

**Community Advisory Group (CAG)  
for the  
Omaha Lead Site**

Minutes for Meeting Held  
**Wednesday, April 11, 2007, 9:30 a.m.**  
North Omaha Boys and Girls Club  
2610 Hamilton Street  
Omaha, NE 68131

---

**OLS CAG Members Present:**

Rebecca Barrientos-Patlan—*Burlington Road Neighborhood Association*  
Sue Casteel—*Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Control*  
Jonah Deppe—*League of Women Voters*  
Connie Determan—*MFG, Inc.*  
Kara Eastman—*Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance*  
Bob Feild—*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
Nick Flattery—*OneWorld Community Health Center*  
Jeff McDermott—*Union Pacific Railroad*  
Vicki Quaites-Ferris—*City of Omaha Mayor's Office*  
Marian Todd—*City of Omaha Planning Department*  
Vernon Waldren—*Douglas/Sarpy County Extension*  
Diane Ward—*Creighton University Department of Pediatrics*  
Cheryl Weston—*Lead Safe Omaha Coalition*

**Others Present:**

Rita Brown—*Citizen*  
Kris Carter—*Lead Safe Omaha Coalition*  
Mary Castaneda—*EPA Information Offices*  
Lelia Coyne—*Citizen*  
Felisa Dillon—*EPA Information Offices*  
Nancy Gaarder—*Omaha World-Herald*  
Tina Gray-Ventry—*Lead Safe Omaha Coalition*  
Laura Hardesty—*Cadmus Group*  
Debbie Kring—*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
Jan Lambert—*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
Kathy Leinenkugel—*Douglas County Health Department*  
Jennifer Rawley—*MFG, Inc.*  
Steve Sanders—*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
Che Thompson—*Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance*

---

**1. Discussion on Minutes from the March 14, 2007 Meeting**

Mr. Waldren asked for corrections or additions to the CAG meeting minutes from March 14, 2007.

Ms. Weston stated that in the third paragraph on page three, “Ms. Weston stated that the contractor is now offering insurance instead of fringe benefits” should read: “Ms. Weston stated that the proposed plan was to offer insurance in lieu of fringe benefits.” Ms. Weston stated that on page three, “Ms. Weston stated that there is an auditor monitoring wage issues” should read: “Ms. Weston stated that a federal Department of Labor specialist is monitoring wage issues due to the situation that occurred with Environmental Restoration.” Ms. Weston stated that in the second paragraph on page five, “Ms. Weston suggested that EPA be positive in approaching homeowner’s concerns about property values” should read, “Ms. Weston suggested that the CAG be positive in approaching homeowner’s concerns about property values.” Ms. Weston stated that on page five, “Ms. Weston suggested including the North and South Omaha EPA public information center phone numbers on the fact sheet” should read: “Ms. Weston suggested including the North Omaha EPA public information center phone number on the fact sheet.” Ms. Weston stated that on page seven, “Ms. Weston stated that OHKA was designed to find funding” should read: “Ms. Weston asked if OHKA was designed to find funding.” Ms. Weston stated that, “Ms. Weston stated that Ms. Eastman is the service program provider of funding and programs” should read: “Ms. Weston asked if OHKA is a service program provider.” Ms. Weston stated that on page eight, “Ms. Eastman requested to meet with Ms. Weston privately to further discuss the matter” should read: “Ms. Eastman stated that the CAG meeting was not an appropriate place to discuss the matter. Ms. Weston stated that it was appropriate because Ms. Weston had voted on the formation of OHKA.”

Mr. Feild stated that on page four, “Mr. Feild stated that gaining access to properties is part of EPA’s site characterization and should be addressed using pipeline money” should be moved to follow: “Mr. Janssen asked why EPA cannot use remedial action funding for education to address households where EPA is having difficulty obtaining access.”

Ms. Deppe motioned to approve the minutes with the above corrections. Ms. Weston seconded the motion. The motion could not move forward due to a lack of votes. Mr. Waldren stated that the minutes would be revisited at a later time.

