

# State of Nevada Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialists Meeting

January 16, 2003  
9:00 a.m.

Ellis Island Casino and Brewery  
4178 Koval Lane  
Las Vegas, NV

Quorum present:

Peter S. Allen, R.E.H.S., Chairman  
Daniel J. Maxson, R.E.H.S., Secretary  
Karen Dorsey, F.M.P., Member  
Kinley Goodman, R.E.H.S., Member

**Attendees:**

Name	Title	Organization
Daniel J. Maxson, R.E.H.S.	Environmental Health Supervisor	Clark County Health District (CCHD)
Karen Dorsey, F.M.P.	President	Ellis Island Casino and Brewery
Steve Henke, R.E.H.S.	Senior EHS	CCHD
Mary Hahn, R.E.H.S.	Environmental Health Supervisor	CCHD
Katherine Jacobi	Director of Education	Nevada Hospitality Foundation
Nancy A. Hall, R.E.H.S., C.F.S.P., C.E.T.	Senior EHS	CCHD
Kinley Goodman, R.E.H.S.	Public Health Rating and Survey Officer	State Health-Representing State Health Officer
Peter S. Allen, R.E.H.S.	President	Environmental Services Ltd.
Clare A. Schmutz, R.E.H.S.	Environmental Health Director	CCHD
Bob Sack	Environmental Health Director	Washoe County District Health Department

1. Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. After a minor editing change, a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2002, meeting was approved unanimously.
3. Secretary Maxson presented the Secretary's report. In lieu of a balance sheet, Secretary Daniel Maxson presented a summary report of checkbook activity. The data sheets are attached. He also reviewed a general liability insurance premium from the State Attorney General's office for \$731.85. Chairman Peter Allen said he would check in to the billing with Fred Olmstead of the Attorney General's office. A motion to approve the report as given passed unanimously.
4. Peter Allen presented the financial audit for the past four years. The audit was completed by Kafoury-Armstrong Certified Public Accountants, for a fee of \$1650.00. The need to find a lower cost auditing firm given the Board's small number of financial transactions was discussed.
5. Chairman Allen reviewed the ongoing lack of a Washoe County Board representative. Discussion centered on Bob Sack obtaining REHS reciprocity from California so that he can be nominated as the Washoe County Board representative.
6. A check was presented to the Board by member Karen Dorsey, representing the Nevada Restaurant Association (NRA). The check, in the amount of \$466.90, is a gift designated for the purchase of REHS study materials. The books will be maintained at the NRA library in Las Vegas for candidates in Southern Nevada to use in preparing for the registration examination. Peter Allen wrote a letter thanking Van Heffner for the donation. He read the letter to the attendees (need copy for final minutes). Nancy Hall agreed to purchase the books and to create a donation logo for the inside cover of the books. Peter Allen, will send a thank you letter on behalf of the Board to Joan Hefner, NRA Director of Education, who runs the NRA library. A motion was made to observe the usage of the donated books for one year and to delay purchasing additional books for one year. The motion passed unanimously.
7. A motion was made to write up an addendum to the Continuing Education Unit subject list in NAC 625A. The motion carried unanimously. Daniel Maxson volunteered to provide an updated list.

Action Item: Daniel Maxson to provide an updated list. Status OPEN.

8. Peter Allen declared the Board meeting to be a Public Workshop regarding requested changes to NAC 625A. Peter Allen reviewed the procedure to make changes to NAC 625A from a letter from Jim Pierce. Discussion ensued on maintaining current REHS status including late payment fees for payments made after January 31<sup>st</sup>, and subsequent suspension. The methods currently employed by the National Environmental Health Association to maintain their registry were briefly reviewed by Daniel Maxson. Steve Henke objected to the late payment fee and suspension portion of the proposed

NAC changes. Daniel Maxson recommended that the proposed changes be sent to all registrants for comments. Daniel Maxson made a motion to accept the proposed changes for consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

9. It was pointed out by Peter Allen that the Board has received just one REHS Career award nomination since the award's inception—Clare Schmutz. It was pointed out by Mr. Schmutz that a Board member can be nominated for the award, but a Board member can not nominate anyone. Mr. Allen pointed out that a maximum of two awards per year can be issued. A motion was made to award Dana Pennington the REHS Career award. The motion passed unanimously. Peter Allen volunteered to obtain the award plaque.

10. Peter Allen reviewed a possible increase in the initial registration fee from \$150.00 to \$185.00 to pay for the initial two years instead of one year. After discussion and comment, no action was taken on this item.

11. The possibility of consolidating registration fees by changing the billing cycle to every other year was discussed. No action was taken on this item.

12. In order to possibly increase membership, the idea of suspending the \$25.00 administrative fee for reciprocity was discussed. A motion was made by Daniel Maxson to waive the \$25.00 reciprocity fee through 2004. The motion carried unanimously.

13. Peter Allen reviewed several possible scenarios by which the Board could be involved in professional educational opportunities for registrants. Steve Henke suggested a seminar for potential new registrants which focused on test preparation. After much discussion Karen Dorsey made a motion to form a committee to organize an REHS Study exam seminar in conjunction with a membership drive. A seminar committee was formed which included the following volunteers:

1. Mary Hahn
2. Nancy Hall
3. Steve Henke
4. Peter Allen
5. Karen Dorsey
6. Clare Schmutz

Nancy Hall volunteered to teach the Radiological Health section of the seminar. Karen Dorsey also volunteered to provide meeting space and \$30.00 room rates at Ellis Island. It was agreed that the seminar would be a two day seminar. The NEHA study guide will be used to set the agenda for the seminar.

14. After much discussion a motion was made to work on a clear-cut change to NRS 625A making registration in the State of Nevada mandatory. The motion passed unanimously. Joe Hardy, MD, was discussed as a potential sponsor of a new bill in the next legislative session. A requirement that newly hired Environmental Health

Specialists (EHS) must take and pass the REHS exam within a certain timeframe would be needed in the new law along with a grandfather clause for existing EHS staff that do not meet the educational requirements of the Board. A set of educational and test qualifiers would attach to each registrant with regard to reciprocity status. Additional due process wording might also be needed.

15. A motion was made to extend the agreement on examinations with the National Environmental Health Association. The motion passed unanimously.

16. A motion was made to pay up to \$350.00 per year for web hosting services by Nevada Health Network. The motion passed unanimously.

17. The meeting was opened for public comment. Steve Henke commented on the Nevada Public Health Association needing new members. He asked that anyone interested see him for a membership application.

The next meeting was scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003, at 11:00 A.M., at the Reno Hilton, 2500 East Second St. - Reno, NV, in a room to be announced.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 A.M..