

Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian Registration Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: December 9, 2021

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 – joined by phone

Council Member Absent

None

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.

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: Lynn Moore

MSC

MDH Updates

Jim informed the Council that MDH-FPLS Core Food Safety Sanitarian training was held and that 19 were in attendance.

Review of Science Course List

The Council reviewed the Science Course List and proposed no changes.

Review of Candidate(s) Information

Cody S. Bahr

Cody Bahr has a B.S. degree in Biology from University of Wisconsin – La Cross and meets the one-year of supervised employment. Cody is approved to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, the candidate may be approved for registration.

Motion: Charles Dierker

Seconded: Nikki Coler

MSC

Caitlyn J. Laudenschach

Caitlyn Laudenschach has a B.S. degree in Biomedical Sciences from St. Cloud State University; however, she is 5 days short of meeting the one-year of supervised employment.

A motion was made to approve pending MDH verification of completion of the one-year supervised employment after 5 additional days. Upon verification of meeting the one-year supervised employment Caitlyn is approved to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination, the candidate may be approved for registration.

Jim verified with Caitlyn's supervisor her completing 5 additional days of employment, confirming Caitlyn meets the one-year supervised employment.

Motion: Charles Dierker

Seconded: Lynn Moore

MSC

SANITARIAN/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST REGISTRATION
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Zoe O. Papalia-Beatty

Zoe Papalia-Beatty has a B.S. degree in Environmental Public Health from University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire and meets the one-year of supervised employment. Zoe 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

Discuss a Complaint Against a Minnesota REHS/RS Credential Holder Received November 18, 2021

Charlie electronically shared and read aloud a complaint the advisory council had received in November 2021 against a Minnesota REHS/RS credential holder. He then shared a 2021 County Program Evaluation Report that accompanied the complaint.

Charlie explained to the Council members that with the information presented today the council would be charged with determining whether the complaint warrants further investigation and if warranted, the Council would conduct the investigation. Charlie also stated that if any Council members were involved in the evaluation of this county that they would have to recuse themselves.

After review and some discussion, the Council made a motion to proceed with a full investigation. The Council requested additional time to complete a more thorough review of the evidence and to notify the complainant that an investigation was taking place that would allow the complainant additional time to provide an explanation or evidence on their behalf.

Motion: Lynn Moore
Seconded: Robert Anderson
MSC: All members in attendance agreed

The Council will hold a closed meeting on January 20, 2022.

New Business

A. EH Program Area List

- Jim provided the Council with an EH Program Area list and asked them for any recommendations or changes to the list.
- The Council recommended that Epi be removed and replace it with Infectious Disease Epi and to remove rabies from the list.

Advisory Council Comments on Current Draft Rule

- Linda informed the Council that she had received a comment to add language that would allow for a Sanitarian in training.
- The Council felt more time would be needed to cover this topic and asked that it be added to the next agenda.

B. Advisory Council Duties (.2920 Subp. E)

- Linda proposed that the department review the initial applications rather than the Council.
- All Council members agreed that they should remain as the body that reviews initial and reciprocity applicants to sit for the exam.

C. Discussion of Renewal Period (grace period)

- Linda informed the Council that she would look at other MDH license programs to find out whether they allow for additional time to renew a credential passed the expiration date.

Old Business

None at this time.

Other Issues

Nick reminded the Council that new draft language for disciplinary actions would need to be clear and he recommended reviewing standards.

Linda will gather standards she has found from Minnesota and other states.

Standards will be added to the next agenda.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2022 and will be held remotely.

A motion was made to adjourn.

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Motion: Charles Dierker
Seconded: Lynn Moore
MSC

Minnesota Department of Health
EH-FPLS
651-201-4500
www.health.state.mn.us

12/2021

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