Resolution 2017-48

AUTHORIZING DRINKING WATER LABORATORY TESTING SERVICE

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SAWYER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE LAB CERTIFIED DRINKING WATER TESTING SERVICES FOR SAWYER COUNTY RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, State statute 280.11 and Chapter NR 809.01 of the Administrative Code establishes standards, rules, and regulations for methods to be pursued in obtaining pure drinking water for human consumption and establishing all safeguards deemed necessary in protecting public health; and

WHEREAS, State statute 299.11 and Chapter ATCP 77.02 and Chapter NR 149.01 of the Administrative Code establishes certification and registration of laboratories performing tests on milk, food, drinking water, wastewater, and recreational water necessary in protecting public health; and

WHEREAS, transient, non-community (TNC) public water systems which serve at least 25 people at least 60 days of the year, and do not serve the same 25 people over 6 months of the year, shall submit drinking water samples annually for bacteria and nitrate testing (Chapter NR 809.04(89) and NR 809.31(dg) Adm. Code); and

WHEREAS, examples of transient, non-community water systems include (but are not limited to) hotels, motels, restaurants, parks, pools, campgrounds, taverns, churches, and gas stations; and

WHEREAS, food and water security and safety are a significant concern as contaminated food and water have been identified and linked with major outbreaks of illnesses including outbreaks associated with e. coli, cryptosporidium, salmonella, and other organisms; and

WHEREAS, safe water is essential for health, business prosperity, and community growth; and

WHEREAS, the increased demand of water usage and effects of re-occurring floods support the need for more frequent testing; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources recommends that all private wells should be tested once a year for coliform bacteria contamination; and

WHEREAS, there are about one million private wells currently in Wisconsin. Four in every ten households rely on private wells. It is estimated that less than half of Wisconsin homes have tested their well water in the last ten years. Of those, only about 16% of private well owners test their well annually for bacteria and research indicates that about 47% of all households are contaminated by one or more pollutants at levels above health standards; and

WHEREAS, State wide water testing facilities are in demand for such services; and

WHEREAS, technological advancement in water testing equipment have greatly reduced workloads while increasing efficiency and accuracy in the testing process; and

WHEREAS, Sawyer County Health Department will continue to promote education and awareness for water testing within the community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Sawyer County Health and Human Services Department approval to become a State certified laboratory for testing Drinking Water.
Recommended for adoption by the Sawyer County Health and Human Services Board on October 19, 2017

FINANCIAL IMPACT TO SAWYER COUNTY: NONE

Tweed Shuman, Chairman
Iras Humphrey, Member
Kathy McCoy, Member
Dale Schleeter, Member
James Schlender, Member
Shirley Suhsen, Member
Carol Pearson, Member
Michelle Lambert, Member
Rosalie Gokee, Tribal Liaison