

New Mexico Environmental Health Association
Annual Business Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2013

Location: Hotel Albuquerque
800 Rio Grande Blvd. NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104

Jeff Dickson called the meeting to order at 12:17 AM

1. Financial Report

- a) Checking Account Balance - \$4334.05 Another 2522.91 has been received but has not yet been deposited
- Savings Account Balance - \$7668.15
- b) An audit was conducted in January 2013 and showed that everything was in good shape. There were a few suggestions for improvement and those corrections have been made.
- c) NMEHA sponsored three events in 2013, the FDA Special Process course, Vector Control training, and the Fall Symposium. For these courses, 9245.43 was expended and 10,272.25 was taken in.
- d) \$375.00 in dues has been collected so far this year.
- e) A donation of \$25.00 was received.
- f) A \$50.00 donation was made to the Wounded Warrior Project in memory of Tom Duker.
- g) A suggestion was made that perhaps the savings account money should be placed in a CD to receive a better rate of return.

2. Awards

- a. Environmental Health Specialist of the Year Award and Outstanding Contributions to Environmental Health Award – Jeff asked the participants to fill in nominees' names on the supplied forms and place the forms in the box at the back of the room, the ballots will be counted at the end of the conference and the names of the winners will be posted on the NMEHA website
- b. Jeff selected Lucas Tafoya and Esme Donato for the President's Award

3. Board Recruitment

- a) Benefits of being on the Board include understanding NEHA better and, understanding how the different jurisdictions work together
- b) Next year, committees will be better developed, a new member orientation committee will be formed
- c) Jeff encouraged people to sign up to be a Board member

4. Minutes of the Last Business Meeting

- a) Last year's conference was held 10/24-25/2012
- b) Susan Spring was Environmentalist of the Year
- c) IHS Albuquerque Service Unit won Outstanding Contributions to Environmental Health

5. Changes to the Board Proposal

- a) Operation Board Flip
- b) Each entity would nominate a Board candidate

- c) People could also self-nominate
- d) Would each of the 5 entities have a back-up?
- e) This plan hopefully would not be a burden on the agencies
- f) Who makes up the “other “ category?
 - i) Louis Jaramillo – KAFB, APS, UNM; Florence Higgins – National Park Service, Department of Agriculture, she really likes the ideas of committees as it helps members “get their feet wet” in the organization
- g) Louis – may need to talk to the Mayor, etc., to get support for participation on the Board, need outreach groups, have we reached out to students
- h) Two students came to NMEHA and they are now both interns with City of Albuquerque
- i) How should agencies nominate
 - i) Steve Zappe – each organization should nominate as many as they like and then members vote on which one
 - ii) Bob Bates – will the size of the Board be increased, currently there is the Executive Board and three Directors
- j) Jeff Dickson – Each of 5 entities will have Board representation in some capacity
- k) A question was asked as to where the Board meetings are held, currently they are held in Albuquerque, the time and location of the meetings are posted on the web site, everyone is invited to attend
- k) Florence – the association provides no per diem to attend the meetings, however remote board members can participate via conference call or webcams
- l) Does this change to the Board sound like a good idea?
 - i) Florence said the idea has merit and it’s probably a good time to try it

6. Lucas talked about the memorial to Tom Duker and the important role he had played in NMEHA and the NMEHC

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 pm

The next meeting will be held November 19th at 10:00 am at IHS, Building 22, 801 Vassar Drive N.E.