the February 2, 2005 conference call were discussed.

**Motion: Malcolm McGregor moved to approve the minutes**

**Second by Dale King  
Passed unanimously**

The minutes from the November 28, 2005 conference call were discussed.

**Motion: Cindy Johnson moved to approve the minutes**

**Second by Malcolm McGregor  
Passed unanimously**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Promotions Committee – Frank Isenberg**

Frank did an excellent job obtaining and putting together the IEHA display board which was featured at the conference registration table. Frank wanted to thank Paul for all his help putting the pictures on it.

Frank announced that he was going to resign from the professional promotions committee; he didn't feel he was able to give it the time needed to do a good job. The executive committee would like to thank Frank for his efforts, under his leadership we now have a quality display board and a trifold on the organization.

Paul brought up that we need to find someone to keep the display board current and up to date. It might be a good idea to have pictures from area meetings included and whoever becomes the new committee chair needs to find additional uses for the board, it needs to be used more than 1 time per year at the AEC. Some suggestions were to have the board at University job fairs, Idaho Public Health Week is the first week of April and IPHA may be a venue to use it at.

### **Website Update – Paul Guenther**

Mary Reuter will continue as the web master for IEHA and she is also web master for IPHA. For this year the charges are \$20/month for Yahoo and Mary's fee is \$50/month. She is going to donate some of her charges this year to the organization.

There was much discussion of who is going to oversee the website and ensure it gets updated. Dale felt it would fall under the professional promotions committee and made a "presidential directive" that the chair of the professional promotions committee keep the website updated and keep the display board.

*(Continued on page 24)*

(Continued from page 23)

As far as content on the website, it was suggested that the Digest, past IEHA minutes, and possibly executive committee bios could be kept on the site. It was also discussed that if the Digest is on the site then there may be incentive for some people to not become members of IEHA since they can get easy access to it. Dee suggested that we look into the possibility of creating a login and password for members, Dale will take a look into this.

### **Awards and Scholarships**

Deb Carney mentioned that the scholarship was advertised as an Environmental Health scholarship and only BSU has this degree. Paul suggested that any university with an Environmental Health or Science degree would qualify, Dale and Rob will check with University of Idaho on this.

At the business meeting there will be:  
EHS of the year  
Presidential Award  
Passing of the gavel (presidents)  
Scholarship (only 1 applicant this year but very deserving of the award)

Deb also mentioned that current application deadlines are not working. This may be something for the new president to think about. She stated that she has arbitrarily had to change deadlines to accommodate applications. She would like to remind everyone to meet deadlines!

### **Business Meeting Protocol – Paul**

#### **Guenther**

Paul went over the way the business meeting will be run this year. The meal and meeting will be held together. The awards will be given during the meal when everyone is present and the gavel will be transferred to Dale

at the end of the meeting.

There was some discussion about nominations for the elections to be held at the meeting. Barry had a difficult time getting names for all the openings. It was suggested that we may need to get staff involved in committees to get future applicants for positions.

Paul passed out the proposed agenda for the meeting and input was given.

**Motion: Dale King moved to approve the agenda with slight modifications; banquet to be held followed by awards; voting on by laws and nominations to be put on 1 ballot**

**Second by Malcohm McGregor  
Passed unanimously**

### **Budget Report – Steve Pew**

Steve gave an up to date budget report for this meeting and a proposed budget for FY07. The committee worked on finalizing the FY07 budget during the meeting which will then go to the business meeting for approval. One issue that arose is IEHA has had a membership with the International Association for Food Protection for the past few years and the membership cost is increasing. In theory, IAFP members can join IEHA through that affiliation, however, the number of new members is very small.

**Motion: Steve Pew moved to drop IEHA's membership in IAFP for FY07**

**Second by Malcohm  
Passed unanimously**

For FY07 Barry suggested putting \$540 for the webpage in the promotions line item on the budget and \$60 for potential shipping costs for the display board.

(Continued on page 25)

*(Continued from page 24)*

**Motion: Cindy Johnson moved to approve the tentative FY07 budget**

**Second by Dale King**

**Passed unanimously**

Paul also directed Steve to pay the bill for the website for FY06.

**Motion: Barry Burnell moved to not pay IAFP membership for FY06**

**Second: Malcohm McGregor**

**Passed Unanimously**

For the business meeting, Paul will appoint Jeff Batten, Jeff Lappin, and Mike Reas as the Audit Committee.

### **Annual Conference Report – Dale King**

Dale gave his comments and perspectives on this year's AEC. He really feels that the EPI Ready course has brought in a lot of people who could not or would not attend IEHA AEC otherwise. Therefore, IEHA needs to look outside of the norm for agenda topics that can bring folks in to the conference. IPHA has once again co-sponsored a day at the AEC and have an agenda with very good speakers; however, they continue to have limited participation from their membership. Overall, it seems to be going well.

### **Brainstorming**

This is a continuation to what was done last year during the Executive Committee meeting, brainstorming ideas to strengthen the AEC. Ideas generated were:

- Build in a training program of District core programs, maybe NEHA can bring in some training programs.
- Further partnering with IPHA
- Using area meetings to promote the AEC
- Bring other groups on board with topics of interest to them

- Use the promotions and membership committees to promote the AEC

**Motion: Barry Burnell made the motion to adjourn the meeting**

**Second by Malcohm McGregor**

Discussion: before adjourning Paul and the rest of the Executive Committee want to thank Barry Burnell for 14 years of service on the IEHA Executive Committee!! He began as an area representative, was Chair of the Board of Examiners, and served as president of the association. **THANKS BARRY FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK!**

**Motion to adjourn passed unanimously**

**IEHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
CONFERENCE CALL  
January 4, 2007  
*DRAFT***

*Present on the call:*

Dale King, President  
Dee Johnson, President-elect  
Paul Guenther, Past President  
Steve Pew, Secretary-Treasurer  
Malcolm McGregor, Area B Representative

*Excused:*

Rob Miller, Area A Representative  
Cindy Johnson, Area C Representative

The call began at 4 pm MDT.

**FY06 Budget Report – Steve Pew**

Steve gave a report on the FY06 budget. On the income side, the Epi Ready course helped to bring in more income than was expected for the year, there were 44 memberships paid for (1 from a BSU student), and 4 exhibitors were present. On the expense side BSU charged less than expected for the use of the rooms; total cost with rooms, parking, meals and equipment was only \$3,108.30. Business supplies were slightly over budget because the printer cartridge for the IEHA printer was empty and promotions was over due to the purchase of the IEHA display board. Total cash on hand as of June 30, 2006 was \$7,773.92.