## **2. EPA Update**

Mr. Feild stated that EPA’s large park and treatability study plans are still being revised. Mr. Feild stated that he would transmit the final documents to Ms. Rawley before the next CAG meeting.

Mr. Feild stated that EPA has three main contracts for soil removal in 2007:

- An indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract with Prudent Technologies;
- A firm fixed price contract with Costal Environmental; and
- A contract with ECC through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Feild stated that Prudent Technologies plans to mobilize April 30<sup>th</sup>, and ECC plans to mobilize June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Weston asked who will be onsite for Prudent Technologies and Coastal Environmental. Mr. Feild replied that each contract has a project officer, as follows:

- Prudent Technologies—Dan Garvey
- Coastal Environmental—Pauletta France-Isetts

Ms. Weston asked if ECC has been selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contractor for 2007. Mr. Feild replied that he is unsure of the official status, but assumes ECC will be awarded another task order.

### **3. OHKA Update**

Ms. Eastman stated that the medical provide training will be held on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Barrientos-Patlan stated that she has heard that some park swing sets have lead-based paint. Ms. Leinenkugel stated that Mr. Steinkraus worked with the City last year to test park playgrounds for lead-based paint. Ms. Leinenkugel stated that she would ask Mr. Steinkraus to report on the sampling at the next CAG meeting. Ms. Weston added that the City Parks and Recreation Department is aware of the issue.

### **4. City Update**

Ms. Todd provided an update on City activities. Ms. Todd reported on the City's lead hazard control program, stating that 35 homes have been completed, 56 homes are in various stages, and 13 applications are being processed.

Ms. Todd reported that Mr. Feild provided the City with a list of 1,775 homes that EPA has assessed for the presence of exterior lead-based paint. Ms. Todd stated that not all of the 1,775 homes will have paint stabilized by EPA's program. Ms. Todd stated that the City will address the homes where children are present and where the greatest degree of deteriorating exterior lead-based paint is found first. Ms. Todd stated that the City has selected 40 homes to start with and will bid out 10 properties at a time. Ms. Todd stated that the City has, thus far, approved nine contractors from the Omaha metro area. Ms. Todd stated that, at this time, the City does not have any published materials on the paint stabilization program to distribute to the public. Ms. Todd stated that EPA is looking at putting a fact sheet together that describes the program.

Ms. Deppe asked if all of the tested homes will have paint stabilized. Mr. Feild replied that criteria for stabilizing the paint have not been established. Mr. Feild stated that EPA plans to do additional sampling at some of the homes to determine if recontamination of yard soil has occurred to better characterize the potential of yards to be recontaminated. Mr. Feild stated that he anticipates that the criteria for paint stabilization will be included

in the final Record of Decision for the site, which should be released in two years. Mr. Feild stated that EPA's contractor will assess exterior lead-based paint at 2,300 additional properties this summer, including where soil has not yet been replaced. Mr. Feild stated that EPA's goal is to do the paint stabilization work before the yard is replaced.

Ms. Todd stated that the City will be doing the initial paint stabilization work with limited trial funding from EPA. Ms. Todd stated that EPA has not allocated the full amount of paint stabilization funds because they want to evaluate costs based on actual initial projects. Ms. Todd stated that once fully staffed, the City will perform paint stabilization on hundreds of homes each year. Mr. Feild stated that the City knows what the costs will be, but need to demonstrate that the contracts will come in as expected before EPA will provide the full available funding to the City.

Ms. Weston asked if the City is notifying property owners about the paint stabilization program. Ms. Todd stated that property owners are asked to sign another access agreement for the paint stabilization work. Ms. Todd stated that the property owners are provided a copy of the work plan. Mr. Feild stated that EPA is working on a fact sheet to provide to the homeowners.

