



EL PASO COUNTY FOOD SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

Date January 22, 2013

Meeting Minutes

FSAG members attended: Tom Gonzales, Lee Griffen, Jim Goodwin, Steve Kanatzar, Ted Vong, Ken Chi, Janine Russell and Greg Howard

Members absent:

EHD staff members attending: Danielle Hannaly-Gentle, Robert Warwick, Pauline Faust

FSAG Purpose Statement:

- Allow for good communication between Food Industry and Public Health.
- Encourage healthy feedback on customer service, policies and regulations.
- Work together to improve El Paso County's Food Safety Program using current science, technology and through educational opportunities.
- Work together to prevent food borne illness in our community.

Lead	Topic	Discussion/Action
Lee	Welcome and introductions	Lee Griffen, Supervisor, EHD- welcoming comments
Lee/ Robert	Excellence in Food Safety Program	Robert Warwick- EHD Specialist gave a summary of the Excellence in Food Safety program. We discussed that it would be presented at the BoH meeting in March. There are 419 Retail Food Establishments eligible. Janine and Greg will present. The establishments will appear on our website soon after the BoH meeting and will be updated every November. FSAG members approved the program.
Lee/Tom	Cottage Food Bill update (HB-13 1158)	Discussion on the Cottage Food Act being amended by the Colorado State House. Among the amendments are loosening the restrictions for the food education and class requirements. Greg mentioned that the State CRA position on this bill is that they are not in favor if it. It should be through the legislator and signed by the governor in April if all goes according the sponsors plans.
Lee	Illegal mobile food vendors in EPC	Brief discussion on what might be the appropriate approach to the Illegal Food mobiles selling food illegally. We have a staff member that researched this from how other Health Departments across the nation are dealing with it. Greg suggested maybe getting CRA at State level to look into it. No action item needs further discussion.

Tom	EHD 2012 Program highlights	Tom discussed the Environmental Health Division's annual report specifically on the subject of the Retail Food. The Advisory group was impressed to see the trending towards education and behavior change instead of the old enforcement method. No action item.
Group	Other items	Wanted the advisory group to know that the Environmental Health Division had hired a lead program assistant position. We also discussed possibly putting together a survey for restaurant employees based on their ethnic backgrounds to better serve their educational needs. We need to see if this has already been done by any other group or government entity. The focus was on El Paso County food workers for the sole purpose of determining what the breakdown of ethnic groups that are employed in food service is. We would chose to focus on the top three or four for our education efforts. Action item is to discuss further in the next meeting to move it forward.
	MEETING ADJORNED	10:30 AM

SCHEDULE FOR MEETINGS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2013 ARE:

April 23, 2013

July 23, 2013

October 22, 2013

ALL MEETINGS ARE FROM 9- 10:30 am AT Citizens Service Center (CSC)