**IDAHO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

**QUARTERLY REPORT FY 06**

***Income:***

	Budget Amt	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Total In- come	Difference
AEC Registration	\$6,200.00			\$6,715.00	\$130.00	\$6,845.00	\$645.00
Exhibitors	1,200.00			\$600.00		\$600.00	-\$600.00
Sponsors	150.00					\$0.00	-\$150.00
Membership Dues	1,000.00			\$650.00	\$15.00	\$665.00	-\$335.00
Silent Auction	250.00			\$250.00		\$250.00	\$0.00
Interest	90.00	\$13.18	\$25.54	\$29.62	\$66.21	\$134.55	\$44.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,890.00</b>					<b>\$8,494.55</b>	

*(Continued on page 27)*

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**Expenses:**

	Budget Amt	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Total Expenses	Difference
AEC	\$5,000.00				\$3,197.94	\$3,197.94	\$1,802.06
Area Meetings	100.00		\$47.39	\$27.80		\$75.19	\$24.81
Conf. Calls	125.00			\$26.00		\$26.00	\$99.00
Awards	200.00				\$196.06	\$196.06	\$3.94
Bank Charges	20.00	\$10.00				\$10.00	\$10.00
Business Supplies	75.00		\$7.40	\$94.48		\$101.88	-\$26.88
Gifts	25.00					\$0.00	\$25.00
IEHA Digest	50.00					\$0.00	\$50.00
Promotions	600.00			\$528.15	\$429.91	\$958.06	-\$358.06
Scholarship	500.00			\$500.00		\$500.00	\$0.00
Travel	2,000.00	\$896.81				\$896.81	\$1,103.19
IAFP Membership	100.00					\$0.00	\$100.00
Website				\$540.00		\$540.00	-\$540.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,795.00</b>					<b>\$5,961.94</b>	

**Cash Balance:  
(6/30/06)**

Money Market	\$7,648.92
Checking	\$100.00
Savings	\$25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,773.92</b>

**Motion:** Dee moved to accept the financial report.  
Second by Paul Guenther  
Passed Unanimously



(Continued on page 28)

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### **Status of Committees – Dale King**

Dale has been contacting individuals who have been committee chairs during the past year. For FY07 the committee chairs will be:

Awards – Deb Carney

Budget – Steve Pew

Constitution and By-laws – Bob Erickson

Professional Promotion – vacant

Membership Committee – vacant

Legislative Committee – Jami Delmore

Nomination Committee – Paul Guenther

Paul suggested that Nancy Becker could be chair of the professional promotions committee. Dale will have to continue to see if he can find someone interested in the membership committee, Jim Lane had been the past chair but since he is no longer in the Health District system and is in school he doesn't have an interest in staying on the committee.

**Motion:** Paul moved to accept Dale's appointments including Nancy Becker as new chair of the professional promotions committee.

Second by Dee

Passed Unanimously

### **2007 AEC Plans – Dee Johnson**

Basically the agenda for the conference is taking shape. It was decided during the call that Malcolm will be in charge of contacting and setting up the exhibitors for this year's conference and Paul agreed to coordinate the silent auction again since he has done such a fantastic job during the past years.

With much help from Patrick Guzzle, the keynote speaker for this year's conference will be from Marler-Clark law firm from Seattle. IEHA will need to pay for their flight, lodging and food but won't have to pay anything else. Wednesday am Dale Stephenson from BSU will coordinate. On Thursday there will be Idaho Solid Waste Association training, Bob Hays will have a vector control section, and Dave Hovland will have a session on protecting Idaho's groundwater. Friday Garrison Enterprises will demonstrate their environmental software program and we will hear from BSU students on their current research. IPHA will also hold their session on Friday morning with a keynote speaker from Atlanta dealing with children's issues.

IPHA would like to have their session be free because they are expecting so many people to show up, instead of a charge for the session they would be willing to pitch in for a break. Paul pointed out this had been discussed in the past and that if they want to be a part of the conference they should pay the ½ day registration. IEHA would then split the proceeds based on revenue and IPHA attendance. It was agreed that they should pay the \$30 half day registration fee.

For Idaho Solid Waste Association they will also be charged the normal 1 day conference rate and we will not be cost sharing with them.

### **Website Update**

Dee mentioned that the Visitors and Convention Center in Boise will be mailing out "Save the Date" cards for the annual conference soon. The website is not current and Dale has been attempting to contact the website administrator but hasn't caught up with her yet. He will continue to try to contact her and keep the executive committee informed.

(Continued on page 29)

*(Continued from page 28)*

Dee asked about getting the AEC mentioned in the Journal of Environmental Health. Steve had tried two years ago to get this done but was unsuccessful, Dale will working on getting the conference announced in the Journal this year.

**Replacement for Rob Miller, Area A Representative**

Due to a change in employment, Rob has essentially resigned his position as Area A representative. According to the by-laws the vacancy is to be filled by an appointment from the executive committee. Since we are so close to the AEC Paul recommended that we wait until the annual meeting and he will find two names from Area A to be submitted and voted on during the business meeting. The individual will then be in for 1 year, the remainder of Rob's existing term, and could then run for re-election the following year.

Conference call adjourned at 5 pm MST.

# IDAHO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

## FINANCIAL REPORT FY 06

### ***Income:***

	Budget Amt	Total Income
AEC Registration	\$6,200.00	\$6,845.00
Exhibitors	1,200.00	\$600.00
Sponsors	150.00	\$0.00
Membership Dues	1,000.00	\$665.00
Silent Auction	250.00	\$250.00
Interest	90.00	\$134.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,890.00</b>	<b>\$8,494.55</b>

### ***Expenses:***

		Total Expenses
AEC	\$5,000.00	\$3,197.94
Area Meetings	100.00	\$75.19
Conf. Calls	125.00	\$26.00
Awards	200.00	\$196.06
Bank Charges	20.00	\$10.00
Business Supplies	75.00	\$101.88
Gifts	25.00	\$0.00
IEHA Digest	50.00	\$0.00
Promotions	600.00	\$958.06
Scholarship	500.00	\$500.00
Travel	2,000.00	\$896.81
IAFP Membership	100.00	\$0.00
Website		\$540.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,795.00</b>	<b>\$5,961.94</b>

### ***Cash Balance: (6/30/06)***

Money Market	\$7,648.92
Checking	\$100.00
Savings	\$25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,773.92</b>

## **IEHA AWARDS BANQUET AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, 2006 AEC**

**Paul Guenther** opened the meeting in the BSU Student Union at 6:00 PM on Thursday, March 16, 2006. Great Job **Dale King** of putting this year's agenda together!