Ms. Weston asked if EPA's funding will cover administration and work costs. Ms. Todd stated that the full funding amount will cover both. Ms. Weston asked if the 1,000 properties where soil removals are scheduled to occur this year will have the exterior paint assessed before EPA replaces the soil. Mr. Feild stated that EPA has only performed paint assessments where soil replacements have already occurred. Ms. Weston stated that she thought EPA would be working to get ahead of the soil removals, so that paint stabilization is performed before a yard is remediated. Mr. Feild stated that some homes may have the paint assessed before the soil is replaced. Mr. Feild stated that EPA has not designated which homes will be assessed for lead-based paint this year. Ms. Deppe stated that it would make sense to address the paint at the homes that have not had the soil replaced first. Mr. Feild stated that it also makes sense to prioritize the homes where children are present.

Ms. Weston stated that people are still under the assumption that the entire house will be painted and that it needs to be clearly explained to homeowners that if only a portion of the house is deteriorating, then only that portion will be stabilized. Ms. Weston stated that this information should be included in the fact sheet EPA is drafting. Ms. Todd clarified that deteriorating lead-based paint will be stabilized on all of each component on which it is found. For example, if deteriorating lead-based paint is found on windows, all windows will be treated.

Ms. Thompson expressed concern that EPA will not be able to catch up to do paint stabilization before soil removals. Ms. Thompson stated that she is concerned EPA will run out of funding for paint stabilization by the time the soil removals are complete. Mr. Feild stated that EPA is obligated in the Interim Record of Decision to do the paint stabilization work. Mr. Feild stated that EPA is trying to move the paint stabilization work forward, but will not slow the pace of soil removals.

Mr. Feild stated that, if recontamination occurs, EPA will address it. Mr. Feild stated that everyone assumes recontamination will occur, but there is no data to show that. Mr. Feild stated that data shows that the lead contamination in yards is primarily from industrial emissions, not paint. Mr. Feild stated that EPA will do a recontamination study this summer. Ms. Thompson stated that a group of young ladies from Girls, Inc. observed chipping and peeling paint where soil was replaced in 1999. Mr. Feild stated that EPA is aware of such situations and is working on the issue.

## **5. LSOC Update**

Ms. Weston provided an update on Lead Safe Omaha Coalition (LSOC) activities. Ms. Weston stated that LSOC does not have a contract with any of EPA's contractors. Ms. Weston stated that LSOC has submitted quotes to EPA's contractors, but, at this time, does not hold a contract.

Ms. Weston stated that LSOC is presenting its first live performance of "It's Cool to Be Lead Safe" on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Weston stated that the performance is a pathway project with Omaha Public Schools. Ms. Weston stated that the performance will be filmed for distribution and will be an ongoing project each year.

Ms. Weston stated that LSOC continues to test children through Head Start. Ms. Weston stated that LSOC's testing numbers will be reported at the end of the year. Ms. Thompson stated that she was contacted by Head Start, who asked if the CAG could provide assistance. Ms. Thompson asked if LSOC would like assistance. Ms. Weston stated that the program is running well. Ms. Weston asked that she be contacted with any additional questions and that any future calls regarding Head Start be referred to LSOC.

## **6. Education Committee Update**

Mr. Waldren provided an update on the Education Committee.

Mr. Waldren stated asked that CAG members let him or Ms. Eastman know of any upcoming health fairs. Mr. Waldren stated that OHKA will have a booth at Earth Day. Mr. Waldren stated that community health workers continue to attend health fairs and that the UNL Extension had a booth at the Latino Police Officers Association Easter egg hunt. Ms. Barrientos-Patlan reported that 1,700 children were present at the egg hunt.

Mr. Waldren stated that the lead information hotline (1-877-lead-411) is up and running. Mr. Waldren asked that any group wanting specific wording on the recording let him or Ms. Eastman know.

Mr. Waldren stated that Ms. Kring and Ms. Casteel are working on revising EPA's fact sheet. Mr. Waldren stated that the Education Committee is also drafting a more comprehensive fact sheet, using the same format.

