

New Mexico Environmental Health Association
Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2013

Location: Indian Health Service
801 Vassar Drive N.E., Building 22
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

Present: Jeff Dickson, Bob Bates, Debra Grabowski, Esme Donato, Shannon BlueEyes, Lucas Tafoya, Joe Anguiano

Absent: Michael Broussard

Jeff Dickson called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM

1. April Meeting Minutes

The April meeting minutes were reviewed by the Board at the beginning of the meeting. There were no additional changes offered at this meeting.

2. Financial Report

Checking Account Balance - \$3876.82 Pending PayPal Transfer - \$1309.14
Savings Account Balance - \$7666.95

Jeff mentioned proposed changes to the invoices. Because of differences in agencies' accounting procedures, the NMEHA officers are spending a great deal of time generating specific invoices for each agency. He would like to add language indicating that the invoice in the mail is the only invoice that the person will receive. If an agency needs one invoice for all attendees, they will have to plan in advance and have one person register and then add all other employees as guests. This will result in one invoice being generated for all attendees. Jeff will check to see if the word "guest" can be changed to "additional attendees."

Lucas has three employees that are late in renewing their memberships, four that want to become members, and several that will be expiring soon. Lucas asked Jeff if all employees can be placed on one renewal schedule to avoid multiple invoices.

3. Vector Control Conference

- a. Lucas developed a Vector Control Course survey that Esme will send out to all attendees
- b. The New Mexico Department of Agriculture recognizes the CEU's from this course but they must attend the entire conference to get the CEU's
- c. NMEHA's vector control course prepares the attendees to take the certification test; private organization trainings is more specialized and not as comprehensive as our course
- d. This conference has always been a money maker for us and fits into our mission of providing training
- e. Elizabeth VinHatton is committed to the training, NMDA has been on the fence
- f. Perhaps in the future we can coordinate with the Mosquito Control Association to improve attendance, Lucas will contact Elizabeth and the Mosquito Control Association

g. As part of the survey, we will see if people like the idea of a reduced conference rate if they become a member

4. FDA Course

- a. The University of Tennessee received a grant to develop and put on the course
- b. Jeff only found out about the logistics the week before; the FDA Training Resources form never went to the University so we didn't know what they needed
- c. The training was excellent

5. NEHA Conference

- a. Should there be a cap on the per diem NMEHA should pay, Jeff doesn't yet know what the per diem will be; The flight and hotel may run around \$1500.00 and the per diem total around \$600.00; The Association will not be sending an auction item

7. Annual Conference

- a. Will we be able to meet our attendance minimum?
- b. In 2012 we charged \$70 for members, \$95 for non-members and \$150 for vendors
- c. The agenda needs to be set so we can start marketing the conference
- d. A contract has not yet been signed with Hotel Albuquerque
- e. Joe will check to see if City employees can get a discount on a room at the Convention Center
- f. The conference will be held October 23- 24
- g. Suggested topics include:
 - i. Food Code updates by Mario
 - ii. Drought and Water Usage – John Fleck from the Journal might be able to suggest speakers; ABCWA might be able to talk about recharge of the aquifer; Paul Smith with the City may be able to talk about vector issues as they relate to the change in water availability, Esme suggested Bill Fleming from UNM on watershed management; **Lucas** will follow up on these possibilities
 - iii. American with Disabilities Association could speak on the ADA requirements at swimming pools – **Shannon** will check on this
 - iv. Aquaculture and raising shrimp – Steve Zappe might be a resource
 - v. Mario wants to talk to the Standardized Officers – **Lucas** will coordinate with him
 - vi. CDC Risk assessments and how the results affect the weight given to items on the inspection forms; What do the risk ratings mean; **Debbie** will follow up on this
 - vii. The Sunland recovery process –Jonathan Gerhardt may be a potential speaker
 - viii. Farmer's Markets –Jeff brought up the possibility of a Farmer's Market forum; people did not like the idea of a panel but thought that just having speakers might work; it was felt that it would be difficult to have a controlled discussion and all questions would have to be checked ahead of time; Jeff said that if the group feels it will not work that he will not push it; Jeff suggested having the presenters submit their slides ahead of time; Joe and Esme suggested bring in national speakers that might have a more broad view; It would be interesting to have someone speak about local producers supplying restaurants; there could be a forum of regulators talking about what each allows, including the City, State, Bernalillo county, USDA, FDA (what can be sold to restaurants by local producers), NMDA (GAP's and eggs for sale)and Livestock Board (selling live animals at Farmer's Markets and the status of exempted animals); Joe would like to

hear a speaker on micro-farms and what type of controls should be in place- Mario might be able to speak to this

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 am.