### **Silent Auction**

Silent auction winners were announced and this year's auction brought in \$250 towards the IEHA Scholarship fund.



Outgoing President Paul Guenther passes the gavel to Dale King



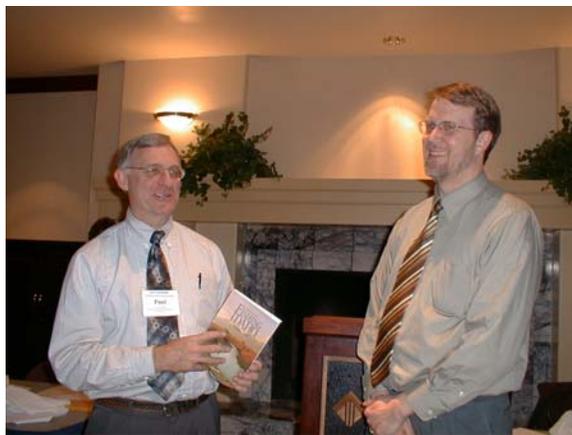
### **AWARDS**

**Deb Carney**, Awards Committee Chair presented the IEHA student scholarship award. This year's award goes to **Tanner Rubin** who is a senior in the Environmental Health program at Boise State University.



Deb Carney congratulates scholarship winner Tanner Rubin

Paul Guenther presented the President's Award to a couple of people. First to **Bob Jue** for his outstanding service to IEHA as the Digest Editor; a position he has held for a numbers of years and done an outstanding job at. Secondly to **Barry Burnell**. Barry has served the last 14 years on the Executive Committee of IEHA; he has been Area C Representative, Chairman of the Board of Examiners, as well as serving as President and Past-President of the Association.



Outgoing President Paul Guenther presents a President's Award ("Fishing Idaho" book) to Barry Burnell.

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**EHS of the Year was presented to Mr. Bob Hays.**



Deb Carney presents Bob Hays his EHS of the year plaque. Bob has been very active in organizing conference sections including pesticide and vector control presentations. This year is no exception.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

The agenda was presented for approval.

**Motion: Dee Johnson moved to approve the agenda**

**Second by Bob Jue  
Passed unanimously**

The minutes from the 2005 meeting were distributed for review.

**Motion: Bob Erickson moved to approve them**

**Second by Deb Carney  
Passed Unanimously**

Two proxy votes were received for this year's business meeting and those proxies were given

(Continued on page 33)

**Thanks for the Consideration and Recognition:**

To members of the Idaho Environmental Health Association and the environmental health family: Thanks for the nomination and award of the coveted, "2006 Environmental Health Specialist of the Year Award."

It is hard to believe that as of August of 2006 I have been a licensed EHS for thirty years. During this time I have had the privilege to work on numerous interesting projects and events with many of you. To those that I have not had the chance to work with, I encourage you to apply your knowledge and good judgment to your profession, enjoy your accomplishments, learn from your challenges, accept educational opportunities and advance the cause.

The award was unexpected and greatly appreciated. Thanks again for making 2006 a very special year.

*Robert S. Hays,*  
*REHS*

*Robert S. Hays*

Urban Pesticide Program Manager  
623 11th Avenue South  
Nampa, Idaho 83651  
208-442-2803  
208-465-8471 (Fax)  
e-mail = [bhays@idahoag.us](mailto:bhays@idahoag.us)

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to the Secretary/Treasurer. The proxies were from Steve Gregor and Rich Gabriel.

**Motion: Bob Hays moved to accept the proxies**  
**Second by Bob Jue**  
**Passed unanimously**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### *Area Representative Reports*

**Area A: Rob Miller** was unable to attend the business meeting. Paul Guenther reported that Rob had done a great job putting together the Area A meeting and there was a good turnout in Moscow for that training. He said to look for a full report in the Digest.

**Area B: Malcoln McGregor** reported that the Area B meeting was in Nampa this year. Information was presented on dishwashing and septic issues. Great turnout this year.

**Area C:** The Area C meeting was held on Halloween and **Cindy Johnson** reported that the group received information on dishwashing, well construction information, a USDA representative presented to the group, and the group received some weather training which provided them with information on what to watch for in the winter.

### *Legislative committee*

**Jami Delmore** reported on three pieces of legislation of interest that are currently in the legislature: HB514 dealing with pest control legislation; HB806 the revised childcare legislation – this bill revised the age definition, requires background checks for all staff, the license fee will increase, further defines the child staff ratio, and sets employee training

requirements; and HB719A which deals with CJD and deals with autopsies required when CJD is suspected and the autopsy is paid for by CDC.

The question was also brought up if there was anything from DEQ that we needed to know about. **Barry Burnell** stated that there is a moratorium on Coal Fired Power Plants which is recent.

### *Membership*

**Jim Lane**, chair of the committee, was unable to be present at the business meeting. It was brought up during the meeting, however, that there may need to be some acknowledgment of new members whether during the meeting or some other means. It was decided that Jim and Dale would look into this and may want to think about putting names and photos in the Newsletter. (ed. Done!)



### **NEW MEMBERS ATTENDING BUSINESS MEETING**

(l to r) L. George Ricard (PHD1), Allan Roberge (PHD1), Kevin Blauch (PHD6), Nancy Becker (PHD2), Rene LeBlanc (PHD5), Chad Waters (PHD4)

### *Promotions committee*

Frank Isenberg reported that a trifold about the organization had been created. In addition, he was recently able to obtain a display board which was present at the registration table. Frank also reported that he has resigned

(Continued on page 34)

*(Continued from page 33)*

his position and hopes that someone stands up to take it. Paul Guenther stated that this person will need to work with the webmaster to keep Idahoenvironmentalhealth.org up and current. The person will also need to keep the display board accounted for, the information that goes on it current, and find venues for it to go to.

***Program committee***

Dale didn't have much to report as this was his last year to put the agenda together, this year's conference has been outstanding and a big thank you goes to Dale and Tom Schmalz for their work in putting it together.

