

OFFICIAL MINUTES
NEVADA STATE BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIANS

Meeting held on September 20, 1988
at Clark County District Health Department
meeting commenced at 10:00 a.m.

- 1) Jim Begbie-present; Bill Schneider-present; Clare Schmutz-present; Stan Aaronson-present; Ernesto Reyna-not present
- 2) Review of Minutes of July 20, 1988 R.S. Board Meeting. Minutes approved.
- 3) Budget Approval. Details of approved budget presented by Mr. Schneider, as follows: \$2,700 approved by Budget Office; Secretary's salary is authorized by statute, line item added for Secretary's salary of \$500, also line item for three board members to travel between Reno and Las Vegas for three meetings for this fiscal year. \$200 line item added for equipment to include the R.S. Board Seal. The remainder to be used for operating, such as stationary, stamps, post office box in Carson City, certificates and cards, and testing expenses to purchase the test. Mr. Begbie authorized Mr. Schneider to acquire a post office box in Carson City with his personal funds and the board will reimburse him.

Mr. Schneider stated that he would like to send an authorizing letter to approved applicants pending their certificate issue.

Budget office required a budget to go before Legislature during the next session for review. The R.S. Board will have their own budget.

Copy of budget will be distributed with minutes.

Budget was approved by Board in the amount of \$2,700.

- 4) Consideration of Applications. 47 applications were received. Anyone with current registration with NEHA and meets criteria will automatically receive reciprocity without individually considering applications. John Fuller, Larry Rountree and Jeanne Rucker are registered with NEHA but, expiration dates were questionable. Ray Bernardi must be a Nevada resident to qualify.

Individuals registered under the old act and were employed in the field of public health in this state on July 1, 1987 and was a registered Sanitarian before July 1, 1977:

Jim Begbie, Ed Bodhan, Carl Cahill, Tex Eckhart.

All applications were evaluated by general consensus.

Individuals eligible to test under NRS 625A.110.1, are as follows:

Sherri Barrett, Steve Henke, Ron Plotter

4) Consideration of Applications (cont.)

Individuals eligible to test under NRS 625A.110.2, are as follows:

Bob Yates, Felix Havis, Joseph Stringfellow

Individuals eligible to test under NRS 625A.110.3, are as follows:

Robert Berghofer

Jack Sheen - eligible to test.

Joseph Stringfellow - eligible to test. Personal check made out to Jim Begbie, returned to Clare Schmutz to have corrected.

Bob Yates check was made payable to NEHA, returned to Clare to have corrected.

Jesse Wilson - eligible to test.

Lonnie Empey - eligible to test.

Jim Campbell - eligible to test by exam.

Ellen Spears - eligible to test by exam.

Robert Williams - eligible to test.

Ray Bernardi - Arizona resident. Eligible by reciprocity (National registration) when he moves to Nevada.

Jim Begbie - counts 12 applicants that are qualified eligible to take the exam:

Barrett, Havis, Henke, Piotter, Sheen, Stringfellow, Wilson, Yates, Campbell, Empey, Spears, Williams.

Ray Bernardi is the only applicant who is currently not eligible. Bill Schneider will send him a letter telling him that when he moves to Nevada he will be eligible.

Bill Schneider - We will draft a letter notifying people of exam date, possibly sometime in December.

Bill Schneider - People can take the National Exam at anytime and get registered that way or they can take the test with the R.S. Board on scheduled dates and save \$40 in membership dues to the National Association. The Board is required to hold an exam once per year.

Jim Begbie - The only people who will not be eligible to take the exam with National are those who do not have a baccalaureate degree. That is a requirement with the National. The Secretary to the Board will be authorized to review applications and approve those that come in after today's date. If there are questions on applications, they will be brought before the board for adjudication.

5) Public Comment

Darrell Rasner, Supervisor, Environmental Health, Health Division. Would like the Board to consider a membership stamp for official documents, personal belongings, anything else that would show ownership of the Registered Sanitarian. The stamp is in no way intended to circumvent the State Board of Engineers requirements. The stamp would just be a formal recognition that you are a Registered Sanitarian. The Board could define what it would be used for.

