



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

**February 7, 2024 BOARD MEETING**  
**OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

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**Meeting Held via Google Meet**

**Board Members Present:**

**Matthew Cumers, Board Chair, Local Health Department Member**  
**Kevin Barnaba, Private Industry**  
**Sherry Williams, Department of Health**  
**Mia Lowery, Local Government**  
**Bonnie Harbin, At Large**  
**Sarath Seneviratne, At Large (Joined at 11:05 a.m.)**

**Board Members Absent:**

**Naomi Howell, Department of the Environment Member**  
**Tonisha Melvin, Board Secretary, Consumer Member**  
**Lewis Brown, Consumer Member**

**Staff and Visitors:**

**Rhonda Edwards, Deputy Counsel**  
**James Merrow, Executive Director**  
**Lillian Reese, Legislative Coordinator**  
**Zakiyyah Holms, MDH**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**AGENDA** The Agenda was reviewed. There were no additions or adjustments to the agenda. Kevin Barnaba made a motion to adopt the agenda as submitted. Bonnie Harbin provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 December 6, 2023 Open Session Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Mia Lowery made a motion to adopt the Minutes as submitted. Sherry Williams provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

**ITEM 2 Board Chair Report**

**2(a).** Item to be on the April Agenda – Continuing Education Audit and disciplinary actions.

**ITEM 3 Legislative/Regulations Committee**

**3(a).** SB 221 – Reciprocal Licensure – The Board reviewed the Bill and it was the opinion of the Board the current Statute covers reciprocal licensing. The Board has no position on SB 221.

**3(b).** SB 222 – A hearing was held on January 30, 2024. Board Chair, Matthew Cumers, gave testimony for the Board’s position on the Bill. There were no questions from the Committee.

**3(c).** HB 642 – Apprenticeship programs for all Health Occupational Boards. The discussion centered on the fact that HB 642 may have a negative impact on the Board’s ability to develop its apprenticeship programs.

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Kevin Barnaba made a motion to send a position paper to support the Bill with amendments (removal of Article-Health Occupations language). Mia Lowery provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

**3(d).** Notice of final action on Regulations 10.60.02-03. Mia Lowery made a motion to approve the final action. Kevin Barnaba provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

**ITEM 4 Executive Director Report**

**4(a).** FY Budget includes one additional position for the Board. Budget hearings are scheduled on February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2024.

**4(b).** Statistics from the Licensing Database:

1. Active Seasonal Certificates – 33
2. Active Licensed Environmental Health Specialists - 482
3. Active In-Training Certificates – 135
4. Active Certificate of Eligibility Certificates – 213

**4(c).** Number of Exam passing scores since the prior meeting – 6

**4(d).** Number of failing scores since the prior meeting – 4

**ITEM 5 Credentialing**

**5(a).** Brittany Jarman requested the Board substitute her prior experience working in the public health field for 3-hours of credit toward academic course work. After discussion the Board approved the work experience. Mia Lowery made a motion to accept the work experience. Bonnie Harbin provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

**5(b).** Meresa Adula requested that the Board extend her in-training period. The Board approved the in-training certificate for a one-time 6-month extension. Mia Lowery made a motion to approve the request. Sherry Williams provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

**ITEM 6 Work Force Work Group**

No update or report.

**ITEM 7 Continuing Education Committee**

**Course Title** **Approved Credits**

**7(a).** Below are the approved training courses that were reviewed and approved at the February 7, 2024 Board meeting. Mia Lowery made a motion to approve the training courses. Sarath Seneviratne provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. Motion passed. Vote 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained (Sarath Seneviratne joined the meeting at 11:05 a.m.)

Course - Title

Credit

1. Conducting Private Well and Onsite Wastewater System Assessments – 1
2. ServeSafe Food Protection Manager Certification – 16
3. NCAEHA Fall Educational Conference – 5.5
4. What Environmental Health Professionals Need to Know about Private Wells -2
5. Water Well Inspector Class – 5
6. An Introduction to EPA’s Enhanced Aquifer Recharge (EAR) Research – 1

