

Sanitarian/Environmental Health Specialist Registration Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: March 10, 2020

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Tracie Zerwas

LOCATION: Due to COVID-19 meeting was held via videoconference

Council Members Present

- Charles Dierker, R.S., MDH, State Member – Chair
- Lynn Moore, R.S., City of Bloomington, City Member – Vice Chair
- Duane Hudson, R.S., Hennepin County, County Member
- Nikki Coler, Public Member
- Raymond Starin, R.S., MDA, State Member
- Neile Reider, Industry
- Robert Anderson, Public Member - phone

MDH Staff Members Present

- Jim Topie, R.S., Sanitarian Registration Program Coordinator
- Tracie Zerwas, State Program Admin. Tech Specialist

Guest

- Linda Prail, MDH, Food, Pools, and Lodging Services Section Rules Coordinator

Call to Order

Charles Dierker

- Charles called the meeting to order, and Jim took rollcall.

Approval of the Agenda

Charles Dierker

- A motion was made to approve the day's agenda.

Motion: Lynn Moore

Seconded: Neile Reider

MSC

Approval of Minutes of Past Meetings

Charles Dierker

- A motion was made to approve the minutes of September 10, 2020 and December 11, 2020. (December's meeting was canceled however, review of one applicant was conducted via email)

Motion: Lynn Moore

Seconded: Neile Reider

MSC

MDH Updates

Request for Comments to be Published in the State Register

- Linda informed the group that MDH was aiming to publish the Request For Comments in the April 12, 2021 State Register.

Temporary Take-down of the REHS/RS Look-Up Webpage

- Charlie explained to the Council that out of an abundance of caution due to privacy concerns of birth month and days appearing on the website, MDH has decided to temporarily take the REHS/RS Look-Up website down.
- The Council discussed various options to help in resolving this concern.
 - The Council proposed that MDH change the rule language so that the expiration date would be exactly 2 years from the registration date and thus eliminating the use of birthdates all together.

MDH would work on language to meet this request and present it to the Council.

Providing Candidate Timeframe Flexibility Due to COVID

- Jim informed the Council that MDH would allow flexibility with deadlines for applicants to submit materials due to COVID.

New Business

NEHA: New REHS/RS Exam

- Jim stated that NEHA has a new REHS/RS exam. This new exam will be effective September 1, 2021. Jim went on to explain that the last time the exam had been updated was 2013. The exam passing score may change however, we are waiting on updates from NEHA. Also, new study materials will be available in June 2021. Jim asked the Council to visit NEHA's website for additional information and to watch for updates.

Review of Science Course List

Discuss Adding Kinesiology

- Jim provided the Council with background information on kinesiology courses at it relates to science. There was some discussion from the Council.
- The Council also briefly discussed sustainability.

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A motion was made to add kinesiology to the Science Course List and table sustainability for a later date.

Motion: Charles Dierker
Seconded: Lynn Moore
MSC

Approval of Candidates for Registration/Examination

Jacob T. Anderson

Jacob Anderson has a MPH degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities and meets the one-year of supervised employment. Jacob is approved to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, the candidate may be approved for registration.

Motion: Lynn Moore
Seconded: Robert Anderson
MSC

Nicholas B. Fortmeyer

Nicholas Fortmeyer has a MPH degree in Environmental Health from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities and meets the one-year of supervised employment. Nicholas is approved to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, the candidate may be approved for registration.

Motion: Raymond Starin
Seconded: Lynn Moore
MSC

Duane abstained.

Katina L. Hackman

Katina Hackman has a B.S. degree in Nutrition from University of Minnesota – Twin Cities and meets the of the one-year supervised employment. Katina is approved to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, the candidate may be approved for registration.

Motion: Robert Anderson
Seconded: Lynn Moore
MSC

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Carrie A. Hammer

Carrie Hammer has a B.A. degree in Foods and Nutrition - Business from St. Catherine University and meets the of the one-year supervised employment. Carrie is approved to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, the candidate may be approved for registration.

Motion: Lynn Moore

Seconded: Neile Reider

MSC

Raymond abstained.

Ka Yang

Ka Yang has a B.S. degree in Environmental Public Health from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire and meets the of the one-year supervised employment. Ka is approved to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, the candidate may be approved for registration.

Motion: Lynn Moore

Seconded: Neile Reider

MSC

Candidates Applying for Reciprocity

Milton R. Guerrero

Milton Guerrero has a Master of Science degree from California State University - Northridge and meets the of the one-year supervised employment. The candidate is approved for registration.

Motion: Duane Hudson

Seconded: Neile Reider

MSC

Old Business

Rule Update and Side-by-Side Rule Language Review: Credential Title Survey Results Review

- The Council reviewed the results of the Credential Title Survey. There was some discussion by the Council. With the results of the survey, it is the Council's recommendation to leave the Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian (R.E.H.S./R.S.) title as is.

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Other Issues

The Council requested that the title of this advisory council be discussed at the next meeting.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2021 and will be held remotely. A motion was made to adjourn.

Motion: Charles Dierker

Seconded: Lynn Moore

MSC

Minnesota Department of Health

EH-FPLS

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