



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

APRIL 12, 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
Naomi Howell, Department of the Environment Member
Bonnie Harbin, At Large Member

Board Members Absent:

Amy Parrish, Private Industry Member
Lewis Brown, Consumer Member

Staff and Visitors:

Katherine Cummings, AAG, Board Counsel (exited the meeting at 11:36 a.m. returned at 11:44 a.m.)
Bert Nixon, Executive Director
James Merrow, Board Staff
Donna Zickefoose, Administrator I
Kimberly Link, MDH

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 A.M. by Matthew Cumers, Board Chair.

AGENDA

The Agenda was reviewed. Matthew Cumers designated revisions to the Agenda for 4(a) and 7(a) along with correcting the format. Tonisha Melvin made a motion to adopt the agenda with revisions. Alan Heck provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 1 Review of the Prior Meeting Open Session Meeting Minutes

1(a). The February 1, 2023 Open Session Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Alan Heck made a motion to adopt the Minutes with revisions. Bonnie Harbin provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

1(b). The March 8, 2023 Open Session Minutes were reviewed. Alan Heck made a motion to adopt the minutes with revisions. Naomi Howell provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 2 Board Chair Report

2(a). The Board Chair discussed the current practice of having individuals, other than licensees or course sponsors, submit requests for approving CEU training courses. In most cases this individual is the licensee's supervisor. The Board's Continuing Education regulations (10.60.03.01.F) identify the sponsor or licensee as the individual to submit training for Board approval. The Board discussed the responsibility of the licensee to ensure that courses taken were approved and that transmitting information to the Board regarding CEU is the responsibility of the licensee. Additional discussion was tabled until after the June 30, 2023 renewals are completed.

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ITEM 3 Executive Director Report

3(a). Board members were reminded that financial Disclosure forms are to be filed with the State Ethics Commission by April 30, 2023.

3(b). Board requested statutory changes introduced in the 2023 legislative session passed, however there were a number of changes and deletions that the Board will address in the 2024 legislative session. The approved legislation is waiting for the Governor's signature.

3(c). The Board was given an update on the record scanning project. Currently about half the board's paper files have been reviewed and collated to prepare them for scanning. A S.O.W. and contract have been submitted to Maryland Works for review. After review and approval, Maryland Works will coordinate with the Board and the selected vendor to complete the scanning phase of the project.

3(d). The Board has several vacant seats and these vacancies have caused a problem regarding quorum for voting on board matters. This has caused problems and delays with the disposition of complaints. The Department is working with the Governor's Office to rectify this issue.

3(e). The Board has 223 licensees who have met or exceeded their continuing education requirement for the 2023 license expiration period.

3(f). Statistics from the Licensing Database:

1. Active Seasonal Certificates – 33
2. Active Licensed Environmental Health Specialists - 537
3. Active In-Training Certificates – 124
4. Active Certificate of Eligibility Certificates – 188

3(g). Number of Exam passing scores since the February Meeting – 6

3(h). Number of failing scores since the February – 2

ITEM 4 Credentialing

4(a). The Board received three requests for reduction of the in-training period.

1. Eric Kareem – Alan Heck made a motion to approve the reduced in-training period. Tonisha Melvin provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained (Matthew Cumers).
2. Joshua Cho - Alan Heck made a motion to approve the reduced in-training period. Bonnie Harbin provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.
3. Angela Blose - Alan Heck made a motion to approve the reduced in-training period. Bonnie Harbin provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 5 Legislative/Regulations Committee:

Apprenticeship Program – The Board will re-visit this item for the 2024 Legislative Session. The Board Chair will set up a meeting with the Board's Legislative/Regulations Committee. Katherine Cummings, Board Counsel, stated updating the regulations to be consistent with the Statute should occur given the July 1, 2023 effective date.

ITEM 6 Work Force Work Group

No report.

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ITEM 7 Continuing Education Committee

Continuing education ratified by the Board since the February 1, 2023 meeting.

Addition number 18 to the list of approved courses. “Lead Risk” – 6.5 CEUs.
There was discussion regarding the Board’s pre-approved courses. The Board’s statutes provides for the Board to identify and designate certain types of training organizations and the courses they offer to be preapproved. The Continuing Education Committee will research expanding the pre-approved list.

Course Title	Approved Credits
1. TEHA (2-17-23) – 4.5	
2. Rabies Educator and Community Coordinator for Rabies – 5	
3. USDA ARS 7 th International Biosafety & Biocontainment Hybrid Symposium: Biorisk Management in Modern Agriculture – 18	
4. 2022 Annual Agricultural and Environmental Law Conference – 5	
5. MDH LHD Cottage Food Products and Businesses Webinar – 1.5	
6. MOWPA Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Service Provider Certification Program – 8	
7. 2023 NCAEHA Annual Winter Conference – 4.75	
8. Class B Designer Onsite License Preparation Course – 3	
9. Watersheds and Their Impact on the Environment Online Course – 4	
10. PERM203-SI: Setting Enforceable Potential to Emit Limits in New Source Review Permits -1	
11. Advanced Inspector Bootcamp Training – 3.75	
12. Advanced Inspector Bootcamp: Recognize and Shape Food Safety Culture – 3.75	
13. Improving EPA’s Oil Spill Preparedness, Response and Assessment – 1	
14. 2023 Chesapeake AIHA/ASSP Educational Seminar – 6	
15. 72 nd Annual Interstate Seafood Seminar – 15	
16. Industry Foodborne Illness Investigation Training and Recall Response (IFIIT) – 6	
17. 2023 Maryland Healthy Fairs Workshop – 3	

ITEM 8 Status of Certificates and Licenses Processed

8(a). Initial Licenses Issued (5)

1. Michael Dawson (1-16-23 exam)
2. Michael Pottinger (10-27-23 exam)
3. Omar Esquivias (2-13-23 exam)
4. Bryant Wallizer (2-20-23 exam)
5. Alicia Oscar (3-3-23 exam)

8(b). License Reactivation (0)

8(c). Certificates of Eligibility Issued (18)

1. Bethany Carty
2. Matthew Perry
3. Kent Berry
4. Daiya Jacobs
5. Anne Thawley
6. Savanna Petry
7. Emmanuel Ehizibolo
8. James Oblitey

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9. Megan Bush
10. Moshen Fatemi
11. Zalalem Zegeye
12. Mark Denoncourt
13. Catherine Skeeter
14. Semeko Davi
15. Aziz Hurtado Olson
16. Alexandra Carton
17. Jordan Catrombon
18. Griffin Devlin

8(d). In-Training Certificates Issued (8)

1. Taliyah Warden
2. Nicholas Palumbo
3. Tara West
4. Gisell Henriquez
5. Savanna Petry
6. Adam Fetterman
7. Inga Ali
8. Matthew Perry

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

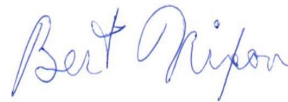
Board Chair, Matthew Cumers, advised the Board that because of vacant Board member positions and the members recused, the Administrative Session will not meet quorum to vote on items in the Administrative Session. These items will be tabled until the next scheduled Board meeting.

Naomi Howell made a motion to adjourn the Open Session. Tonisha Melvin provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.



Matthew Cumers,
Board Chair



Bert Nixon,
Executive Director

Date: June 7, 2023

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