Mr. Waldren stated that Ms. Connie Lowndes is working with Ms. Thompson and Healthy Start to develop a publication on reducing the risk of lead poisoning for pregnant women.

Mr. Waldren stated that the Education Committee is updating the CAG briefing book.

Mr. Waldren stated that lead month is May. Mr. Waldren stated that the Education Committee is planning news releases and included a flier in the Omaha Public Schools newsletter.

Ms. Barrientos-Patlan asked if testing could be done at WIC clinics. Ms. Leinenkugel stated that the Douglas County Health Department will be doing a pilot project with the Charles Drew WIC clinic to do testing using the LeadCareII. Ms. Weston asked what will happen if a child tests high at the WIC clinic. Ms. Leinenkugel replied that protocols will be in place to perform a follow-up venous draw. Ms. Leinenkugel stated that the families will be provided with a print out of the test result.

Ms. Kring stated that the CAG has come a long way in three years. Ms. Kring asked that every person providing information be sure that the information is accurate and meaningful. Ms. Kring stated that the hotline is a great source of information and that she hopes that appropriate agency referrals will happen. Ms. Weston stated that LSOC refers, as appropriate, to other agencies, such as the Douglas County Health Department. Ms. Thompson stated that all the groups and agencies have this understanding and currently provide referrals, as appropriate. Mr. Waldren agreed with Ms. Thompson. Ms. Leinenkugel asked that calls from medical providers be referred to the Douglas County Health Department.

## **7. Questions and Answers**

Ms. Ward stated that she does not hear this type of lead information, until she comes to CAG meetings. Ms. Ward stated that her patrons do not have this information. Ms. Leinenkugel stated that repetitive messages are important.

Ms. Thompson nominated LSOC to lead the School Task Force, in light of their efforts with the school play. Ms. Thompson stated that the School Task Force had been planning to do a play. Ms. Weston stated that she would take the offer under consideration.

Ms. Weston stated that she is in contact with an individual from Niton who is willing to test toys, jewelry, and other products for free, while he is in town. Ms. Weston asked CAG members to let her know any suggestions for what the community might want him to test.

Mr. Waldren stated that the next CAG meeting will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. The location is to be announced.

Handouts Provided for the Meeting (April 11, 2007):

*Draft CAG Meeting Minutes from 3/14/07*

*Final CAG Meeting Minutes from 2/14/07*

*Letter from ATSDR Dated March 12, 2007*

*Children's Museum Display Project Report (Provided by OHKA)*

*Health Consultation, Arsenic in Soil in East Omaha, Nebraska (Provided by ATSDR)*

*Summary of March 21, 2007 Chicago Webcast (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*New EPA Contracts Could Bring \$35 Million to Omaha Lead Cleanup (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*FY 2007 SuperNOFA: Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control Programs*

*HUD Lead Hazard NOFA (Combined)*

*HUD Technical Studies NOFA*

*HUD Technical Studies NOFA (Combined)*

*Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program Notice of Availability (Provided by Marian Todd)*

*Regent Products Corp. Recalls Stuffed Ball Toys Due to Lead Hazard (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*A&A Global Industries Recalls Children's Bracelets (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*Various Metal Key Chains Recalled by Dollar General (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*Lead Poisoning Prevention Outreach Being Made Available (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*Environmental Hazard Explained en Español (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*Openness Freed Kids from Harm (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*\$500,000 Aids Fight for Housing (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*Seaside Lead Poisoning Traced to Mexico (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*What Do Parents Know about Lead Poisoning? (Provided by Kara Eastman)*

*EPA's 'Lead Remedy' for Omaha Ignores Most Harmful Problem (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*Lead-Removal Measures by EPA Have Sizable Impact in Omaha (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*Let's Get the Lead Out (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

*Omaha Needs True Collaboration with EPA on Lead-Cleanup Issue (Provided by MFG, Inc.)*

Attachments to Minutes:

*Sign-In Sheet (hardcopy to be delivered)*