



State of Nevada
Board of Environmental Health Specialists

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MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

April 24, 2025

Members Present: Brian Northam, Amber English, James Barnes, Drew Skeen, Teresa Hayes
Staff Present: Loretta Ponton, Executive Director
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Public Present: Maria Menjivar, REHS, Central Nevada Health District

Pursuant to the requirements of AB 219, Ms. Ponton stated the procedure for public comments by telephone or through remote access.

Brian Northam, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment: There were no comments.

Approval of the Minutes: Chair Northam asked if there were any corrections or revisions to the minutes of January 23, 2025. Hearing no comments, called for a motion.

Jim Barnes made the motion, seconded by Amber English to approve the minutes of January 23, 2025. The motion passed with Brian Northam abstaining.

Request for Extension of EHST Registration – Chair Northam asked if Mr. Nisberg was present. Ms. Ponton stated Mr. Nisberg emailed that he was having surgery and could not attend.

Chair Northam asked if members had any questions on the request. After discussion regarding whether the individual or his employer should attend the meeting, Chair Northam called for a motion.

Amber English made the motion, seconded by Jim Barnes to approve the request for an extension of Mr. Nisbet's EHST registration for one (1) year. The motion passed.

Chair Northam reiterated that the personal appearance of the individual or their supervisor should be encouraged.

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

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

Revision to Policy 01 Registration – Chair Northam called upon Loretta Ponton. Ms. Ponton explained the recommended revision would allow an individual who qualifies under Nevada specific eligibility criteria to apply for a REHS registration prior to taking and passing the NEHA REHS examination and be issued a letter of authorization to take the REHS examination within 3 months of application for registration.

Discussion of the difference in NEHA eligibility criteria and Nevada eligibility criteria included the facts that Nevada recognizes a master's degree or higher in Public Health and recognizes training and experience obtained during service in the military. Under contract with NEHA, the examination fee for State eligible individuals is set at \$280. Concern was expressed that a person might try to circumvent the system by applying through Nevada to get the reduced fee. Ms. Ponton explained the person would have to pay the full \$325 REHS fee with the application in addition to the Exam fee, so the cost was not a factor. The intent is to increase the number of qualified REHS registrants in Nevada. The REHS registration would not be issued until the official score report was received from NEHA.

Chair Northam called for a motion.

Theresa Hayes made the motion, seconded by Amber English to approve the revision to Policy 01 Registration as presented. The motion passed.

Office of Boards Commissions and Council Standards

Chair Northam called on Loretta Ponton.

Ms. Ponton updated the Board on information received from the Director Sanchez and Deputy Director Haag on the status of SB78 and Amendment. The Amendment was withdrawn, and the bill was sent back to the Finance Committee. Director Sanchez and staff are working on a new amendment with the Boards' input. The merger of Boards will be included in the Amendment.

2025 Legislative Session

Verbal reports by Board members were discussed on bills that were being tracked.

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

Ms. Ponton reported on registration statistics as of March 31, 2025, noting renewals and registrations expired for the 3rd Quarter and new applications pending.

FY 2025 Financial Reports - Ms. Ponton directed the members to the FY 2025 2nd Quarter financial statements reporting cash assets totaled \$62,696 and net profit of \$1,718.

Board Office Activities – The 2nd Quarter CE Audit was completed with all complying; 3rd Quarter CE Audit is in process; all state required reports and requests from B & I have been submitted.

Teresa Hayes made the motion, seconded by Drew Skeen, to approve the Executive Director report and financial statements. The motion passed.

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

Reports from Chair and Board Members – Chair Northam addressed the meeting schedule, stating the third Thursday conflicts with the Northern Nevada Board of Health meetings. The July meeting date was changed to July 17th.

Public Comment - Chair Northam open the meeting for public comments. There were no public comments.

Adjournment - Chair Northam adjourned the meeting 11:44 a.m.