MARYLAND
Department of Health

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

AUGUST 5, 2026, BOARD MEETING
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
Meeting Held via Google Meet

Board Members Present:

Sherry Williams, Board Chair, Department of Health
Kevin Barnaba, Board Vice Chair
Mia Lowery, Local Government
Tonisha Melvin, Board Secretary
Sarath Seneviratne, At Large
Lisa Staley, Local Health Department

Board Members Absent:

John Boris, Department of the Environment Member
Esther Peter, Consumer Member

Staff and Visitors:

Leigh Broderick, Executive Director
Leslie Johnson, Deputy Director
Katherine Cummings, Board Counsel
Lillian Reese, Legislation and Regulations Coordinator
Zakiyyah Holmes, Health Occupations Board Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 A.M. by Sherry Williams, Board Chair. Tonisha Melvin joined the meeting at 10:14 A.M.

AGENDA Sarath Seneviratne made a motion to adopt. Kevin Barnaba provided a second to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 1 **Review of the Prior Meeting Open Session and Emergency Open Session Meeting minutes from May 20, 2026**

1(a). The June 3, 2026, Open Session Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Sarath Seneviratne made a motion to adopt the Minutes as submitted. Kevin Barnaba provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

1(b). The May 20, 2026, Emergency Session Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Mia Lowery made a motion to adopt the Minutes as submitted. Sarath Seneviratne provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

ITEM 2 **Legislative/Regulations**

2(a).

- Lillian Reese commented on the legislative/regulations information during the Executive Director's presentation.

MINUTES FROM THE OPEN SESSION
AUGUST 5, 2026 BOARD MEETING

ITEM 3 **Board Chair Report** **Sherry Williams**

3(a.)

- Sherry introduced a new Board Member, Lisa Staley, from the Carroll County Health Department, who has filled the Local Health Department vacancy. Sherry also introduced the Licensing Coordinator, Danesha Dunmore who recently joined the EHS department. Danesha Dunmore had orientation and could not attend the meeting. The Board was successfully able to renew Leigh's contract. The Board appreciates all his hard work and dedication.

ITEM 4 **Executive Director Report** **Leigh Broderick**

4(a).

- **Proposed Human Trafficking**: Leigh explained the reason for adopting human trafficking training into the Board's regulations. If one of the Board's licensees takes a human trafficking course, they can count that as one hour of training. Lillian explained that a bill was passed during this past session on human trafficking that all health occupation boards had to put into regulations and that all 20 Boards must approve before the regulations can move forward. Mía Lowery made a motion to approve the proposed human trafficking language. Toni Melvin provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

4(b).

- **Proposed revisions to statute**: Leigh gave an update regarding revisions to statutes 21-101 and 21-304, which include updates to the definition's requirements for licensure, board composition, and the removal of obsolete references to special funding.
    - **Definition of Apprenticeship** – since many apprentices already have a B.S. or higher degree, the revisions; - change the definition to reflect that the program is approved by the Board and includes training and experience under the supervision of a licensed environmental health specialist and course work provided by an accredited educational institution.
    - **Requirements for licensure** - currently the statute says that the course work of 30 hours has to be included as part of the bachelor's or master's degree. With the revisions, the coursework will no longer be required to be part of the degree; the Board is decoupling the 30-hour science, math and laboratory coursework requirements from the degree, allowing for greater flexibility in licensing. Also, the revisions add "doctoral degree" as a recognized qualification for licensure.
    - **Definition of practice as an environmental health specialist** – the revisions change health sciences to chemical sciences.
    - **Board composition** – revisions add another local environmental health member and ensure one member is within the State system while the Board still maintains the one local government position. The at-large member will be changed from 2 to 1.
    - **Removal of obsolete language** – the Board is not special funded any longer so the Board will omit reference thereto since it no longer applies.

  Lisa Staley made a motion to accept the statutory changes to §§21-301 and 21-304 as presented. Kevin Barnaba provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

4(c).

- **Regulatory Review:** Lillian Reese advised the Board will need to submit a Regulatory Review report (mandated by the State every 8 years) stating a plan to make changes in the near future. The Board does not have to be specific. The report is due early December 2026. Chapter 6 will be reviewed by the Board.

4(d).

- **Approved CEU Training Hours Audit Percentage:** Leigh asked the Board their thoughts about what percentage of renewal applicants should be audited for the CEU's. After discussion among the Board, it was decided that 10% of the renewal applicants will be audited. Mia Lowery made a motion to approve a minimum of 10% of the EHS licenses to be audited in the renewal cycle. Kevin Barnaba provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion passed. 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

4 (e).

- **Transcript Issue:** Leigh Broderick discussed committee structure to add a transcript committee. The committee would assist the staff with the transcript review. Mia Lowery is open to helping Leigh with the transcript review. Leigh will also send John Boris an email on what was discussed.

ITEM 5 **Credentialing**
No reviews for this meeting.

ITEM 6 **Complaints**
No current complaints

ITEM 7 **Transcripts and Regulations** **Mia Lowery and John Boris**
No report.

ITEM 8 **Continuing Education** **Mia Lowery**
8(a).
No report.

ITEM 9 **Statistics from the licensing database and Exam Information:**
8(a).
1. Active Seasonal Certificates – 13
2. Active Licensed Environmental Health Specialists -513
3. Active In-Training Certificates – 71
4. Active Certificate of Eligibility Certificates – 126
5. Number of Exam passing scores since August 5, 2026 meeting - 2
6. Number of failing scores since the August 5, 2026 meeting -1

MINUTES FROM THE OPEN SESSION
AUGUST 5, 2026 BOARD MEETING

8(b). Initial Licenses Issued (2)

1. Jacob Irwin
2. David Ondande

8(c). License Reactivation (0)

8(d). Certificates of Eligibility Issued (14)

1. Maritzabel Gonzalez
2. Miles Dean
3. Bernardo Samayoa
4. Domenic Scutti
5. JoVontae James
6. Keiko Kishaba
7. John Buell
8. Belay Woldegebriel
9. Meredith Capuco
10. Timothy Brunner
11. Olugbenga Tifase
12. Katrina Douglass
13. Nana Kumi
14. Emilia Boss

8(e). In-Training Certificates Issued (3)

1. Julianne Steneker
2. Heather Green
3. Stacy Kronner

At 11:04 a.m. Board Chair, Sherry Williams adjourned the Open Session. Mia Lowery made a motion to adjourn the Open Session. Kevin Barnaba provided a 2nd to the Motion. Motion passed. 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

The Board then held an administrative session from 11:05 to 11:18 am to apply a regulation to a transcript and evaluation service report.

Sherry Williams,
Board Chair

Date: October 7, 2026

Leigh Broderick,
Executive Director

Date: October 7, 2026