

**Minutes of the State of Nevada
Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialists Meeting
May 10, 2005 – 9:00 AM**

Location: Washoe County Health District
9th and Wells Streets
Reno, Nevada

Quorum Present: Peter S. Allen, R.E.H.S., Chairman
Daniel J. Maxson, R.E.H.S., Secretary
Teresa Long, R.E.H.S., Member
Cynthia L. Ulch, R.E.H.S., Member

Attendees

Name	Title	Organization
Peter S. Allen, R.E.H.S	President	Environmental Services, Ltd.
Daniel J. Maxson, R.E.H.S	Environmental Health Supervisor	Clark County Health District
Kinley Goodman, R.E.H.S	Senior Environmental Health Specialist	Clark County Health District
Cynthia L. Ulch, R.E.H.S	Public Health Rating and Survey Officer	Nevada State Health Division
James Pierce, R.E.H.S		
Jeff Brasel		
John C??		
Sandy Bigley	Recording Secretary	Clark County Health District

1. Call To order

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 am by Chairman Allen. A quorum was present and the meeting had been duly noticed.

2. Introductory Statements – Pete Allen and Daniel Maxson

Chairman Allen noted that the first meeting of this Board was held in August of 2002 at Ellis Island Casino in Las Vegas. Many meetings were held where a lot of talking was done amongst the attendees, which didn't make for a very viable Board.

It took three years to change the regulations and NAC 625A to become Registered Environmental Health Specialists instead of Board of Sanitarians. That was an enormous step with the Governor's office. They now know who the State Board of R.E.H.S' is!

There are a lot of people to thank for this forward progress; Jim C being one of them. He is an experienced restaurateur having owned 12 restaurants in his career. He has been in the food management profession in the Reno area for 15 years. He currently is the Food and Beverage Director of the Silver Club in Sparks. Jim will also be a new Board member as of July 1, 2005, replacing Pete Allen. Pete commented that he is stepping down as he doesn't want to overshadow the number of service years that Clare Schmutz had.

As of the last legislature session, NRS 622 determines who serves on the Board. It also set up that the General Board member at large couldn't, by statue, be an R.E.H.S. At the time NRS 622 was adopted the Board did not know that language was in there, however, it is a positive move.

It was discussed that whenever legislature is in session that the Board needs someone in attendance to insure that the interests of the Board are met.

John has also been President of the Nevada Restaurant Association, IPSI, and ???. He serves with Karen Dorsey. John has great organizational skills along with a good sense of humor.

John stated that he was glad to be here and thanked the Board

Daniel Maxson stated that he also would be stepping down from the Board as of June 30, 2005, noting that Kinley Goodman would be replacing him. Daniel stated that he is retiring before he could complete another term full term.

Daniel noted that he has advised Clark County Health District's Director of Environmental Health, Glenn Savage, of his decision. Glenn asked for Daniel's opinion on who he thought would be a good replacement and therefore Daniel recommended Kinley. Kinley previously served on the Board when he worked for the State of Nevada. Pete welcomed Kinley back to the Board.

Pete then stated that he would now like to do something that was not done at the last Board meeting due to the absence of Jim Pierce. Pete commented that the Board was grateful to Jim for posting the Website. This also includes the designing, updating and hosting of the site. At this point, Pete presented Jim with a plaque award as a token of the State of Nevada Board of REHS's appreciation. Photos were taken.

3. Review, Amend and Approve Past Draft Minutes (Las Vegas Meeting, January 12, 2005)

Daniel distributed copies of the previous minutes from ??? and January 12, 2005. Daniel read the changes that he had made to the minutes of January 12, 2005 into the record which were as follows:

Item 4 – Paragraph 1, Sentences 1-4 now read as follows:

“Mr. Maxson presented the Secretary's report. The account balance is \$4,871.13. The annual balance sheet (Attachment 1) as submitted was distributed to the Board. An income/expense statement covering fiscal year 2005 to date currently has a shortfall of \$1,108.00.”

Item 4 – Paragraph 3, Sentence 1 now reads as follows:

“...The Board received eight written comments (emails) to the Board regarding NRS 625A, (Attachment 3)

Item 4 – Paragraph 3, Sentence 2 now reads as follows:

“...Both are CDC documents (The CDC Website is ???).”

Item 7 – Paragraph 15, Sentences 1 and 4 to add:

(Attachment 4) after sentence one, (Attachment 5) after sentence five and (Attachment 6) after sentence six.

Item 11 – Paragraph 1, Sentence 6 to add:

(Attachment 7) after sentence six.

It was motioned, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the previous minutes with the changes as recorded above.

Daniel also introduced Sandy Bigley who will be the Recording Secretary for the Board.

4. Review Secretary's Report – Daniel Maxson

Daniel presented the Secretary's report, which included the Income and Expense Statement (Attachment 1). He noted that if membership remains at the current pace the Board would continue to lose money.

Pete commented that this year was the first year that the Board paid the full amount to the Attorney General's (AG) office. The number of Board members determines the amount paid to the AG. He also stated that the \$731.00 the Board paid is a good thing. Previously the Board wasn't being charged because no one knew who we were. Now they do! This is just one reason that mandatory registration is so important.

