

**Board of Health Meeting
July 10, 2012**

DEPARTMENT: Laboratory
PREPARED BY: Julie Kinzelman, PhD, MT (ASCP)
MONTH: June, 2012

Highlights

Date	Meeting	Purpose	Outcome
June 4 -6, 2012	Tom Molbeck, City of Hamilton, Ontario and Environment Canada	Visit Racine beaches and dog park	The Superintendent for Environmental Services with the City of Hamilton – Parks Department, (Ontario, CA) and a scientist from Environment Canada (equivalent to the US EPA) requested a visit to Racine to see our laboratory, the beaches (in particular the management measures we have undertaken), and the dog park. Our efforts are recognized across the Great Lakes.
June 4, 2012	Press Release: Rapid Molecular Testing for North and Zoo Beaches	Provide information on new monitoring method	After years of research and comparative studies the Health Department Laboratory received approval from the WI DNR and US EPA to report regulatory compliance monitoring results using qPCR (a rapid molecular lab test). The test allows us to report results out within 2 hours of sample collection versus ~20. Therefore, we can take action on the same day in the event of an increase in health risk to bathers. We are the first and only city nationally to use this method.
June 8, 2012	Alliance for the Great Lakes, WI Coastal Management Program, WI DNR	Discuss volunteer monitoring for predictive modeling	The Alliance for the Great Lakes received a WCMP grant to explore the feasibility of volunteers collecting environmental data which could be used in operational nowcast models to predict beach water quality. Racine has an operational model for North Beach and we currently predict water quality in real time conjunction with the rapid molecular lab test. We will be one of the volunteer test sites.
June 22, 2012	Laboratory System Improvement Program	Discuss laboratory capacity and research activities	Met with the City of Milwaukee Health Department Laboratory, academic researchers for UW-Milwaukee and public and private partners to discuss the current activities and research capacity of public health, clinical, and health related laboratories in the greater Milwaukee area This grant funded project will allow us to train and address future public health needs.
June 25 - 28, 2012	Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative	Attend annual meeting with Mayor Dickert	The <i>Sustainable Municipal Water Management</i> program, which Dr. Kinzelman helped draft, was adopted by the membership (see hand out).