

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid RG 115.05

Department of Health and Senior Services

On-Site Sewage Law Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Abstract: On-Site Sewage Law Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting records from 1999-2000. Including, but not limited to, research, correspondence, and some meeting minutes.

Extent: 0.4 cubic ft. (1 hollinger box and 2 cassette tapes)

Record Description: Contains paper files and two cassette tapes minutes from a September 13th, 2000 meeting. The files contain drafts of a final report in which the committee continuously met to revise. The two cassettes are in a useable condition with no visible damage.

Alternative Formats: None.

Location: Missouri State Archives.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions: No special restrictions.

Publication Restrictions: Copyright is in the public domain. Items reproduced for online or physical publication should carry the credit line: Courtesy of the Missouri State Archives.

Preferred Citation: [Item description], [Date]; [Box and Folder]; Department of Health and Senior Services, On-Site Sewer Law Stakeholder Advisory Committee, Record Group 115.05; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Acquisition Information: Agency transfer. Accession Number 2022-0272.

Processing Information: Processing completed by Allison Overschmidt, on 8/24/2023.

Historical and Biographical Notes

Original laws related to the proper disposal of on-site sewage and waste byproducts were passed in 1986 H.B. 1101 (*Laws* 1986, p.1149). In 1994 S.B. 446, two revisions were made including a \$50 per day fine regarding the failure to comply with provisions set in 701.037.4 RSMo and the introduction of the acreage exemptions in which a single-family lot consisting of three acres or more is exempt from the provisions of 701.025 to 701.055 RSMo (*Laws* 1994, pp.1225-1234). These additions lessened the reach of governmental control over on-site sewage disposal systems.

In 1996, after a series of complaints, the Missouri Department of Health (DOH) after a series of complaints, began drafting a revision to the state law related to on-site sewage disposal systems, 701.025 to 701.059 RSMo. Over the next few years, issues began to arise throughout the state concerning what belonged within the scope of the law, its implementation, loan evaluation, training, and other areas. To address the issue, Pamela Rice Walker, the Director of the Division of Environmental Health and Communicable Disease Prevention, established a stakeholder advisory committee in September 1999 to review the law and establish changes to be made. The intent was to implement the changes during the 2000 Missouri Legislative Session.

The committee was appointed by Walker, with names recommended from several governmental agencies and professional organizations including soil scientists, real estate associations, installers, distributors, and the legislature. Five priority issues were established including: revising language, eliminating all acreage exemptions, using soil morphology rather than percolation for site evaluation, clearly define loan evaluations, and to allow for the Department to review local on-site wastewater ordinances and programs.

Prior to the committee meeting, 1999 H.B. 216 amended the language again allowing for 10-acre residential lots with no other on-site sewage disposal system within 300 ft of its parameters to be exempt from the provisions provided in 701.025 to 701.055 RSMo (*Laws* 1999, pp. 316-317). Within the same year, the committee would add “acreage limitations” to its top-five priorities of the committee for revision. No legislative action was taken on the recommendations of the committee and no other changes were made until 2018 S.B. 843 set state standards for on-site sewage disposal systems, oversight of county and city ordinances by the Department, percolation tests, and soil morphology tests (*Laws* 2018, pp.1508-1509).

Timeline

Year	Event
1986	Codes and standards for the regulation of certain sewage disposal systems are introduced in H.B. 1101 (<i>Laws</i> 1986, p.1149).
1994	Introduction of acreage exemptions on residential lots 3 acres or larger are allowed, as well as a \$50 per day fine when failing to comply with regulations set under 701.037.4 RSMo.

Year	Event
1999	Acreage exemptions were once again revised allowing for residential lots of 10 acres or more to be exempt from the regulations defined in 701.025 to 701.055 RSMo.
1999	Committee was established determining five priority regulations.
2018	Revision of set state standards including oversight from the department for counties and cities, and the use of both percolation and morphology testing of soil.

Additional Descriptive Information

Bibliography

Laws of Missouri: Eighty-Third General Assembly, HB 11014 (1986).

Laws of Missouri: Eighty-Seventh General Assembly (1994).

Laws of Missouri: Ninetieth General Assembly (1999).

Laws of Missouri: Ninety-Ninth General Assembly (2018).

Report. *On-Site Sewage Stakeholder Advisory Committee*, 1999. (Folder #7)

Related Material

Missouri Department of Health State Documents Collection.

Series

The records are organized into the following series:

Committee Records, 1999-2000

Committee Records, 1999-2000

Extent: 0.4 cubic ft. (1 hollinger box and 2 cassette tapes)

Arrangement: Arranged by type of record and chronological within.

Scope and Content

The meeting files include notices of meetings, correspondence related to meetings, agendas, drafts of proposed changes to the final report, and the final report from the year 1999-2000.

Research includes complaints, reactions, and responses from 1999 to the department, as well as 1995 mortgage letters of on-site well testing and septic inspections. Research Folder 2 contains the Model Framework for Unsewered Wastewater Infrastructure and Missouri laws for on-site sewage disposal systems.

Correspondence includes a 1999 interpretation of House Bill 216 related to on-site sewage systems, a memo from legislators expressing interest in the review process, and draft and final lists of committee members.

Items of interest may include minutes from the September 7th, 1999 meeting in Folder 1, a letter of commitment supporting the work of the committee members from October 5th, 1999 in Folder 3, and cassette tapes of the September 13th, 2000 meeting including a voting sheet in Folder 8.

Gaps in the series include no official copies of meeting minutes in Folders 2-7.

Container List

Box	Folder	Contents	Date
1	1	Meeting files (meeting minutes)	9/7/1999
1	2	Meeting files	9/28/1999
1	3	Meeting Files	10/5/199
1	4	Meeting Files	10/19/1999
1	5	Meeting Files	10/26/1999
1	6	Meeting Files	11/9/1999
1	7	Meeting Files	11/30/1999
1	8	Meeting Files	9/13/2000
0005158125 0005158126		Audiocassettes of meeting	9/13/2000
1	9	Research	9/13/1999- 11/10/1999
1	10	Research (model framework)	07/1999- 8/8/2000

Box	Folder	Contents	Date
1	11	Correspondence	06/30/1999- 8/26/1999