



State of Nevada

Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialists

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MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING January 23, 2017

Members Present: Tony Macaluso, Larry Law, Bob Stulac, Drew Skeen, Erika Marquez
Members Absent: None
Staff Present: Loretta Ponton, Executive Director
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Public Present: None

Tony Macaluso, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was confirmed.

Public Comment: No public attended.

Approval of the Minutes: Tony Macaluso asked if there were any comments or revisions to the minutes of the September 12, 2016 meeting. Hearing none, called for a motion. A motion was made by Bob Stulac, seconded by Larry Law to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 12, 2016. The motion passed.

Applications for Registration: Loretta Ponton stated she had reviewed the applications of Rachel E. Kelly, Marlea M. Stout, Mark Ports, Dominick DiFranco, Vanessa Ortiz-Rivera and Mona Paulo for EHS trainee registration and recommends approval. The applicants have submitted the required documentation, fingerprinting results are clear and registration fees have been paid.

Tony Macaluso asked if there were any comments or questions, hearing none call for a motion.

A motion was made by Bob Stulac, seconded by Drew Skeen to approve the Environmental Health Specialist Trainee applications as listed. The motion passed.

Loretta Ponton stated she has reviewed the applications of Sarah Martinez, Rachel Flores and Augusta Washington for registration as Environmental Health Specialist Trainees and the application by reciprocity of Kevin Pontius as an Registered Environmental Health Specialist. The applicants have submitted all required documents, fingerprints have been submitted to the Department of Public Safety for processing, and fees have been paid. It is recommended the applications be approved contingent upon receipt of clear fingerprint results.

Tony Macaluso asked if there were any questions or comments on the applications; hearing none called for a motion.

A motion was made by Bob Stulac, seconded by Larry Law to approve the applications for environmental health specialist trainee registrations as listed and the application by reciprocity of Kevin Pontius, contingent upon receipt of clear fingerprint results from the Department of Public Safety. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda - Registrations Issued by Staff - Loretta Ponton stated that Lindsey M. Doolittle, Heather MacDavid and Mikki Knowles all submitted documentation of completion of their two-year trainee periods and passed the National Environmental Health Association examination. Their registrations have been converted to full Registered Environmental Health Specialists.

Larry Law made the motion, seconded by Erika Marquez to ratify the conversion of registrations issued by staff. The motion passed.

State REHS registration requirement - Marijuana Inspectors - Loretta Ponton stated that the Board received a question on whether a Medical Marijuana Inspector was required to hold State REHS registration. A review of the state Job Descriptions for Medical marijuana inspectors and environmental health specialists have overlapping duties and responsibilities.

Discussion was heard regarding the duties and responsibilities as listed in the state job descriptions with a consensus that marijuana used as a “product” in edibles and infused products, may fall under the requirements for registration under the jurisdiction of Board. It was also discussed that the recreational marijuana program and the medical marijuana program currently are regulated by different agencies and that those programs may be combined or moved under a single agency, the Department of Taxation, in the near future. After further discussion, the Executive Director was directed to research the rationale used by the State in developing the job descriptions and requirements for NEHA registration as well as State registration for these inspectors; and bring this matter back to the Board for further discussion at the next meeting.

Executive Director’s Report: Loretta Ponton reported on renewal activities stating as of the meeting date, approximately 30 individuals have not as yet renewed their registrations..

Ms. Ponton reported that an agreement with Wells Fargo for Credit Card processing has been negotiated with no upfront costs, annual or monthly fees; the only bank fees would be the merchant service fees incurred on actual receipts. There are additional costs to implement and upgrade and secure the website. There was consensus that credit card processing is a service to the registrants and that the costs are justified.

Ms. Ponton reported that the format for the registration cards was being brought back for discussion as there have been some complaints on the paper wallet card format. Ms. Ponton provided several options but recommended the Board retain the current format; explaining that the intent is to move toward on-line renewals with the ability for the registrants to immediately print their new registration cards upon completion. Manually preparing and mailing registration cards would be eliminated or reduced significantly when an on-line renewal process is implemented. After discussion, it was agreed to not change the registration card format.

Loretta Ponton concluded the executive director's report with a summary of the 2nd Quarter FY 2017 financial statements reporting a cash balance of \$37,663 and a net income for the fiscal year as of December 31, 2016 of \$6,895.

Report from Board Chair: Tony Macaluso identified future agenda items as continued discussion on Medical Marijuana Inspectors and registration requirements. Ms. Ponton added the next meeting will include the Public Hearing on the Board regulations that was cancelled due to the flooding in Reno.

The Board agreed to the following meeting dates: March 13, 2017 by Videoconference, locations TBD; Monday, June 12, Monday September 11 and Monday December 4, all by teleconference at 10:00 a.m.

Report from Legal Counsel: Heena Rasul stated she had nothing to report.

Public Comment: There was no public present.

Tony Macaluso adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.