It was noted that 41 REHS' have paid their 2005 dues; 12 members are unpaid, but expected to pay and, five (15?) others have left the state or accepted employment with NDEP.

Daniel stated that a few people had registered from out of state and there has been a significant interest in registering from the Southern Nevada area.

It was motioned, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Secretary's report.

5. Report On Progress of NRS 625A Modifications, Including the Provision for Mandatory Registration of All Environmentalists Within the State of Nevada – Pete Allen and Daniel Maxson

This item was written before things started to heat up. This bill went to the Assembly and ??? committee. Daniel attended this event as Pete was in Italy. It was a very difficult task that Daniel undertook and he did an awesome job, as did Teresa's testimony. In the future, the Board needs to insure that it is well represented. The bill came out of the Assembly and went into the ??? session. It passed the Assembly floor unanimously at 42-0.

It then went before the Senate on May 5, 2005 where the Board took quite a grilling. The bill was moved up to first on the agenda due to the efforts of Bernice Matthews. On May 9, 2005 it was referred to the Senate. At this point, it is not exactly known where we are, but we are still alive. It has to be resubmitted, however, we have support from the NRA and ???. Changes are still a work in progress and further work will be continued after this meeting ends.

A letter from Jim Pierce of Sierra Horizons was read into the record (Attachment 2).

John C?? commented that perhaps we should bring up the fact that 38 other states have mandatory registration. Pete noted that Maggie Carlton doesn't care (and isn't interested) what other states do and that only 18, not 38, states require mandatory registration, with those states surrounding Nevada.

Pete noted that he had made reference that the Board garnered much of their information from California and the National Exam for Competency. Again, Maggie Carlton was not interested.

6. Career Award – Discussion and Possible Presentation of Award

Pete stated that the Career Award was being presented to an individual for career dedication to public health and instrumentation on working on the NAC's and the REHS Board. Further, this individual has many years of service regarding public health in the restaurant industry. He has been the State's representative on the Board since ?????. This special recognition award was presented to Jim Pierce and photos were taken. Pete added that Jim exemplifies environmental health.

Daniel commented that Jim is again Secretary of NEHA, helping to hold it together. He is very supportive of NEHA's Website.

At this point Pete stated that he had just been handed a piece of paper and stated "talking about Mr. Environmental Health, Daniel Maxson has continually taken the lead in programs such as Hanta Virus, Norovirus, Norwalk, West Nile Virus, Anthrax, etc., and is a true Environmental Health Specialist." Pete presented Daniel with his award and photos were taken. Daniel commented that he is supposed to know about things (award) like this.

Cindy Ulch stated that Pete cannot be thanked enough, ever since that day in Minden, when he got "cuffed" with the task. The Board has been better off for his efforts. Daniel added that Pete is a "never say die" kind of guy. Pete was given his award and photos were taken.

7. Discussion of CPA Contact Hour and License Renewal Forms, and Possible Use of Format for Board Forms, As Well As Protocol for Registration and Renewal of Registration

Pete stated that this is an action item, but does not have to be acted upon today. Pete noted that the Board needs to keep track of registrants and their contact hours, patterning it after the Board of Accountancy (BA). The BA gets a notice once a year. They have to fill out forms, pay dues and list their CEU's (they have 12 a year). REHS's have 24 a year. The BA has to send a report and they have an audit system. There are stiff fines if the dues are not paid on time. There are strict penalties for falsifications. This Board needs to follow their suit. We are not a disciplinary Board, however it is foreseeable for the future.

It was motioned, seconded and carried unanimously to table this item until the next meeting.

8. Public Comment – Please note that no action may be taken on any matter raised during the public comment period, unless such matter itself has been specifically listed above as an action item

Pete called for public comment, noting that no action could be taken at this time unless it is an item that is already on this meeting's agenda.

Jeff Brasel was concerned as to why we are running into a block wall at the last second, stating that it doesn't make sense when public health is involved.

Daniel noted that a couple of the employees at the Clark County Health District were not happy with the bill and they showed up at the first meeting. They learned, within the first five minutes, that the bill had amendments regarding grandfathering. When the bill went to the Senate, they still were not happy with it. They were concerned with the language regarding employees with two years or less service. It would have forced the Board to be registered as an REHS if they had one day of experience, effective June 20, 2005. The Board spoke to that at the last minute, but as of yesterday they were still pushing it. The intent of the bill was to give everyone to 2007 to get experience and register.

Daniel further noted that everyone should email legislature and the assembly to voice opinions. Pete noted that the strength of the Board is communication.

Bob Sach commented that he appreciated the efforts of the Board and thanked them.

John C??? commented that he would do everything he could to send out emails and encouraged the attendees to do the same stating that "it ain't over 'til the fat lady sings."

There was no further public comment.

9. Set Date for Next Meeting

It was motioned, seconded and carried unanimously to hold the next meeting in Reno on July 28, 2005

10. Adjourn

There being no further business, it was motioned, seconded and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Bigley
Recording Secretary