

New Mexico Environmental Health Association
Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2013

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

Present: Jeff Dickson, Debra Grabowski, Shannon BlueEyes, Bob Bates, Joe Anguiano, Michael Broussard,
Lucas Tafoya

Absent: Esme Donato

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

1. October Business Meeting Minutes

- a. The October Business Meeting minutes were reviewed by the Board at the beginning of the meeting. The minutes were accepted as written.

2. Financial Report

Checking Account Balance - \$3461.37

Savings Account Balance - \$7668.39

- a. There are two outstanding payments.
- b. Bob uses the ledger book and the website to keep track of payments and income.
- c. Invoice Questions
 - The State needs an invoice to generate a payment
 - Members can log in and an invoice is automatically generated
 - The email invoice does not give the address to which payment needs to be sent
- d. The County needs an invoice for membership for everyone, Lucas will get a list of names to Jeff
- e. The date of membership renewal can be changed for any member
- f. The State needs a physical address on the invoice, the work address of the NMEHA president will be used
- g. If a person leaves, their membership goes with them, it cannot be transferred to another employee, The new employee will need an new membership
- h. The new Board will need an orientation to the website, Southwest Cyberport and Wild Apricot
- i. At the business meeting, a member brought forth the idea of investing the savings account in a higher interest bearing account, after discussion the Board decided that the extra few dollars that could be earned would not be worth the lack of liquidity
- j. A motion passed to reimburse Jeff for the Awards plaques

3. Ballot

- a. Florence is not able to be on the Board but would like to be on a committee
- b. James Jenison has agreed to be President-elect
- c. Roxanne Skalski will run for Secretary
- d. Agency-specific Positions

- i. Jeff envisions the four jurisdictions and an “other”, consisting of KAFB, other agencies, industry, etc.
- ii. The agencies wouldn’t be assigned to positions but the Board would be populated by the five groups
- iii. Michael indicated that the elections committee would need to start early in the year and add the personal touch to recruit candidates by making direct calls, a calendar and timelines need to be set early-on
- iv. Lucas has been contacted by past-presidents and they want to get involved

A 2014 ballot is in place

- a. Bios for the candidates will be submitted
- b. They should be 3-4 sentences covering work history, current employer, and interests
- c. Bios should be submitted by 11/20 in the morning
- d. Lucas will develop a ballot, Jeff will post the bios, if someone wants to be a write-in candidate then Jeff will post their bio
- e. Voting will end on December 20th, the Board transition will take place that day
- f. The NEHA ballot is not currently available for use by NMEHA
- g. Next year we may be able to use Jot Form for voting

4. 2014 Meetings

- a. The 2014 meeting dates will be 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20, 6/17, 7/15, 8/19, 9/16, 10/24, 11/18, and 12/16

5. Awards

- a. There were 11 and 13 nominations for Environmental Health Specialist and Outstanding Contributions to Environmental Health, respectively
- b. The personal touch helped
- c. The agency updates also helped others know what staff are doing – the Agency updates were very popular

6. Scholarships

- a. Does the Board still feel that we need to have \$10,000 in savings before offering the scholarships, the majority said that this is still a good requirement
- b. Joe said that the scholarship amount should be at the original amount of \$500.00 per semester
- c. Michael said that we could also present the award to graduate students or give a stipend for publishing
- d. In the meeting with Larry Gordon, he indicated that it was for someone in environmental health studies or for a science student who wants to go into environmental health

7. Publishing

- a. People need to be empowered to publish, if at least to the website
- b. that would be a good committee, they could vet the articles submitted to the website
- c. The articles could be unique, interesting and educational’
- d. Agencies could be assigned quarterly to submit an article
- e. The results of trainings could be placed on the website

8. Meeting with Larry Gordon

- a. Jeff Dickson and Debbie Grabowski met with Larry Gordon on 11/18, Larry talked about the history of environmental health in New Mexico and shared his vision for the future
- b. He emphasized the importance of marketing and letting the public know what you are doing
- c. With regard to credentialing, he said that he had gotten the legislature to mandate registration, but later he had the requirement repealed as he did not see a benefit to mandatory registration, this generated discussion among the Board as to the pro and cons of requiring some type of professional registration

9. Equipment

- a. Lucas still has a lot of NMEHA items stored at Bernco, including display boards, overhead projectors, etc. He will keep them as long as possible, but if there is a need for space a new home may need to be found. Obsolete items could be recycled.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm

The next meeting will be held December 20th at 10:00 am at IHS, Building 25, 801 Vassar Drive N.E.