

**MINUTES**  
**NEVADA STATE BOARD for REGISTRATION**  
**of**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIANS**

Meeting of December 9, 1993  
Washoe County Health Complex  
Department of Comprehensive Planning Conference Room  
Reno

Present on the Board were:

Clare Schmutz  
Carl Cahill  
Peter Allen  
Jim Pierce  
Barbara Orcutt

Call to Order

Quorum - 10:25am

Introduction and welcome to Barbara Orcutt as the new governor appointed Board member. Barbara is the vice-president of the Nevada Restaurant Association and the owner of the Mt. Charleston Lodge in Clark County.

Approval of Minutes of December 9, 1992 Meeting

Minutes were approved unanimously

Secretary's Report

Mr. Cahill stated that the current Board account balance is \$4,012.83.

There are currently 30 active registered members. 1994 annual renewal fees are due by January 15, 1994.

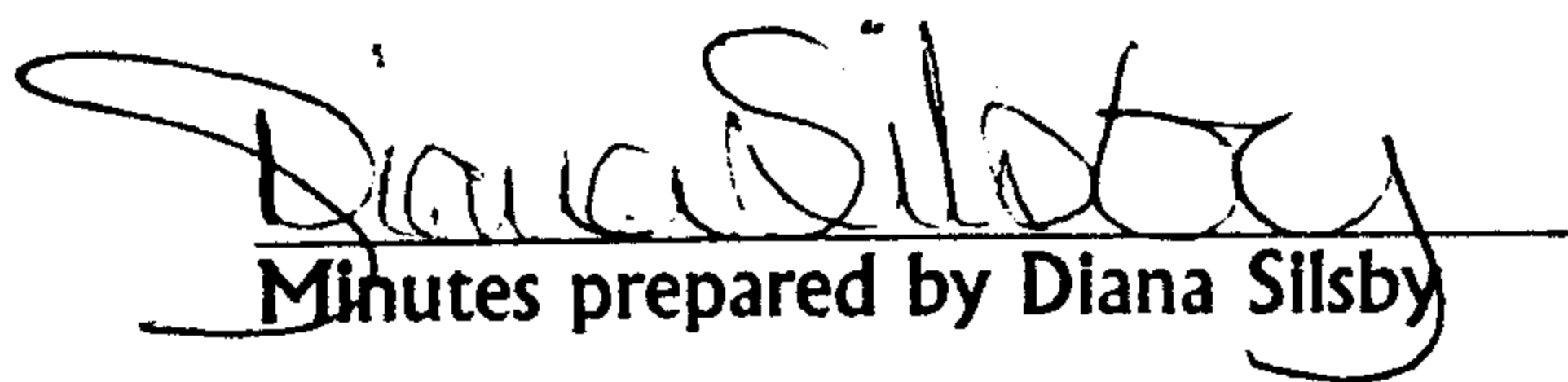
Budget Report, including discussion of legislative issues


Mr. Cahill stated that the main issue facing the Board was the convergence of several boards to be overseen by a governmental agency that would oversee all of the State Boards, and we

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held in Reno, Washoe County District Health Department on Wednesday, April 13, 1994.

The meeting adjourned at 11:53pm.

  
Minutes prepared by Diana Silsby

  
Approved by Carl Cahill

## General Discussion (continued)

Mr. Cahill said that this Board might have more of an impact with the various agencies in tackling the need to have a registered staff and we could make a point that by credentialing, we are assuring that we are meeting the growth needs and the protection of the residents.

Ms. Orcutt stated that one of the largest items they have in the Insurance Program is food poisoning and it would be beneficial to have a credentialed person working for them. Mr. Cahill stated that a focus could be to get others to speak for us and state that they want people working in the state of Nevada to be credentialed, we want them to have the educational background to perform the functions, because it's critical to the economic health of this state. That is an argument that the industry will make much stronger than we can make.

Mr. Allen asked that the Board meet more than once per year, and call a public meeting and encourage attendance. He suggests getting out a questionnaire and encourage attendance as a follow-up to the questionnaire, and have a session totally dedicated to this issue. Mr. Cahill suggested asking industry members, restaurant's association and individuals that are top management to attend.

Mr. Bob Tankersley stated his thoughts on why someone might want to be registered: 1) personal achievement, 2) promotion or other benefit, 3) desire to support the board, and 4) mandatory.

Mr. Cahill stated that if the industry supported us, that we probably could make it mandatory, regardless of the equal employment opportunity.

Mr. Begbie reminded the Board that they have two requirements under 625A.070 and 625A.080. Under 070 the Board is required to submit a report to the governor by September 1, 1992. The other requirement under 080 is to have a biannual audit.

Mr. Schmutz requested that Board meeting agendas and minutes be sent to all registrants.

Mr. Cahill requested that unsigned meeting minutes be sent to all of the Board members, plus the current Nevada Administrative Codes. The Board members were requested to send proposed changes to the codes to Clare or Carl so that they can be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

The Board members will submit ideas for the questionnaire to Clare or Carl for the Board's consideration to finalize the questionnaire to be distributed at a later date.

Mr. Schmutz passed out an inquiry for the Board for CPS Testing Services out of Sacramento for review.

## General Discussion (continued)

Mr. Capurro stated that the Nevada Environmental Health Association registers people from outside the state.

