



State of Nevada
Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialists

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MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING
March 19, 2018

Members Present: Tony Macaluso, Larry Law, Bob Stulac, James Barnes
Members Absent: Drew Skeen
Staff Present: Loretta Ponton, Executive Director
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Public Present: Nancy Chu

BOARD MEETING

Tony Macaluso, Chair called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A voice roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment: None

Approval of the Minutes: Tony Macaluso asked if there were any corrections or revisions to the meeting minutes of December 4, 2017 and February 14, 2018. Hearing none, called for a motion.

Larry Law made the motion, seconded by Bob Stulac to approve the minutes of December 4, 2017. The motion passed with James Barnes abstaining.

Larry Law made the motion, seconded by Bob Stulac to approve the minutes of February 14, 2018. The motion passed.

Registrations: Tony Macaluso asked if there were any comments or questions on the registrations issued by staff. Hearing none called for a motion.

Bob Stulac made the motion to ratify the registrations issued by staff as presented. Larry Law seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Board Policy 01 - Registration: Loretta Ponton stated the Policy has been updated to delineate that a new registration number will be issued upon conversion of a trainee to REHS status and that the REHS registration will expire one year from date of issuance in accordance with Board regulation LCB File No. R049-17.

Tony Macaluso asked if there were any objections to the revision; hearing none called for a motion.

Bob Stulac made the motion, seconded by Larry Law to approve the revision to Policy 01-Registration as presented. The motion passed.

Consideration of REHS Status - Nancy Chu: Larry Law stated he would abstain from this agenda item as Ms. Chu is an employee of the Southern Nevada Health District.

Loretta Ponton explained that Ms. Chu has a current EHST registration issued March 13, 2017. Ms. Chu has passed the NEHA Exam and is requesting REHS status. Ms. Ponton stated Ms. Chu holds a current California REHS certificate, and has provided an Affidavit of Training which was completed in California. Her CA registration has been verified.

Ms. Ponton explained that Ms. Chu would have been eligible for REHS status by reciprocity if she had requested reciprocity on her original application for registration. She was issued a trainee registration as that is what was requested.

The Board has established policy that a trainee must complete their 2 year training period in Nevada to receive REHS status; however this is an unusual situation with Ms. Chu having California REHS status prior to applying in Nevada.

Ms. Ponton stated that the Board has previously made a determination that Arizona and California have “substantially equivalent requirements” for REHS registration by reciprocity.

Ms. Chu questioned whether she was required to take the NEHA examination; Ms. Ponton responded that NEHA registration is recommended, but not required for registration by reciprocity. Ms. Chu expressed concern that the requirements were not explained clearly.

Tony Macaluso stated this is an exception to the REHS status policy; Bob Stulac concurred with that statement. Tony Macaluso called for a motion.

Bob Stulac made the motion, seconded by Jim Barnes, to approve the request for REHS status of Nancy Chu. The motion passed, Larry Law abstained.

Work Session - Tony Macaluso asked Loretta to facilitate. Ms. Ponton summarized the revisions to the proposed bill language as requested at the December meeting. The new section on “applicability of chapter” now includes those practice fields previously identified in the definition of environmental health as exceptions; the license without examination section was revised and the fee schedule now includes a reduced fee for a temporary license and adds the fingerprint/background check fee.

Ms. Ponton asked if there were any other revisions and stated that the Sunset Subcommittee noted that the Board does not have citation authority. After discussion on what would constitute a citation, there was consensus that citation authority should be added to the proposed language.

Tony Macaluso directed Loretta to develop the appropriate language and add to the proposed bill draft language.

Executive Director’s Report: Ms. Ponton directed the members to the written report and provided a summary of registration numbers, renewals and current statistics.

Ms. Ponton stated she, Tony Macaluso and James Barnes attended the Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Committee and presented the Board documents and information. The Board's proposed bill was introduced and was well received. There were very few questions from the subcommittee members. Any recommendations will be made at a later meeting date.

Ms. Ponton provided a review of the Board's financial statements as of February 28, 2017 including profit and loss budget vs. actual, previous year comparisons and detailed financial transactions with explanation of variances to budget. Cash balance is approximately \$49,000 reflecting receipt of renewal fees.

Ms. Ponton reported that Paula Berkley will be assisting in obtaining a bill sponsor and has approached Assemblyman Pickard as a potential sponsor. Mr. Pickard has requested a letter from each of the represented health districts and the state health department to support our request to sponsor. He wants assurances that there is nothing of concern to the districts or the State in the bill proposal. Ms. Ponton stated that she would draft a letter and asked that Tony, Larry and Bob approach their respective agencies to sign.

Tony Macaluso asked if there were any questions, hearing none called for a motion.

Larry Law made the motion to approve the Executive Director's report as presented. Bob Stulac seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Report from Board Chair: Tony Macaluso stated the next meeting is June 11, 2018. Tony reported that his term on the Board will expire June 30, 2018 as will Drew Skeen's.

Loretta Ponton added that Drew has indicated that he will not be reapplying.

Tony asked if there were any future agenda items requests.

Loretta Ponton stated that the June meeting will have the FY 19 Budget review and possible items relating to preparation for the 2019 Legislative Session. Ms. Ponton also stated the bill draft citation language would be considered as that would be the final meeting prior to moving forward with the bill.

Report for Deputy Attorney General: Henna Rasul stated she had no report.

Public Comment: Tony Macaluso asked for public comments.

Nancy Chu commented that the process for registration should be made more clear so that individuals don't have to waste time and expense when it is not required.

Adjournment: Tony Macaluso adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.