***Budget Committee***

The Audit committee was chaired by Jeff Batten with Mike Reas as an additional member. Mike gave the report for the audit committee and reported that no problems or discrepancies were identified.

Steve presented the proposed FY07 budget for review.

**Motion: Dale King moved to approve the FY07 budget**

**Second by Kevin Blanch**

**Passed unanimously**

***Constitution and By-laws***

Bob Erickson presented three proposed awards for inclusion in the bylaws (Section 7A). These three awards are Lifetime Achievement Award, Service Award, and President's Award. There was concern expressed that these awards are not mandatory, they are at the discretion of the President and, therefore, should not be solicited for by the Awards Committee. Others felt that this wouldn't be a problem as the Awards Committee could include the solicitation in their email and the information could be forwarded to the President and Executive Council for

consideration. After further discussion and debate on the bylaws it was agreed that to satisfy all concerns some 'wordsmithing' needs to be done on them.

**Motion: Barry Burnell moved that Section 7B of the bylaws be amended to read "Select award recipient for EHS of the year".**

**Second by Malcohm McGregor**

Discussion: further discussion on the issue brought up that the Awards Committee would only need to award the EHS of the year and the other definitions are for the use of the President and these don't need to 'strap' the Awards Committee. Deb stated that she would pass any information the committee receives on to the Executive Committee as she doesn't track service or membership information.

**David Loper called for the question Passed Unanimously**

***Vote for officers and By laws amendment***

The following ballot was submitted for consideration.

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**Idaho Environmental Health Association**

**March 16, 2006 Ballot**

Instructions: All members may vote for Secretary/Treasurer, President-elect and Constitutional changes. Members may vote for an Area Representative from one area only. If

*(Continued on page 35)*

(Continued from page 34)

you are casting ballots for proxies please use a separate ballot for each proxy and you must provide the proxy to the Secretary.

**Area A representative** (Health Districts 1 and 2)

Rob Miller  
Dan Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_

**Area B Representative** (Health Districts 3 and 4)

Malcolm McGregor

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Area C Representative** (Health Districts 5,6 and 7)

Cindy Johnson  
Larry Dunn

\_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary/Treasurer**

Steve Pew

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**President-Elect**

S. Dee Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Bylaws Changes (changes are underlined):**

**Section 1. Members, Dues, and Funds:**

- 1. The dues or annual contributions of the association shall be, for each category as listed in the Constitution.**

- A. Active**  
**\$15.00 \$25.00**

In Favor  
Opposed

**Section V. Committees: the following section delineates the general tasks of each committee. The President may assign specific duties under each task on an annual basis.**

**7. The Awards Committee shall:**

- A. Solicit nominations for REHS of the year, the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Service Award, and the President's Award.**
- D. Maintain the selection criteria, definitions, and rating sheets, as needed.**

In Favor  
Opposed

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A Ballot Committee was selected and consisted of Rob Mayer, Nancy Becker, and Rob Eachon. Paul noted that it was Barry Burnell's responsibility as Past-President to come up with the nomination for officers. Barry had a difficult time finding enough nominations and encouraged members to run for office in the future as it is a very rewarding experience and opened the floor for nominations. Paul added a point of clarification that Dan Johnson, nominated for Area A representative has removed his name from consideration. Paul then opened nominations from the floor for Area A Representative.

**Motion: Barry Burnell moved to close all nominations**

(Continued on page 36)

(Continued from page 35)

**Second by Bob Jue  
Passed unanimously**

Paul then reviewed the by laws changes that are also on the ballot.

**Election Results**

Area A Representative: Rob Miller  
Area B Representative: Malcohm McGregor  
Area C Representative: Cindy Johnson  
By laws changes: Section 1 Passed  
Section V Passed

***President's Message***

Paul Guenther covered his term as President for the last 2 years. He also thanked members of the Executive Committee and Committee Chairs for their support during his tenure. Some of the accomplishments that he felt most proud of were:

- Getting the website up and going
- Encouraging and getting all Area's to have annual training conferences
- Assisting with the display board
- Helping to develop a marketing strategy for the association
- Encouraging the development of Standard Operating Procedures for all positions on the Executive Committee
- Working with NEHA on the laser grade testing and it was an honor to represent IEHA at the NEHA annual conference

Deb Carney then passed the presidential gavel from Paul to Mr. Dale King.

**Motion; Bob Hays moved to adjourn the meeting**

**Second by Deb Carney  
Passed unanimously**

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

**SWDH Changes in the Land Development Program**

Southwest District Health (SWDH), Environmental Health Services, recently changed its subsurface sewage disposal permitting process and Subdivision Engineering Report Process. The process began roughly two years ago by SWDH staff interviewing the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and the other six (6) health districts in Idaho regarding their procedures for issuing subsurface sewage disposal permits and the lifting of sanitary restrictions for subdivisions. SWDH then drafted new brochures, procedures, policies, applications and permits for the programs from the information obtained from the other districts and an in depth review of the associated rules for each program. SWDH met with the building administrators from the six (6) counties within the district to introduce the forms and ideas to them. The counties were very supportive of the new process and appreciated the districts willingness to involve them in the changes. The new procedures have been very successful since their implementation. In retrospect the changes were far overdue; they provide better communication between the county and district; more information to the district to make educated and informed decisions; more options to the general public than previously available; and overall they are an asset to SWDH in day to day operations.

**Area Meetings**

Cindy Johnson reports 15 people attended the Area C meeting. Agenda is below.

IEHA Area C Meeting

Southeastern Health Dept, 1901 Alvin Ricken Dr., Pocatello

November 17, 2006

8:30 – 8:45 Registration

9:00 – 9:15 Updates, A Word from Dee Johnson, IEHA President- Elect

9:15- 10:15 The Geology of Eastern Idaho, How the Yellowstone Hot Spot Affects Our Daily Lives Paul K. Link, Professor, Department of Geosciences, Idaho State University

10:15 -10:30 Break

10:30 - 11:45 Bob with Express Services

11:45 - 1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 2:30 HACCP in a Retail Setting, Patrick L. Guzzle, MPH, REHS Food Protection Program Manager, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

2:30 - 2:45 Break

2:45 – 4:00 Glenn Hoffmann with Natural Resources Conservation Service

Adjourn

## Re: Food Outbreak Sampling

Emails between Dave Hylsky, PHD1 and Bob Jue, PHD4

Hi Bob. Good to see you at the epi conference. It was mentioned during the lab presentation that you would be a good person to contact about sampling for bacteria during a food outbreak. That was my question about the swab sampling. What kind of swabs do you recommend for surface swab sampling of like cutting boards, meat slicers, trays, utensils, etc? I know it is extremely rare to do this kind of sampling but I need to be prepared. Any thoughts would be appreciated. Thanks.