Mr. Cahill stated that the next agenda should contain an item to organize a legislative committee to work on organizing our next trip to the legislature. Mr. Pierce agreed that we should go ahead and amend our existing regulations and find a legislator who will support and introduce this. Mr. Pierce stated that we also need to address retired people in our regulations, so that we can motivate their continuance in membership.

Mr. Allen discussed that people come to expect very immediate benefits from registering. This should be discussed with Environmentalists or whomever we want to register with our Board.

There are long-range benefits, but there should be discussion on benefits to registration. Mr. Schmutz stated that there are about a half dozen young staff working for Clark County whom are studying for the test, and it would be nice to be able to offer them something for passing. Mr. Pierce stated there are four employees with the State currently studying for the test.

Mr. Allen stated that a questionnaire to the Environmentalists is the way to go. This is the Environmentalists Board, and there are a lot of ideas out there to contribute, and find out what they expect from their Board.

Mr. Cahill suggested getting employee lists from all of the agencies of individuals who are working in the field, and distribute the questionnaire.

Mr. Capurro stated that he feels there is a misconception out there of what exactly a Sanitarian is. In the 1970's there was a split between public health and environmental health, and the Department of Environmental Health was formed, and that was when people went either Environmentalist or Public Health. Unfortunately, that divergence is still there. Mr. Capurro said that he has tried to let everyone know that we are all working towards the same goal. He feels that it is a responsibility of this Board to get a questionnaire out, to advertise, to not just people in this field, but the private sector, the large casinos, to reach out to other people who may be qualified for this program; and to let others know that we are not "just" food inspectors, but our main concern is public health.

Mr. Cahill stated that this Board's function is to credential.

Mr. Begbie stated that the dilemma for the Board is, What is the Board's role and responsibilities, which is to credential and issue certificates. The Board should not be placed in the position of trying to revise statutes before the legislature, while trying to promote membership, as we would be labelled as self-serving.

## Review of Application for Registration by Reciprocity

### ○ Ralph G. Capurro

Mr. Pierce stated that he reviewed Mr. Ralph Capurro's request for reciprocity for registration and that everything looked complete. Mr. Capurro stated that he has been registered with National Environmental Health Association since 1977. He said he has been following the reports and progression of the Board, and he is happy to see how it's going.

Mr. Ralph Capurro's request for reciprocity was approved.

## General Discussion

Mr. Cahill discussed mandatory registration in the State of Nevada. He stated that WCDHD has been negotiating in the employees evaluation that as one of the conditions of promotion that they must successfully complete the National Registration Exam to demonstrate their professional expertise before they are promoted. WCDHD has been discussing this issue with Personnel and find that they cannot stop promotion under this requirement. Supervisory staff will continue to counsel and work with staff to realize the goal of this achievement. WCDHD has a number of staff who are registered nationally, and they see no reason to register within the State. He stated that this may be due to financial concerns. The Board's membership has continued to decline over time. The county Personnel has used the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act as the reason for not requiring registration for employment.

Mr. Allen stated that mandatory registration cannot be done within the county, and that it is a question of leadership and are the management people registered, if not, why? The Board should also discuss the issue of "Why" people should become members.

Mr. Pierce stated that within the State Health Division you are required to be registered to promote to the Environmental Health Specialist III level, and for Public Health Rating & Survey Officers, and supervisors. The "examination process" may be blocking several of the State's Environmental Health Specialist II's from promoting to the III level.

The Board discussed coordination with the Nevada Environmental Health Association. The 1995 Tri-State Environmental Health Association meeting will be held in Las Vegas. Mr. Schmutz discussed that the Board should take some part in this meeting.

Mr. Pierce stated that there has been some interest for individuals outside of the state of Nevada to become registered. The requirement by law states you must be a Nevada resident to register.

## Budget Report (continued)

would have to pay a certain fee for the overview and auditing services. Mr. Cahill stated that we are dependent upon the State legal counsel to provide us legal services and we utilize the State Health Division to help us with budgets and since our Board is such a small board this would not have been cost effective. Legislature decided not to pass this bill.

## Recognition of Jim Begbie, former Board Secretary

Mr. Schmutz presented a plaque to Mr. Begbie from the Board in appreciation and recognition for all of his efforts and accomplishments for the Board, and for his high degree of professionalism in public health.

## Continuing Education

The following courses were approved for CEUs as being approved or presented by sources as listed in Board regulations:

- Radiation and Nevada 1993, Nevada Environmental Health Association, in Las Vegas, March 17 & 18, 1993 for 12 contact hours.
- Investigating Foodborne Illnesses, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Las Vegas, May 11-14, 1993 for 25 contact hours.
- Introduction to Indoor Air Quality, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Las Vegas, August 30-September 1993 for 12.25 contact hours.
- Current Concepts in Food Protection, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Reno, September 21-23, 1993 for 20 contact hours.
- Delivering Peak Performance and Quality Service, Betty Mahalik Dynamic Solutions Seminars and Consulting, November 3, 16, and December 2, 1993 for 3 contact hours.

The Board confirmed that if the National Environmental Health Association or Food and Drug Administration approves a course, or any other approved source as listed in our regulations, this Board would approve the course(s) automatically.

If a request for CEU approval is not on the Board agenda, it cannot be discussed for approval.

The Board discussed amending our regulation to include approval for a course presented by NSF International.