



MARYLAND BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215

February 1, 2023 BOARD MEETING
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Meeting Held via Google Meet

Board Members Present:

Matthew Cumers, Board Chair, Local Health Department Member
Alan Heck, Vice Chair, At Large Member
Tonisha Melvin, Board Secretary, Consumer Member (Joined at 10:36 a.m.)
Amy Parrish, Private Industry Member
Naomi Howell, Department of the Environment Member

Absent: **Bonnie Harbin, At Large Member**
Lewis Brown, Consumer Member

Staff: **Bert Nixon, Executive Director**
Katherine Cummings, AAG, Board Counsel
Donna Zickefoose, Administrator I
James Merrow, Support Staff
Lilliam Reese, Legislative Coordinator

Visitors: **Zakiyyah Holmes, MDH**
Kim Link, MDH

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M. by Matthew Cumers, Board Chair.

AGENDA The Agenda for the February 1, 2023 meeting was reviewed. Alan Heck made a motion to accept the agenda with corrections. Amy Parrish provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. Vote – 5 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained.

ITEM 5 The Board moved to begin with Item 5 on the Agenda: Legislation/Regulations Committee 5(a) and 5(b).

5(a). The Board met on January 18, 2023 to discuss amendments to the statutory proposals to include language that would enable apprenticeship regulations to be created. The amendment did not make it into the original draft version of the Bill. There was discussion regarding adding Public Health Emergency Preparedness to the Environmental Health Specialists scope of practice. The Board had informal comments from MDE that this may cause a conflict with some of their staff performing duties and responsibilities related to emergency operations who are otherwise not licensed. It was the opinion of the Board that rather than proceed with the change during this Legislation Session it will defer expanding the scope of practice at this time and work with MDE to develop appropriate language. Alan Heck made a motion to remove the Public Health Emergency Preparedness from the amendments with the understanding that there will be negotiations with Maryland Department of the Environment to develop language for the Emergency Preparedness scope of practice. Toni provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. Vote -5 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained.

**Minutes from the Open Session
FEBRUARY 1, 2023 Board Meeting**

5(b). SB187 – Health Occupations – Licenses, Certificates, and Registrations – Immigrants. Following a quick summary review, Alan Heck made a motion to ratify the position of the Legislation Committee in support of the multi-Board response for SB 187. Naomi Howell provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed Vote – 5 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained.

ITEM 1 Review and approval of Board Meeting Minutes

1(a). The Board reviewed the Open Session Minutes from the December 7, 2022 meeting. Alan made a motion to adopt the December 7, 2022 Open Session Minutes. Amy Parrish provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. Vote - 5 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained.

1(ab). The Board reviewed the Open Session Minutes from the January 18, 2023 meeting. Alan made a motion to adopt the January 18, 2023 Open Session Minutes. Naomi Howell provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. Vote - 5 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained.

ITEM 2 Board Chair Report

Due to scheduling conflicts the Board discussed and decided to move the April 5, 2023 meeting to April 12, 2023. Notice will be posted on the Board’s website.

ITEM 3 Executive Director Report

3(a). Bert Nixon encouraged the members to complete and send to the Ethics Commission their Financial Disclosure by April 30, 2023.

3(b). Legislative Sponsor Update – Conference calls have taken place regarding the apprenticeship language. Senator Washington agreed to sponsor the proposed legislation on the Senate side.

3(c). The Moore-Miller Administration closed all online applications for appointments for all Boards and Commissions until March 1, 2023. Applications already received will be held. There is no need to re-apply.

Currently the Board has the following vacancies:

- Local Government (Vacant) – Term 7-1-20 through 6-30-24
- Private Industry (Ms. Parrish remains until the position is filled) – Term 7-1-22 through 6-30-26
- Maryland Department of Health (Vacant) – Term 7-1-19 through 6-30-23
Dr. Mitchell is recruiting possible candidates.