David Hylsky  
Epidemiology Services  
Panhandle Health District 1  
(208) 415-5263  
[dhylsky@phd1.idaho.gov](mailto:dhylsky@phd1.idaho.gov)

Dave, The lab has some transport broth with a swab attached to the cap. I only use those if I know the item swabbed will be sanitized after - like with dinnerware or utensils. If it is a cutting board or something in use, I will use a dry sterile Q-tip (your clinics should have wrapped ones) and a bottle of sterile water to first wet the Q-tip if the surface is dry. Wetting the Q-tip is not necessary to get bacteria. No double dipping of the Q-tip into the water. On flat surfaces I will swab roughly 4 square inches per swab. I usually hold the Q-tip stick by the end of the stick so that the cotton end can be broken off in the transport bottle. This could take some practice to do without ending up with too much stick in the bottle so it cannot be closed OR without breaking it off too short and having it flip out of the bottle. Huhhh you ask. You stick the cotton end into the bottle about 1.5 inches (depends on depth of bottle) then bend the stick down over the edge of the bottle. YOU MUST USE WOODEN STICK Q-TIPS FOR THIS METHOD.

The easier method is to get the transport media with the transport tube and the swab, attached to a separate cap, in the same package. The transport tube cap is discarded and replaced by the swab with attached cap. The state lab has had two similar brands of this type: Fisher HealthCare and EnviroChek. The former being the most recent stock. These do outdate in a couple of years so it is easier to have sterile Q-tips, sterile water, and zip lock or whirl pack bags for transporting the swabs.

The advantage of tubes and bottles method is it does offer protection from having the swab puncturing a

hole in plastic bags.

For potentially contentious cases, you might send in a blank swab opened in the environment and one not opened. These will be controls to the actual swabs.

Bob

## E. COLI O157, BAGGED SALAD GREENS - USA (MULTISTATE)

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

A ProMED-mail post  
<<http://www.promedmail.org>>  
ProMED-mail is a program of the  
International Society for Infectious Diseases  
<<http://www.isid.org>>

Date: Sat 20 Jan 2007  
From: ProMED-mail <[promed@promedmail.org](mailto:promed@promedmail.org)>  
Source: Los Angeles Times [edited]  
<[http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/front/la-me-ecoli20jan20,1,7060997\\_full\\_story?coll=la-headlines-frontpage&ctrack=1&cset=true](http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/front/la-me-ecoli20jan20,1,7060997_full_story?coll=la-headlines-frontpage&ctrack=1&cset=true)>

Three recent outbreaks of foodborne illnesses traced to bagged spinach or lettuce from California have led some scientists and food safety advocates to suggest that packaging greens might contribute to the spread of lethal strains of *Escherichia coli* bacteria.

In particular, the centralized processing of fresh greens can increase the risk of more widespread contamination, just as tainted beef from one steer can find its way into hundreds of packages of ground meat, said Dr David W K Acheson, chief medical officer at the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. "If you have a single head of [tainted] lettuce that winds up in someone's home, makes the family sick, chances are it'll never get on the radar screen," Acheson said. "If you take the same lettuce, process it; one head may contaminate multiple bags. Then you've got an outbreak."

The way some greens are harvested also has raised concerns, said Michael Doyle, director of the University of Georgia's Center for Food Safety, who was recently hired by Taco Bell to review its safety guide-

(Continued on page 38)

*(Continued from page 37)*

lines. "I quit eating bagged lettuce years ago," Doyle said. "After seeing how bagged lettuce was harvested and prepared, my impression was that it's not very sanitary." Doyle referred specifically to bagged iceberg lettuce, which has been investigated in the simultaneous but separate Taco John's and Taco Bell outbreaks of *E. coli* O157:H7 that sickened more than 150 customers in the Midwest and on the East Coast in November and December 2006.

Officials have linked those outbreaks to California farms in the Central Valley and possibly on the coast south of Salinas. The illnesses occurred only months after another leafy green, spinach, was blamed in an outbreak that killed 3 people and sickened more than 200 in late August and early September 2006. That outbreak was traced to bagged spinach from the Greater Salinas Valley, which was sold in stores nationwide.

The upshot is that pre-washed and packaged produce, a USD 3-billion industry created to improve both safety and convenience, is under a cloud. Though the individual consumer's risk of illness remains small, experts said, the only practical way to ensure that greens are free of *E. coli* is to thoroughly cook them, not a desirable option for lettuce.

Iceberg lettuce intended for packaging is vulnerable to contamination in part because it is often cut and initially processed in the field, Doyle said. The core is cut out of the head and discarded, as are the protective outer leaves. "When you've chopped that product, you've created a lot more avenues for bacteria to enter, especially if you're doing it in the fields," said Bob Martin, general manager of Rio Farms in King City. Once the bacterium "is locked into that cut edge of lettuce, then it's really difficult for your chlorine bath to kill it."

Processing plants wash leafy greens 3 times in chlorinated water before bagging them. They also employ other safety measures, including guidelines for field-cored lettuce, said Jim Gorny, senior vice president for food safety and technology at United Fresh Produce Association, a trade group. He said the harvested heads are put on a conveyor belt, sprayed with cooled, chlorinated water, placed in a bin with a plastic liner and shipped to the processing plant. By discarding the core and outer leaves in the field, Gorny said, "you're actually bringing in a microbiologically cleaner product into your sterilized plant."

Spinach is harvested by machines like lawn mowers. Contamination in the field is possible but less likely than with iceberg lettuce, Doyle said. But both lettuce and spinach destined for packaging generally are trucked to centralized processing plants, where tainted and untainted leaves can be mixed during chopping, washing and bagging. By contrast, greens that are not bagged are not chopped up and mingled.

Although washing in chlorinated water should kill *E. coli* O157 bacteria, it takes only a small amount to make someone sick, about 10 organisms, or 2 per cent of the space on the head of a pin.

The bagged greens industry has consolidated so much that a single contamination problem can threaten the entire industry, said Timothy York, chief executive officer of Markon Cooperative Inc, a Salinas-based produce purchaser for food service distributors. According to the Produce Marketing Assn, nearly 90 per cent of the retail market for packaged salads is controlled by only 2 companies: Dole Fresh Vegetables and Fresh Express.