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7. AEC 2021 – Environmental Justice and Children’s EH: Minnesota Healthy Housing Grants: Impacts, Successes, and Challenges - .5
8. AEC 2021 – Environmental Justice and Children’s EH: ATSDR’s Community Stress Resource Center - .5
9. AEC 2021 – Environmental Justice and Children’s EH: Reaching Out Online: Virtual Public Engagement for Environmental Justice Communities - .5
10. AEC 2021 – General Environmental Health: Total Worker Health: Public Health Meets OSHA – 1
11. AEC 2021 – Environmental Justice and Children’s EH: Playground Safety and Hazard Assessments within Tribal Communities - .5
12. AEC 2021 – General Environmental Health: Body Art Expert Panel: Industry and Regulators on Practical Use of Body Art Model Code and Annex Body Art Expert Panel: Industry and Regulators on Practical Use of Body Art Model Code and Annex – 1
13. AEC 2021 – General Environmental Health: Incorporating Bias-Free Language in Your Communications - .5
14. AEC 2021- General Environmental Health: Meet the NEHA History Makers,,Living History Then and Now – 1
15. AEC 2021 – General Environmental Health: Lessons Learned in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene During the COVID-19 Pandemic – 1
16. AEC 2021 – General Environmental Health: Noise and Health - .5
17. AEC 2021 – Infectious and Vectorborne Diseases: COVID-19 Impacts to the Environmental Health Field – 1
18. AEC 2021 – Infectious and Vectorborne Diseases: Advising the Public on Ventilation and Surface Sanitizing for COVID-19 - .5
19. AEC 2021 – Water Quality: NCEH-Legionnaires’ Disease Health Disparities: A Social Determinants of Health Perspective - .5
20. AEC 2021 – Water Quality: From Septic Systems to Harmful Algal Blooms – New Approaches to Manage Public Health Challenges – 1
21. Well Care 101- What You Need to Know to Protect Your Family – 2
22. Western Maryland GIS Users Group – 3
23. Digital Defense – Water: Community Coronavirus Tracking by Monitoring Sewage - .5
24. Digital Defense – Water: Looking to the Horizon. Emerging Issues in Water Quality and Public Health – 1
25. Digital Defense – Water: What’s NOWRA Done for You Lately? - .5
26. Digital Defense – Water: Best Practices for Restarting Your Building’s Water System – 1
27. Digital Defense – Water: Factors Affecting Bacterial Occurrence and Variability in Private Drinking Water Wells - .5
28. Digital Defense – Water: PFAS. A Historical Perspective and Overview of Best Available Treatment Methods - .5
29. RPSS 2022 – Day 1 Track 1 – Roadmap for Success with RPS; Why Enroll in RPS? – 1
30. RPSS 2022 – Day 1 General Session – 2
31. RPSS 2022 – Day 1 Track 3 – Sustaining RPS Activities/Having a Succession Plan – 1
32. Digital Defense – Water: Coronavirus and Wastewater Disinfection – 1

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- 32. Digital Defense – Water: COVID-19 Considerations for Public Aquatic Venues - .5
- 33. RPSS 2022 – Day 1 Track 2 – Technology to Assist with Maintenance of RPS Records/Supporting Docs – 1
- 34. Digital Defense – Food Safety: FDA Retail Standards Funding Today and the Future - .5
- 35. Digital Defense – Food Safety: Retail Food Virtual Inspections - .5
- 36. Digital Defense – Food Safety: Welcome From the Food and Drug Administration/FDA Office of State Cooperative Programs. Adap[ting] to Challenges and Building for the Future - .5
- 37. New Research Insights: Mosquito Surveillance in Southern Nevada – 1
- 38. Digital Defense – Food Safety: FDA and NEHA. Entering a New Era of Smarter Food Safety Together - .5
- 39. Digital Defense – Food Safety: Disclosing Inspection Results at Point-of-Service: Impact on Foodborne Illness Outcomes - .5
- 40. Healthy Wells – 1
- 41. Rodent Population Growth in a Bait-Centric Intervention – 1
- 42. Critical Restaurant Ratings Are Confusing: Benefits of Standardization – 1
- 43. The Story of Standardization – Not Just the What but the How and the Who – 1
- 44. On Alert – Monitoring Wisconsin Carbon Monoxide Poisonings with an Active Alert System – 1
- 45. Impress Citizens, Drive Results: A How-To on the LIVES Restaurant Inspection Standards – 1
- 46. Vector and Pest Control: Integrated Mosquito Management – 1
- 47. 2023 Eastern Milk Seminar – 15.75
- 48. 2024 Inspector Boot Camp – 4
- 49. Allergen Management in the Food Industry – 1
- 50. Safe Flour Handling: Know Your “Roll” - 1

**ITEM 8      Status of Certificates and Licenses Processed:**

**8(a). Initial Licenses Issued (7)**

- 1. Tobias Allen (10-28-23 exam)
- 2. Nadia Kendall-Diaz (12-10-16 exam)
- 3. Jasmine Copeland (11-3-23 exam)
- 4. Karen Warpinski (11-17-23 exam)
- 5. Eli Reed (12-12-23 exam)
- 6. Andy Fanfan (Title 21-306 Waiver of examination of persons registered in other states)
- 7. Jessica Gregory (1-11-24 exam)

**8(b). License Reactivation (1)**

- 1. Josephene Smythe-Brown

**8(c). Certificates of Eligibility Issued (14)**

- 1. Sidney Cromwell
- 2. Heather Flaherty
- 3. Udeme Olaniyan
- 4. Benjamin Donofrio
- 5. Kelsey Owens

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6. Alexis Phillips
7. Kaitlin Woolery
8. Christian Nwaukwa
9. Denise Jackson
10. Ashley Dennis
11. Zapporah Ellis
12. Logan Hatcher
13. Agnes Brooke
14. Heather-Ryan Knuckey
15. Jonathan Evans

**8(d). In-Training Certificates Issued (10)**

1. Nancy Le
2. Bethany Carty
3. Kaylee Henson
4. Bethany Otwell
5. Katie Outten
6. Rachael Bamgboye
7. Jonathan Evans
8. Zapporah Ellis
9. Jesse Johnson
10. Ashley Barnes

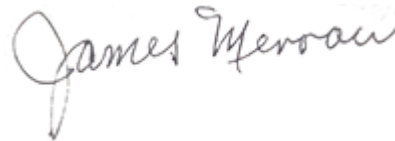
**8(e). Seasonal/Summer/Youth Camp In-Training Certificates (0)**

At 11:20 a.m. Mia Lowery made a motion to close the Open Session. Sherry Williams provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. Motion passed. Vote 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

Meeting adjourned 11:20 a.m.



Matthew Cumers,  
Board Chair



James Merrow  
Executive Director

DATE: APRIL 3, 2024

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