Bill Schneider: The initials R.S. and the title Registered Sanitarian is a protected title under the statute and there is nothing that prohibit a mechanical replication of that attached to a name. I think it is appropriate to develop a personal stamp.

Jim Begbie: There may be a problem with the stamp because there is no expiration date and someone who discontinues his registration with the board will still have their stamp.

Darrell Rasner: Some states have a line on the stamp for expiration.

Jim Begbie: The stamp would be fine if an expiration date is on the stamp.

Clare Schmutz: Darrell, you don't feel, being an Engineer, that that could create some problems?

Darrell Rasner: Yes, I do. That is why the Board would have to define exactly what the stamp will be used for. The Board of Engineers would probably want to make sure there would be no misuse of the stamp.

Bill Schneider: The Board of Engineers is required to use a stamp for plans and they specifically tell what the stamp is used for.

Jim Begbie: I don't feel we should take action on this issue today. It is not on the agenda. I sense there are some other issues that we need to address before we can address this. I think we should put this on the agenda for our next meeting if you want to and we can discuss it at that time.

Stan Aaronson: Are there standards of practice that NEHA has developed for standards of profession that you will uphold or anything like that?

Jim Begbie: It seems that the National Environmental Health Association has a code of ethics.

Stan Aaronson: It seems to me, that as a lay person, the greatest benefit of this Board is if the Registered Sanitarians are willing to police themselves, that if someone is misusing a stamp and the Board does not know about it, it doesn't do any good to have any regulations whatsoever. If someone is not upholding the code of ethics of NEHA and the Board is not informed about it, then nothing can be done about it. It seems that it would be advisable to let these Registered Sanitarians know that they are expected to uphold the code of ethics and number two, if they are aware of anyone who is using the Registered Sanitarian and they are not upholding the code of ethics, that should be made public.

Clare Schmutz: Not all of the people who are going to be registered in Nevada are registered with the Nationals. So maybe this Board will need to develop a code of ethics.

Stan Aaronson: That would be my suggestion. I think that there should be some parameters by which these people who are registered would know that somebody within their profession is outside of these parameters. I think there should be guidelines to follow to know what is ethical and what is unethical.

Jim Begbie: Let's consider that at our next Board meeting. Because the statutes do provide, under disciplinary action, that for unprofessional conduct the following acts, among others established by the board, constitute unprofessional conduct. That indicates to me that we can establish something by the board and then further on it states, engaging any conduct in his professional capacity which is intended to deceive or which the board has determined is unethical. So it sounds that we have the authority to create an ethics code or clause.

Stan Aaronson: I would be in favor of anything that prevents further regulation on a State level. Number one, that will cost more money to the tax payer and number two, it's probably going to cause more hassle to the Registered Sanitarians for the regulation and if we can prevent a need for further regulation and taxpayer expense; I understand that the board is being supported for the fees for registration but they have to take that out of their salary and the taxpayers pay for their salary, so I see it as a direct relationship.

Jim Begbie: Biennial Report requirement that the Board is to produce before September 1st of each even numbered year of their biennium ending June 30th of that year. It seems that we won't have to do that because we didn't do anything before June 30th, except get organized.

Secondly, after last meeting, I contacted the accounting firm of Cappurri, Armstrong, who did the Board's last audit back in the 1970's and they indicated that they would be willing to conduct our audit again for us if we so desire to have them do that. That is the Board's choice and if we would, I can contact them and have them contact Bill Schneider. They would like the last audit that we had. Requested Bill to send a copy of the last audit report to Cappurri, Armstrong and have them contact you.

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6) Location and Date of Next Meeting:

Scheduled in Las Vegas, for convenience to Mr. Reyna. Scheduled for the day before the Board of Health Meeting, on Tuesday, January 17, 1989, at the Clark County District Health Department at 10:00 a.m.

7) Secretary's Report to Board:

Bill Schneider: Our financial status as of yesterday, before I had all those checks in my hand was still \$790. We are going to be writing a check to pay for two airplane tickets to reimburse Consumer Health.