MARYLAND BOARD OF ENVIROMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALSTS
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215

AUGUST 6, 2025 BOARD MEETING
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
Meeting Held via Google Meet

Board Members Present:

Sherry Williams, Board Chair, Department of Health
Tonisha Melvin, Board Secretary, Consumer Member
John Boris, Department of the Environment Member
Mia Lowery, Local Government
Sarath Seneviratne, At Large
Bonnie Harbin, At Large

Board Members Absent:

Kevin Barnaba, Private Industry
Esther Peter, Consumer Member

Staff and Visitors:

Katherine Cummings, Board Counsel
Leigh Broderick, Executive Director
Donna Zickefoose, Administrator I
Leslie Johnson, Administrative Officer
Lillian Reese, Legislative Coordinator
Zakiyyah Holmes, (MDH)
Emma Missis (Morgan State)
Zackery Rogers (Morgan State)
Nicole Westrick (Morgan State)
Cliff Mitchell, (MDH)
Kaylan Simpson (MDH)
Normesa Diamini (MDH Apprenticeship Program)
Ashley Prescott (MDH Apprenticeship Program)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 A.M. by Sherry Williams, Board Chair.

AGENDA Leigh Broderick announced an addition to the agenda under 4(a) regarding a discussion of Physical Sciences. Sarath Seneviratne made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Bonnie Harbin provided a 2nd to the Motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 1 **Legislative/Regulations**

1(a). Board ratification of the legislative proposal entitled "Health Occupation Boards – Licensing – Criminal History Checks and Sunset Extension." This proposal included updated language to a bill that had been previously voted on. Mia Lowery made a motion to approve the updated Bill. Sarath Seneviratne provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained (John Boris)

ITEM 2 **Review of the Prior Meeting Open Session Meeting Minutes**

MINUTES FROM THE OPEN SESSION
AUGUST 6, 2025 BOARD MEETING

2(a). The June 4, 2025 Open Session Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Sarath Seneviratne made a motion to adopt the Minutes as submitted. Bonnie Harbin provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained (John Boris)

2(b). The June 16, 2025 Emergency Board meeting Open Session Minutes were reviewed. Tonisha Melvin made a motion to adopt the minutes as submitted. Sarath Seneviratne provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstained (John Boris and Bonnie Harbin)

ITEM 3 Board Chair Report Sherry Williams

3(a). Introduction and welcome to Leigh Broderick, Executive Director.
3(b). Introduction and welcome to Board Member John Boris, Representation: Maryland Department of the Environment.
3(c). The Board will need a volunteer to replace Naomi Howell on the following Board Committees:

- Legislative/Regulations Committee
- Work Force Work Group

John Boris volunteered to be on the Work Force Work Group Committee
John Boris will consider joining the Legislative/Regulations Committee. The decision was tabled until the next Board meeting.

ITEM 4 Executive Director Report

4(a). Applicant, Eric Ohiosikha – The Board reviewed the applicant's WES translated transcript to determine whether the applicant completed the required lab coursework. As part of this review, the Board also discussed physical science courses. Bonnie Harbin made a motion to issue the certificate of eligibility with the minimum 30 credit requirement and waive the required lab coursework upon consideration of the applicant's prior work experience. Mia Lowery provided a 2nd to the Motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.
4(b). Applicant, Eric Green – The transcript had been reviewed. The Board determined that classes taken at a community college that were not included/transferred in the bachelor's degree will not be counted. John Boris made a motion for classes not included in the bachelor's degree to not to be counted. Sarath Seneviratne provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 5 Credentialing

No reviews for this meeting.

ITEM 6 Work Force Work Group Naomi Howell, Bonnie Harbin and Mia Lowery

6(a). Bonnie attended a career program on July 1, 2025 geared toward the outreach for workforce growth. Cliff Mitchell introduced the first two persons to be in the apprenticeship program: Normesa Diamini and Ashley Prescott. Both will continue to take the courses to meet the Board's requirements.

ITEM 7 Continuing Education Bonnie Harbin and Mia Lowery

No Report.

ITEM 8 Statistics from the licensing database and Exam Information:
8(a).
1. Active Seasonal Certificates – 19
2. Active Licensed Environmental Health Specialists - 495
3. Active In-Training Certificates – 83
4. Active Certificate of Eligibility Certificates – 211
5. Number of Exam passing scores since the June 4, 2025 meeting - 5
6. Number of failing scores since the June 4, 2025 meeting - 2
7. Initial Licenses Issued (6)

8(b). Initial Licenses Issued (6)
1. Bethany Otwell
2. Devlin Griffin
3. Rachel Tucker
4. Julian Laude
5. Logan Hatcher
6. Emmanuel Ehizibolo

8(c). License Reactivation (0)

8(d). Certificates of Eligibility Issued (23)
1. Abbigail Mitchell
2. Maya Fulton
3. Yonas Gesese
4. Alexander Zarlenga
5. Nicholas Fato
6. Mikhail Novikov
7. Erika Bridgeforth
8. Colleen White
9. Pamela Harris
10. Karen Clark
11. Sierra Hearne
12. Civian Osei
13. Abebe Aberra
14. Taylor Duncan
15. Peter Unoreign
16. Tamika Kinney
17. Deonna Causins
18. Mohammad Ghumman
19. Maywell Hardell
20. Brianna Wilkins
21. Daniel Yadeta

8(e). In-Training Certificates Issued (6)
1. Toya Rauffington-Garrett
2. Alexandra Taylor
3. Chelsea Anderson
4. Attialh Edges

5. Glen Sweitzer
6. Lena Thwealt

8(f). Seasonal/Summer/Youth Camp In-Training Certificates (7)
1. Joseph Lin
2. Jennifer Czaplicki
3. Lauren Kuta
4. Savannah Kuta
5. Michele Cole-Burnett
6. Matthew Beighley
7. Hayden Black

At 11:25 a.m. Board Chair, Sherry Williams, read the written statement to close the Open Session and enter into the Closed Session. Sarath Seneviratne made a motion to close the Open Session. Bonnie Harbin provided a 2nd to the Motion. Motion passed. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

Closed Session Summary
Closed session was held from 11:35 a.m. to 11:42 a.m. on a closed session conference call line. The same Board members present for the open session were present for the closed session. The authority for the closed session was Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305(b)(13) in order to discuss a an applicant's positive criminal history that is prohibited from public disclosure pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 4-333. The Board voted to grant the applicant a certificate of eligibility.

Sherry Williams,
Board Chair



Date: October 1, 2025

Leigh Broderick,
Executive Director



Date: October 1, 2025