

# **BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**July 2021 – June 2022**

The State Board of Environmental Health Specialists (the “Board”) operates under the provisions of Title 21 of the Health Occupations Article, Annotated Code of Maryland and is the licensing authority of environmental health specialists in the State of Maryland. The Board is mandated to protect the public by regulating the practice of environmental health work in Maryland, by licensing qualified environmental health specialists, establishing fees, maintaining a current roster of all licensees, administering licensing examinations, enforcing current statutes and regulations, adopting new regulations to carry out provisions of the Title, suggesting new changes to the Title to keep abreast of trends and practice issues, adopting standards of practice for environmental health work, verifying credentials, issuing licenses, establishing requirements for and verifying completion of continuing education, investigating complaints based on alleged violations of regulations and statutes, formal and informal disciplining of licensees, and creating committees as deemed appropriate to advise the Board. As of July 1, 2021, the Board became general funded. The Board consists of 9 members appointed by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary and the advice and consent of Senate. Seven members of the Board are licensed environmental health specialists and two are consumer members.

### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

Linda Rudie, EHS, Board Chair  
Alan Heck, EHS, Board Vice Chair  
Ann Rose, EHS, Board Secretary  
Naomi Howell, EHS  
Amy Parrish, EHS  
Erin Kelly, EHS  
Matthew Cumers, EHS  
Toni Melvin, Consumer Member  
Lewis Brown, Consumer Member

### **STAFF:**

Bert Nixon, Contractual Executive Director (part-time)  
Donna Zickefoose, Administrator I  
Katherine Cummings, Board Counsel

The Board’s staff is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the Board and the coordination of administrative activities with other government agencies. In addition to the above staff, the Board shares its financial, legislative and regulatory, information technology, and investigative staff with other Health Occupation Boards under the Maryland Department of Health.

### **BOARD MEETINGS:**

Beginning in February, the Board conducts bi-monthly public meetings on the first Wednesday of every other month throughout the year. The dates, times, and place of the meetings are posted on the Board’s website. Additional meetings are scheduled as needed to review time-sensitive matters.

**MISSION:**

The Mission of the Board of Environmental Health Specialists is to protect the citizens of Maryland and to promote quality control of the public health aspects of the environment by licensing environmental health specialists, setting standards through their practice with regulations, legislation, and receiving and resolving complaints from the public.

**REVENUE REPORT: - 1<sup>st</sup> Year of General Funding (FY 2022)**

<u>Category of Fees</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Application Processing Fee	\$ 100.00	\$ 12,100.00
Certificate of Eligibility Extension Fee	50.00	600.00
Initial License Fee	75.00	2,175.00
License Renewal Fee	200.00	9,600.00
License Replacement Fee	25.00	25.00
License Reactivation Fee (from Non-Renewed Status)*	500.00	6,300.00
License Reactivation Fee (from Inactive Status)*	300.00	0.00
Examination Fee (Fee set by Vendor)	125.00	0.00
Inactive Status Fee	25.00	100.00
Seasonal Certificate Extension Fee	25.00	150.00
Returned Check Fee	25.00	0.00
Other Sales (Roster Requests)	25.00	150.00
FY 2021 Revenue Accrual Transfer		(12,100.00)
* Both of these fees have the same Revenue Source Code		
Total Revenue		\$ 19,100.00

**EXPENDITURE REPORT:**

Appropriation	\$ 145,666.00
Expenditures	\$ 159,257.00
Departmental Expenditure Transfer	\$ 13,591.00
Over/under Appropriations	\$ 0.00

**STATISTICS: Count by Status Codes (November 23, 2022)**

Licensed Environmental Health Specialists	527
EHS Individuals In-Training	130
Individuals eligible for In-training employment	183
Seasonal In-Training Certificates	33

## **LEGISLATION:**

During the reporting period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, there were no changes to the Board's statute.

## **REGULATIONS:**

During the reporting period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 the Board did not promulgate regulations.

(The Board notes that there were regulation updates to COMAR 10.60.01-10.60.04 that became effective June 28, 2021).

## **TRANSITION FROM SPECIAL FUND REVENUES BACK TO GENERAL FUND**

### **Background:**

In F.Y. 2013, based on recommendations from the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) 2011 sunset review report, the legislature transferred the Board of Environmental Sanitarians from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and renamed the Board as the Board of Environmental Health Specialists. At that time, the Board's fund source went from General Fund to Special Fund. The funding change was made in spite of the recommendation of DLS to maintain the Board's General Fund status. The Board's revenue structure is that all licensees are renewed every two years. This leads to a revenue imbalance between the odd fiscal years and the even fiscal years. The Board generates more revenue in the odd fiscal years. Following several FYs of declining or negative fund balances, the Board secured sponsorship in the 2020 Legislative Session to return funding back to the General Fund. Unfortunately, the 2020 session was terminated early because of Covid-19; consequently, House Bill 1484 and Senate Bill 673 were not enacted into law. The Board again secured sponsorship (House Bill 65 and Senate Bill 516) during the 2021 Legislative Session, and both were approved with an effective date of July 1, 2021. FY22 represents the transition out of Special Funding and into full General Funding status.