3(d). Currently the Board has 167 licensees who have met or exceeded their continuing education credits for the 2023 license renewal cycle.

3(e). Statistics from the Licensing Database:

1. Active Seasonal Certificates – 33
2. Active Licensed Environmental Health Specialists – 532
3. Active In-Training Certificates – 121
4. Active Certificate of Eligibilities – 182

3(f). Number of exam passing scores since December 7, 2022 Meeting - 5

3(g). Number of exam failing scores since the December 7, 2022 Meeting – 2

ITEM 4 Credentialing

4(a). Request to reduce the in-training period for Autumn Cornbrooks. Letters were received by the Board from Ms. Cornbrooks and her Supervisor. The Board reviewed the letters. Naomi Howell made a motion to reduce the in-training period. Amy Parrish provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. Vote - 5 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained.

**Minutes from the Open Session
FEBRUARY 1, 2023 Board Meeting**

ITEM 5 Moved to the beginning of the Agenda.

ITEM 6 Work Force Work Group

Continuing efforts to advance the apprenticeship program with the Maryland Department of the Environment and Maryland Department of Health.

ITEM 7 Continuing Education Committee

Below are the approved training courses since the last regular meeting to be ratified at this meeting.

Course Title	Approved Credits
1. Facilitating Coordinated Response from Field to Lab: ESAM Program – 1	
2. Fluoride Use in Community Water Systems – 1	
3. Bed Bug (Cimex lectularius L.) Infestations Impact Quality of Life Mosquitoes and Mosquito-borne Pathogens – 1	
4. Got Bugs? Get Sued! – 1	
5. Basic Food Law for State Regulators (FDA35 Ver 2.0) – 1	
6. Basics of Inspections: Beginning an Inspection (FDA38 Ver 1.3) – 1.5	
7. Basics of Inspections: Issues and Observations (FDA39 Ver 1.3) – 1.5	
8. Foodborne Illness Investigations 2: Beginning an Investigation (FIO2 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
9. Foodborne Illness Investigations 1: Collecting Surveillance Data (FIO1 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
10. Foodborne Illness Investigations 4: Conducting a Food Hazard Review (FIO4 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
11. Food Microbiological Control 10: Aseptic Sampling (MIC13 Ver 3.0) – 1.5	
12. Food Microbiological Control 12: Cleaning and Sanitizing (MIC15 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
13. Food Microbiological Control 7B: Control by Pasteurization (MICO9 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
14. Food Microbiological Control 6: Control by Refrigeration and Freezing (MICO7 Ver 2.0) – 1	
15. Food Microbiological Control 7C: Control by Retorting (MIC10 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
16. Food Microbiological Control 7A: Control by Thermal Processing (MICO8 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
17. Food Microbiological Control 5: Controlling Growth Factors (MICO6 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
18. Food Microbiological Control 4: Foodborne Parasites (MICO5 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
19. Food Microbiological Control 3: Foodborne Viruses (MIC04 Ver 2.0) – 1	
20. Food Microbiological Control 2B: Gram-Positive Rods and Cocci (MIC03 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
21. Food Microbiological Control: Mid-Series Exam (MIC16 Ver 2.0) – 1.5	
22. Basics of HACCP: The Principles (FDA18 Ver 2.0) – 1	
23. An Introduction to Food Security Awareness (Printable Version) (FD251A Ver 1.0) – 1	
24. FDA Public Health Principles (FDA 36) (FDA 36-INT-ENG Ver 1.1) – 1.5	
25. Food Microbiological Control 1: Overview of Microbiology (MIC01 Ver 2.0) – 1	
26. Environmental Surface Sampling; Are You Confident? – 1	
27. A Universal Decolonization Strategy to Prevent MDROs and Hospitalization in Nursing Home Residents – 1	
28. Housing as a Determinate of Health Equity – 1	
29. 28th Annual Conference Maryland Water Monitoring Council – What Are You Drinking? – 6	
30. Maryland Commission on Climate Change – Third Quarterly Meeting – 2	
31. The VGBA Standard Changes in 2021 – What Have We Learned? – 1	
32. Integrated Pest Management in Restaurants – 2	
33. Arizona School IPM Inside and Out – Implementation of School Integrated Pest Management Programs in Arizona Schools – 1	
34. Bedbugs: What Are the Health Risks? – 1	

