



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

August 7, 2024 BOARD MEETING
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Meeting Held via Google Meet

Board Members Present:

Matthew Cumers, Board Chair, Local Health Department Member
Kevin Barnaba, Private Industry
Tonisha Melvin, Board Secretary, Consumer Member
Sherry Williams, Department of Health
Naomi Howell, Department of the Environment Member
Mia Lowery, Local Government
Bonnie Harbin, At Large

Board Members Absent:

Sarath Seneviratne, At Large
Vacant, Consumer Member

Staff and Visitors:

Rhonda Edwards, Deputy Counsel
James Merrow, Executive Director
Donna Zickefoose, Administrator I
Zakiyyah Holms, MDH
Hodan Ali, George Washington University Student

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M. by Matthew Cumers, Board Chair.

AGENDA The Agenda was reviewed and adopted with amendments to 3(a) and a visitor's inquiry and the Board's new Consumer member. Mia Lowery made a motion to adopt the agenda the amended agenda. Kevin Barnaba provided a 2nd to the Motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 1 Review of the Prior Meeting Open Session Meeting Minutes

1(a). The June 5, 2024 Open Session Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Sherry Williams made a motion to adopt the Minutes as submitted. Mia Lowery provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

ITEM 2 Board Chair Report

2(a). Board Chair, Matthew Cumers, announced that he has stepped down from the Board Chair as he has taken a new position with the Department of the Environment. Matthew will assist with the transition period and remain with the Board until the Local Health Department representation is filled.

2(b). Election of Officers and Committee Members – Sherry Williams had been nominated and accepted the Board Chair. Naomi Howell made a motion to adopt Sherry Williams as the Board Chair and Kevin Barnaba to remain the Vice Chair with Tonisha Melvin to remain the Board Secretary. The Legislative/Regulation Committee is Sherry Williams and Kevin Barnaba. The Work Force Work Group is Naomi Howell, Bonnie Harbin and Mia Lowery. The Continuing Education Committee is Bonnie Harbin and Mia Lowery. Sherry Williams provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained, Sherry Williams

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ITEM 3 Legislative/Regulations Committee

3(a). All outstanding Regulations have been submitted and approved as of August 5, 2024.

3(b). James Merrow, Executive Director will prepare an outline and work with the Legislative/Regulations Committee to prepare the Regulations that will support the Apprenticeship Program (SB 222).

ITEM 4 Executive Director Report

4(a). James Merrow thanked Matthew Cumers and praised him for his accomplishments while serving as Board Chair.

4(b). The Governor has appointed Esther Peter as a Consumer member to the Board. The Board staff had received notice of Ms. Peter's appointment the day before this meeting. The Board staff will send a welcome letter to Ms. Peter's that will inform her of the upcoming Board meetings.

4(c). License Renewals – One Licensee when on Inactive Status and 20 Licensees were sent their non-renewed license letter.

4(d). Statistics from the Licensing Database:

1. Active Seasonal Certificates – 33
2. Active Licensed Environmental Health Specialists - 493
3. Active In-Training Certificates – 141
4. Active Certificate of Eligibility Certificates – 222 (this number is expected to change the Board staff is still working on expired applications)

4(e). Number of Exam passing scores since the prior meeting – 2

4(f). Number of failing scores since the prior meeting – 3

ITEM 5 Credentialing

No requests for this meeting.

ITEM 6 Work Force Work Group

No report.

ITEM 7 Continuing Education Committee

The continuing education audit letters will be sent out in September or October to a percentage of the 2024 renewals.

The Approved Sponsor list is updated and posted.

ITEM 8 Visitor to the Board, Hodan Ali, requested to speak with approximately 2 of the Board members to gain an understanding of what led them to be a Board member and their role on the Board.

ITEM 9 Status of Certificates and Licenses Processed:

9(a). Initial Licenses Issued (1)

1. Cecil Cooper (4/30/24 exam)

9(b). License Reactivation (0)

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9(c). Certificates of Eligibility Issued (14)

1. Hailey Grzemkowski
2. Shelby Hoover
3. Tahial Grant
4. Daniel Kershner
5. Peter Kim
6. Andrew Tao
7. Adren Kornegay
8. Tsion Kidanie
9. Courtney Tao
10. Lucy Brown
11. Hirte Mesfin
12. Sandra Applebaugh
13. Stephen Davies
14. Daniel Sincell

9(d). In-Training Certificates Issued (3)

1. Michael Phillips
2. Kelsey Owens
3. Hailey Grzemkowski

8(e). Seasonal/Summer/Youth Camp In-Training Certificates (1)

1. Shaun Stemmler

Naomi Howell made a motion to close the Open Session. Kevin Barnaba provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. Vote 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

Meeting adjourned 10:55 a.m.



Matthew Cumers,
Board Chair



James Merrow
Executive Director

Date: OCTOBER 2, 2024

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