



State of Nevada  
**Board of Environmental Health Specialists**

6170 Mae Anne Ave., Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523  
(775) 746-9423 / Fax (775) 746-4105  
[www.nvrehs.org](http://www.nvrehs.org) Email [board@nvrehs.org](mailto:board@nvrehs.org)

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**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**January 19, 2023**

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Members Present: Brian Northam, Drew Skeen, James Barnes, Teresa Hayes, Amber English  
Members Absent: None  
Staff Present: Loretta Ponton, Executive Director  
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General  
Public Present: Michelle Courtney, Stephanie Steinheiser

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Chair Northam called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. A voice roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

**Public Comment:** There were no comments.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Chair Northam called for a motion.

Theresa Hayes made the motion to approve the minutes of October 26, 2022 and November 510, 2022; Drew Skeen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Consideration of Practice Without Appropriate Registration, Application for Registration:**

Chair Northam asked if members had reviewed the documentation provided and asked if there were any comments from the Board. Hearing none, called upon Ms. Courtney to provide any additional information. Ms. Courtney stated she provided a written explanation.

After discussion of the request, background information and explanation provided by Ms. Courtney, Chair Northam stated there was no intent to violate the requirements for registration.

Chair Northam called for a motion.

Amber English made the motion, seconded by Teresa Hayes to approve Michelle Courtney's application for registration effective upon receipt of a clear background check. The motion passed.

**Request for Approval of Credit for Prior Training** – Chair Northam recused himself and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Amber English.

Vice Chair English asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the request by Allision Hernandez for credit for prior training received during previous employment with the Southern Nevada Health District as an EHST. Hearing none, called for a motion.

Amber English made the motion, seconded by Teresa Hayes to approve credit for prior training as an EHST. The motion passed.

Vice Chair English turned the meeting back to Chair Northam.

**Ratification of Registrations Issued by Staff** – Chair Northam called for a motion.

Brian Northam made the motion, seconded by Amber English to approve the registrations as listed. The motion passed.

**Executive Director’s Report** – Chair Northam called upon Ms. Ponton.

Loretta Ponton directed the members to the written report. Ms. Ponton reported on registration statistics as of December 2022 which indicate an increase in applicants; and the status of the new database and website development previewing the website for members. The website and database is expected to be implemented by April 2023.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter financial statements were provided for review; revenue and expenses are within budget with exceptions for legal services and board member compensation as previously reported due to additional meetings.

Governor’s Executive Orders – Ms. Ponton provided an overview of the Governor’s Executive Orders. EO 2023-03 freezes all regulations and requires a hearing for review of regulations and report with recommendations for elimination of a minimum of 10 regulations. The Hearing will be scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup> with the formal Report due on May 1, 2023.

EO 2023-04 is directed specifically to Occupational and Professional Boards which requires a review of regulations to identify regulations that restrict entry into the occupation or profession. The EO also requires an analysis of states who license/regulate the profession and, if less than 26 states license/or regulate, a plan to phase out licensure/registration by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Lastly, the EO request information on compacts and reciprocity with other states. The Board must submit it’s report by April 1, 2023.

Ms. Ponton reported she is in the process of research and preparing drafts of the 2 reports which will be provided to the Board for review.

Chair Northam called for a motion.

Teresa Hayes made the motion to approve the executive director report and financial statements. The motion was seconded by Amber English. The motion passed.

**Report from Deputy Attorney General** – Ms. Rasul stated she had no report.

**Reports from Chair and Board Members** – Chair Northam stated the EO Report 2023-03 is due prior to the next Board meeting and asked whether the members were available for a meeting

in March to review and approve the report prior to submittal. The members were in agreement they should review the report; the Hearing for Review of Regulations is proposed for March 30<sup>th</sup>; the Board could meet at that time also.

Chair Northam stated the scheduled April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting could be cancelled if there was not a need to meet.

There was consensus to hold the next meeting March 30<sup>th</sup> and incorporate the review of regulations hearing at the same time.

**Public Comment:** Chair Northam asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments.

**Adjournment:** Chair Northam adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.