The wide reach of the processor that bagged the tainted spinach, sold under more than 30 brand names, caused the FDA to temporarily issue a warning against eating the fresh greens nationwide. That warning was later lifted after probable contamination sources were identified. Similarly, iceberg lettuce is mixed during processing and sent nationwide. "Bagged lettuce is facing the same problem that meat grinders faced with *E. coli* O157," said Caroline Smith DeWaal, food safety director for the Center for Science in the Public Interest in Washington, DC. She was referring to the outbreak in the 1990s that involved tainted hamburger served at Jack-in-the-Box restaurants. "They're this linchpin in the safety system because they're taking produce in from a wide variety of sources and mixing it and redistributing it," she said. "The bagged salads are increasing the likelihood that outbreaks will be larger and widespread."

Not everyone agrees that packaged greens are a problem. Christine Bruhn, director of the Center for Consumer Research at UC Davis, said she believes that buying bagged, pre-washed greens is safer than buying head or loose lettuce and washing it yourself. "Most of us don't do triple washing in chlorinated water," she said, adding that research confirms that neither home nor restaurant cooks diligently follow all sanitary practices.

*(Continued on page 39)*

(Continued from page 38)

Prepackaged produce was seen as a safety innovation when it was introduced in fast-food restaurants in the 1980s, Gorny said. "It took production of fresh fruit and vegetables out of chaotic kitchens in restaurants where you have frequently changing employees," Gorny said. Restaurant chains worked with food processors to develop stringent standards, including the triple wash.

As sales to fast-food restaurants mounted, processors tried selling packaged products in retail stores. Growth took off in the 1990s. Fresh-cut salad sales tripled from 1997 to 2005. The industry's very success could be one of the reasons behind recent outbreaks. People are eating more fresh produce, including the bagged variety, than ever before, and in doing so, they are increasing their risk of exposure to bacteria.

Moreover, outbreaks are being detected earlier and traced more precisely. Bagged greens may have been implicated in the last 3 outbreaks because, with a brand name and a lot number, they are easier to trace than a single head of lettuce.

[byline: Mary Engel and Rong-Gong Lin II]

- - -

ProMED-mail  
<[promed@promedmail.org](mailto:promed@promedmail.org)>

[The comparisons between processed lettuce versus a whole head and ground beef versus an intact piece of meat are indeed relevant. - Mod.LL]

## **Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement Certified by CDFA**

Release #07-013

70 percent of California product enrolled

SACRAMENTO, February 7, 2007, Wednesday, February 07, 2007 – The Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement, which would establish an inspection program for handlers of leafy greens, has been certified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture following sign-ups by handlers (Dole and Fresh Express) representing 70 percent of leafy greens produced in California.

The proposed agreement, which was created by the leafy greens industry and is being facilitated by

CDFA, would utilize the inspection program to verify that leafy greens handlers are complying with their own standards.

Handlers are middlemen through whom the product moves from field to retail. With certification, the next steps in the process are appointment of marketing agreement board members by the CDFA secretary, and the scheduling of the board's first meeting. A date for that meeting has yet to be established.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture protects and promotes California's \$31.8 billion agricultural industry. California's farmers and ranchers produce a safe, secure supply of food, fiber and shelter; marketed fairly for all Californians; and produced with responsible environmental stewardship.

California Department of Food and Agriculture Office of Public Affairs

Nancy Lungren, Deputy Secretary  
1220 N St., Ste. 214, Sacramento, CA 95814  
916-654-0462, [www.cdfa.ca.gov](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov)

See website for pdf version of the agreement.

## Personals/Personnel

### District I

Nothing reported since Oct 2006.

### District II

**Rob Miller** has resigned as Area A representative. (see page 5)

### District III

#### New Staff and a New Position at SWDH

Southwest District Health (SWDH), recently opened a new position for an Environmental Health Technician. The new position was filled by Mr. Ian McKenna. Ian is from Flagstaff, Arizona and holds a bachelors degree in Environmental Science with an emphasis in Geology from Northern Arizona University. Ian is responsible for many of the activities that take place within Environmental Health Services which greatly reduces the work load on the REHS/RS. The new position has also enabled SWDH to take on new duties including many educational opportunities that once were not thought possible. Furthermore, Ian has been doing an excellent job since employed with SWDH and is a true asset to the team.

### District IV

Former EH Director **Jim Jenkins** celebrated his 91st birthday in January '06 and shortly after passed away. **Ann Potcher** is now comfortable with childcare inspections so she now gets to learn the food safety program! **Doris Tracy** and **Irene Mansfield** are our customer service reps who are waiting for the EH reception desk to be remodeled/finished. Irene keeps the EHSs in line with their inspection reports!!

### District V

No Changes????

### District VI

The district's environmental health staff are featured elsewhere in the Digest. Nice looking group!

### District VII

District Seven has adopted the new name of Eastern Idaho Public Health District. And like the other Idaho Health Districts have changed email addresses to be username@phd7.idaho.gov



Steve Pew, Secty-Treasurer and Paul Guenther, now Past-President enjoy a respite in front of the IEHA Display board at the 2006 AEC.

Solutions for Sudoku puzzles on page 6

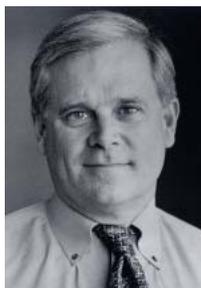
(Easy)

5	9	2	3	8	4	7	6	1
8	1	7	9	6	5	3	4	2
3	6	4	1	2	7	5	8	9
4	8	6	5	9	3	1	2	7
2	5	1	7	4	8	9	3	6
9	7	3	6	1	2	4	5	8
7	2	8	4	5	9	6	1	3
6	4	9	2	3	1	8	7	5
1	3	5	8	7	6	2	9	4

(Hard)

3	4	6	9	8	2	7	1	5
8	9	1	3	5	7	2	4	6
5	2	7	1	4	6	8	3	9
2	8	4	7	6	5	3	9	1
1	6	5	2	3	9	4	7	8
9	7	3	4	1	8	5	6	2
6	5	9	8	7	3	1	2	4
4	3	2	5	9	1	6	8	7
7	1	8	6	2	4	9	5	3

**IEHA 2007 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**  
**ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:**  
**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**  
**BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION BUILDING**