Minutes from the Open Session
FEBRUARY 1, 2023 Board Meeting

35. Correlation Analysis of Climatic Variables, Migration, and Dengue Fever Cases in Southeast Florida – 1
36. Data Driven: Utilizing California’s School Pesticide Report Database to Improve Gopher Management – 1
37. Don’t Panic! Helping Social Service Providers Cope with Bed Bugs – 1
38. Scratch That Ich: Exterminating Bedbugs through Partnerships with Private Enterprise – 1
39. CDC Environmental Assessments Training Series 101 – 9
40. FoodNet Investigations – 5
41. New Mexico DOH’s Approaches to Estimating Private Wells, Private Well Users and Risk Estimations – 1
42. Collaborative Pilot – Scale Evaluation of GAC and IX Media for Removal of PFAS From Groundwater – 1
43. Tennessee DOH’s Approaches to Estimating Private Wells, Private Well Users and Risk Estimations – 1
44. Private Water System Protection and Treatment – 1
45. Food Safety – A Public-Private Collaboration to Curtail the Spread of Norovirus – 1
46. Food Safety – Listeria Controls at Retail: Nationwide Surveillance Results – 1
47. Food Safety – New Guidance and Resources on Cannabis and Food Safety – .5
48. Collection Systems Seminar Sailing Troubled Water Navigating the Supply Chain and Labor Crises – 5.75
49. Industrial Monitoring Activities for Facilities without a EPA Mandated Program – 1
50. Community Engagement and Risk Communication – 4

ITEM 8 Status of Certificates and Licenses Processed:

8(a). Initial Licenses Issued (5)

1. Renee Levy (12-9-22 exam)
2. Angela Middleton (12-16-22 exam)
3. Jessica Shipley (21-306 – Waiver of Examination of Persons Registered in Other States)
4. John Ernst (12-29-22 exam)
5. Rowan Weber (1-6-23 exam)

8(b). License Reactivation (0)

8(c). Certificates of Eligibility Issued (4)

1. Kennedy Perry
2. Chandra Reiff
3. Nicholas Palumbo
4. Inga Ali

8(d). Extended Certificate of Eligibility Issued (0)

8(e). In-Training Certificates Issued (6)

1. Meghan Paulus
2. Omar Esquivias
3. Kennedy Perry
4. Melaine Eshenbaugh
5. Ryan Kuenzel

**Minutes from the Open Session
FEBRUARY 1, 2023 Board Meeting**

6. Michael Allman

8(f). Seasonal/Summer/Youth Camp In-Training Certificates (0)

Matthew read the Open Meeting Act to close the Open Meeting Session and move to the Closed Session.

Adjourn – Naomi Howell made a motion to close the Open Session and move to the Closed Session. Tonisha Melvin provided a 2nd to the motion.

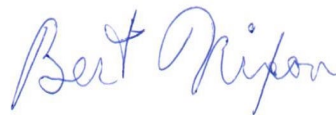
Motion passed. Vote - 5 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstained.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Closed Session was held from 11:35-11:44 a.m. via Google Meet. The same Board members present for the Open Session were present for the Closed Session. The authority to close the Open Session was Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305(b)(13), to comply with a specific statutory requirement that prevents public disclosure about a particular matter, specifically, Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-306(c)(3)(ii). The topic discussed was review and approval of closed session minutes. The Board voted to approve the closed session minutes.



Matthew Cumers,
Board Chair



Bert Nixon,
Executive Director

DATE: April 12, 2023

DATE: April 12, 2023