

Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian Registration Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: June 10, 2022

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
- Neile Reider, Industry

Council Member Absent

- Robert Anderson, Public Member
- Raymond Starin, R.S., MDA, State Member

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
- Nick Anderson, MDH Legal Unit

Call to Order

Charles Dierker

- Charles called the meeting to order and took rollcall.

Approval of the Agenda

Charles Dierker

- A motion was made to approve the day's agenda with the correction of moving item 8 to item 6 as Linda Prail would be leaving the meeting early.

Motion: Charles Dierker

Seconded: Lynn Moore

MSC

Approval of Minutes of September 16, 2021

Charles Dierker

- A motion was made to approve the minutes of September 16, 2021.

Motion: Charles Dierker

Seconded: Nikki Coler

MSC

MDH Updates

Rule Language Discussion

A. Sanitarian In-Training

- Linda informed the group that MDH does not have money to implement a sanitarian in-training program at this time and that this would need to go before the legislature before this could be added as part of the rule language revisions.

B. Professional Conduct

- Linda informed the group that professional conduct or code of conduct language would be added to the rule revisions.
- Linda then stated that Tracie would email out the new rule language revisions to the advisory council at the end of this meeting and that if they had any questions or comments that they could contact Jim, Tracie, or herself.

C. Period to Renew Credential

- Linda informed the group that the language to renew a credential has now been broken out into three sections and then language for an exception was added.

D. Disciplinary Process

- Linda informed the group that new language was added to the disciplinary portion of the revisions. This language included language that would allow the council to take action against someone who is not a registered sanitarian but holding themselves out as one.
 - Nick then stated that he had very little time to review this language but that he has concerns with the vagueness of this language. Nick's initial findings were as follows:
 - The language needed to be specific language to support misconduct.
 - This language should be baseline language to support misconduct.
 - What are the working requirements of a Sanitarian? What are the basics of this job?

- The Council then had some discussion and decided to start fresh with enforcement/disciplinary language. Linda and Tracie would put together a spreadsheet of what other states are doing for enforcement and disciplinary actions and how they present the duties of a Sanitarian's job then bring this information back to the Council for further discussion.

Approval of Candidates for Registration/Examination

Michael J. Hargiss

Michael Hargiss has a master's degree in Natural Resource Management from North Dakota State University and meets the one-year of supervised employment. Michael is approved to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, the candidate may be approved for registration.

Motion: Charles Dierker

Seconded: Lynn Moore

MSC

Candidates Applying for Reciprocity

None at this time.

New Business

Indirect Supervision

- Jim explained to the Council that the City of Minnetonka is trying to figure how they can fulfill the supervision portion of the rule ([4695.2700](#), Subpart 1, B).
- Jim went on to explain that currently the City of Minnetonka has an individual with a master's degree in Urban and Regional Studies and wanted to ask the Council if this would meet the supervision requirement in rule [4695.2700](#), subpart 1, B.
 - The Council agreed that this degree would not meet the definition of the rule.
- Jim then asked about having an indirect supervisor as a motion had been made by the Council on February 12, 1997, which stated that "If the qualified person providing supervision to the applicant is not the direct supervisor, then the qualified person who provided indirect supervision will provide the applicant with a letter that will include information on the monitoring of training and development of the applicant."
 - Jim shared a letter from a future candidate employed by the City of Minnetonka.
 - The Council agreed that no decision could be made at this time without a complete evaluation of submitted materials to include an indirect supervision letter on the monitoring and training development.

SANITARIAN/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST REGISTRATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Old Business

None at this time.

Other Issues

No additional items at this time.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2022 and will be held remotely.

A motion was made to adjourn.

Motion: Charles Dierker

Seconded: Lynn Moore

MSC

Minnesota Department of Health

EH-FPLS

651-201-4500

www.health.state.mn.us

09/2022

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4500.