**WILLIAM MARLER**  
**MARLER CLARK ATTORNEYS AT LAW**  
**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> CONCURRENT SESSION A**  
**HATCH BALLROOM ABC**

<b>MODERATOR: DEE JOHNSON, EHS D6</b>		
<b>MAKING A DIFFERENCE</b>		
<i>TIME</i>	<i>SPEAKER</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>
<b>7:00-8:30 BREAKFAST BSU TABLE ROCK CAFÉ REGISTRATION IN FRONT OF THE HATCH BALLROOM</b>		
8:30-8:45	Dale King, EHS President IEHA	
8:45-10:15	William Marler, managing partner in Marler Clark Law Firm. Marler Clark is the nations foremost law firm with a practice dedicated to representing victims of food poisoning.	Legal Obligations and Liabilities of Health Inspectors in the Field
<b>10:15-10:30 BREAK FARNSWORTH ROOM/ SILENT AUCTION</b>		

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> CONCURRENT SESSION A**  
**BARNWELL ROOM**

<b>MODERATOR: NANCY BECKER, EHS D4</b>		
<b>FOOD SAFETY: RAISING THE BAR</b>		
<i>TIME</i>	<i>SPEAKER</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>
10:30-10:50	Sandy McCurdy, PhD U of I Extension Family and Consumer Science	How to Cook a Hamburger
10:50-11:10	Patrick Guzzle, Idaho Health and Welfare Food Program Manager	Raising the Bar
11:10-12:00	Charles Breen, FDA Pacific Regional District Director	There's Something in My Tea
<b>12:00-1:00 LUNCH BSU TABLE ROCK CAFÉ</b>		
1:00-1:30	Miriam Burbach, FDA Federal State Program Coordinator	High Risk Foods
1:30-2:30	Mark Iverson, USDA	Matrix of Fresh Produce
2:30-2:50	Brad Tufto, FDA Retail Food Specialist	Uniformity of Inspection Across the State
<b>2:50-3:15 BREAK FARNSWORTH ROOM/SILENT AUCTION</b>		
3:15-3:45	Brad Tufto, FDA Retail Food Specialist	Uniform Inspection Across the State
3:45-4:30	Brad Tufto, FDA Retail Food Specialist	You Make the Call
4:00-5:00	Patrick Guzzle, Idaho Health and Welfare Food Program Manager	State of the State

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 14TH CONCURRENT SESSION B  
HATCH BALLROOM D**

<b>MODERATOR: DALE STEPHENSON, BSU</b>		
<b>AIR QUALITY AND TOXICOLOGY</b>		
<b>TIME</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
10:30-11:15	Dale Stephenson, Ph.D Vice-chair of the Governors Treasure Valley Air Quality Council	Treasure Valley Air Quality Plan- Recommendations to the Idaho Leg- islature
11:15-12:00	Pat McGavran, Ph.D	Public Health Toxicology
<b>12:00-1:00 LUNCH BSU TABLE ROCK CAFÉ</b>		
<b>MODERATOR: SUSIE SIMMONS, EHS D4</b>		
<b>DAYCARES: IT'S ABOUT THE CHILDREN</b>		
1:00-2:00	Stephanie Mills, Consumer Product Safety Commission	Recalls and how CPSC conducts in- spections
2:00-2:50	Lynette Porter, Health and Welfare Fraud Unit	ICCP Fraud cases and what to look for
<b>2:50-3:15 BREAK FARNSWORTH ROOM/SILENT AUCTION</b>		
3:15-4:00	Brenda Breidinger, Idaho Stars	Child Protection Grant
4:00-5:00	Genie Sue Weppner, Program Manager Health and Wel- fare	

**THURSDAY MARCH 15TH CONCURRENT SESSION A  
JORDAN A**

<b>MODERATOR: TED HUTCHISON, IDAHO SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION</b>		
<b>SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FOR THE OPERATOR</b>		
<b>TIME</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
<b>7:00-8:30 BREAKFAST BSU TABLE ROCK CAFÉ</b>		
8:30-10:00	Clean Harbors Environmental Services, speaker to be determined	Hazardous Waste Identification
<b>10:00-10:30 EXHIBITORS BREAK FARNSWORTH ROOM/SILENT AUCTION</b>		
10:30-12:00	E.C. Cullin and Dayle Lundy, Industrial Hygiene Resources	Asbestos Handling and Disposal
<b>12:00-1:00 LUNCH BSU TABLE ROCK CAFÉ</b>		
1:00-2:30	Pat Mooney, Idaho State Police	Illegal Drug Labs: Identification and Response
<b>2:40-3:00 EXHIBITORS BREAK FARNSWORTH ROOM/SILENT AUCTION</b>		
3:00-4:30	Mark Wendelsdor, Caldwell Fire Dept. Russ Shroll, Upper Deer Flat Fire Dept. Mike Spomer, DEQ Jack Biddle, Canyon County Solid Waste	Panel Discussion addressing Fire Control and Per- sonal Protection Equipment

6:30-8:30 pm Business Meeting and Awards Banquet — JORDAN A

**THURSDAY MARCH 15TH CONCURRENT SESSION B  
HATCH BALLROOM A**

<b>MODERATOR: BOB HAYS, IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>		
<b>THE BUZZ ON VECTOR CONTROL IN IDAHO</b>		
<b>TIME</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
8:30-8:45	Bob Hays, EHS Dept. of Ag	Introduction to Vector Control, Mosquito Emphasis
8:45-9:25	Jason Kinley, Director Gem County MAD Jack Bennett, Director Ada County MAD	The Significance of Monitoring and Surveillance
9:25-10:00	Steve Ingalls, Clark Mosquito Control Ed Burnett, Director Canyon County MAD	Mosquito Control Techniques
<b>10:00-10:30 EXHIBITORS BREAK FARNSWORTH ROOM/SILENT AUCTION</b>		
10:30-11:30	Dr. Robert Peterson, Montana State University	Risk Comparison- Chemical Exposure or West Nile Virus?
11:30-12:00	Representatives from: MAD's, Health and Welfare, District Health Depts. AG and Industry	Panel Discussion of 2006 Situation and 2007 Strategy
<b>12:00-1:00 LUNCH BSU TABLE ROCK CAFÉ</b>		
<b>MODERATOR: DAVE HOVLAND, DEQ</b>		
<b>PROTECTING IDAHO'S GROUNDWATER</b>		
1:00-1:20	Toni Mitchell, DEQ	Status of Nitrate Priority Areas
1:20-1:45	Bruce Wicherski, DEQ	Nutrient Fate and Transport
1:45-2:15	AJ Maupin, DEQ Bruce Wicherski, DEQ	Nutrient-Pathogen Guidance
2:15-2:40	Amy Williams, DEQ	Source Water Protection Activities
<b>2:40-3:00 EXHIBITORS BREAK FARNSWORTH ROOM/SILENT AUCTION</b>		
3:00-3:25	Ed Hagan, DEQ	Ground Water Quality Rule Overview
3:25-3:50	Ken Neely, IDWR Lin Campbell, IDWR	Statewide Ground Water Detections of Concern
3:50-4:30	Jeff Fromm, DEQ	Emerging Contaminants

6:30-8:30 pm Business Meeting and Awards Banquet — JORDAN A

**NOTES:**

**FRIDAY MARCH 16TH CONCURRENT SESSION A  
HATCH BALLROOM ABCD**



IPHA Keynote Speaker  
Dr. Barbara Sattler  
Director, Environmental Health Center  
Associate Professor, University of Maryland School of Nursing

<b>MODERATOR: JEAN WOODWARD, IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION</b>		
<i>TIME</i>	<i>SPEAKER</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>
<b>7:00-8:30 BREAKFAST BSU TABLE ROCK CAFÉ</b>		
8:30-8:45	Jean Woodward, Nancy Otterness, and Patt Alison-Bowers	Welcome and Introductions
8:45-10:00	Dr. Barbara Sattler	HealthCare Without Harm: Examining the Impact of the Environment on Children's Health
<b>10:00-10:15 BREAK FARNSWORTH ROOM</b>		
10:15-Noon	Dr. Barbara Sattler	Breakout Sessions. HealthCare Without Harm: Exam- ining the Impact of the Environment on Children's Health
<b>MEETING ADJOURNED 12:00</b>		

**FRIDAY MARCH 16TH CONCURRENT SESSION B  
FARNSWORTH ROOM**

<b>MODERATOR: DEE JOHNSON, EHS D6 AND DALE STEPHENSON, BSU</b>		
<b>DIGITAL HEALTH DEPT. AND BSU STUDENT PROJECTS</b>		
<i>TIME</i>	<i>SPEAKER</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>
<b>7:00-8:30 BREAKFAST BSU TABLE ROCK CAFÉ</b>		
8:30-10:15	Cameron Garrison	The Digital Health Department. Utilizing computer technology in the field
<b>10:00-10:15 BREAK HATCH BALLROOM</b>		
10:30-10:50	Olivia Cunningham, BSU Student, Envi- ronmental and Occupational Health	Comparison of Combustion Emissions Using Regular Grade Diesel versus 25% Biodiesel Fuels
10:50-11:10	Crystal Woolf, BSU Student Environ- mental and Occupational Health	Fluoride in Drinking Water: An Education and Out- reach Project
11:10-11:30	TBA???Sharon Wright, BSU Student, Masters of Health Science Program	Disaster Preparedness Planning – Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak Scenario
11:30-11:50	Janel Alison, BSU Student, Masters of Health Science Program	Worksite Interventions to Reduce Alcohol Consump- tion Among Young Employees
<b>MEETING ADJOURNED 12:00</b>		



## Take a look at our Website

[www.idahoenvironmentalhealth.org](http://www.idahoenvironmentalhealth.org)

IEHA now has its own website!

Find out who we are and what news and events are going on!

Find out what's going on at the March 14-16 Annual Educational Conference!

Find out who received awards and scholarships!

Find out how to join up!

Moving ahead to promote our Association and our Profession!

Conference Accommodations: A block of 20 rooms has been set aside at \$69 + tx, single queen, non-smoking. Two queen bed room is \$89 + tx Make reservations now.

SAFARI INN  
1070 W. Grove St  
Boise, ID 83702  
(208) 344-6556

### **IEHA Attendees: PARKING LOT FREE AT THE STUDENT UNION BUILDING.**

The parking lot on the east side of the SUB is free for conference attendees. Each day tell the attendant that you are attending the IEHA conference and get a parking pass. Make sure you get the pass to put in your car windshield.

Speaking from experience, if the attendant is not there, get the pass during the morning break. Otherwise you must hassle over a ticket. I did get a dismissal of the ticket but it does require some effort.

# IEHA Annual Education Conference

March 14, 15, and 16, 2007

Boise State University, Student Union  
1910 University Drive  
Boise, ID

**Registration:** Make Checks Payable to "IEHA" and mail this form to:

Idaho Environmental Health Association  
C/O Steve Pew  
957 Willow Ln.  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
Ph. (208) 239-5272  
E-mail - <spew@phd6.idaho.gov>

## FREE PARKING

Conference attendees can park free in the lot east side of the BSU student building.

Tell parking attendant you are attending "IEHA conference".

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

IEHA Member?     YES     NO  
IEHA Member?     YES     NO  
ISWA Member?     YES     NO

**IEHA Full Conference Registration** →

*March 14, 15, and 16*  
(Includes banquet, all sessions, breakfast & lunch at  
*Table Rock Café--Wednesday through Friday*)

IEHA Members \$130.00   
Non-Members \$155.00

**IEHA One-Day Registration** →

(Includes all sessions & meals for one day, does not  
include Business Meeting Banquet)

IEHA Members \$60.00   
Non-Members \$85.00   
**Which day?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration for ISWA Workshop Only** →

(Thursday March 15; Includes session and meals for one day,  
does not include Business Meeting Banquet)

ISWA Members \$60.00   
NON Members \$85.00

**IEHA Awards Banquet** →

*Thursday, March 15, 6-8:30 PM*  
Boise State University, Student Union

IEHA Members & Guests   
\$15 each # attending \_\_\_\_\_

**IEHA Half-Day Registration** →

Attendance at half-day does not include meals.

All registrants \$30.00   
Which Day? \_\_\_\_\_

## IEHA Membership Application

First Name		Last Name	
Address		City	State
Zip			
Organization	Work Phone	Home Phone	FAX
Email	Signature		Date

- \$25 - Active Member
- \$5 - Student
- \$100 - Sustaining
- No Dues—Retired or Honorary Member

Submit application and fee (make check payable to IEHA) to:  
IEHA, Attn: Steve Pew  
957 Willow Ln  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
Ph. (208) 239-5272