



State of Nevada
Board of Environmental Health Specialists

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MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING
February 28, 2022

Members Present: Brian Northam, Amber English, Drew Skeen, Teresa Hayes, James Barnes
Members Absent: None
Staff Present: Loretta Ponton, Executive Director
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Public Present: Marissa Cook

Chair Northam called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A voice roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment: There were no comments.

Approval of the Minutes: Chair Northam asked if there were any corrections or revisions to the meeting minutes of October 18, 2021. Hearing none, called for a motion.

Amber English made the motion, seconded by Drew Skeen to approve the minutes of October 18, 2021. The motion passed.

Registrations: Chair Northam asked if there were any comments or questions on the registrations issued by staff. Hearing none called for a motion.

Jim Barnes made the motion, seconded by Teresa Hayes to ratify the registrations issued by staff as listed. The motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARING – Proposed Regulation LCB File No. R067-21

Brian Northam called upon Loretta Ponton to facilitate the Public Workshop.

Loretta Ponton stated the public workshop is not an action item; the purpose is to solicit comments from interested parties.

Ms. Ponton reported the Legislative Counsel Bureau reviewed the proposed regulation submitted by the Board and determined there was no need to add language to clarify requirements for establishing proof of compliance with fingerprinting requirements. That proposed section has been removed and is not included in LCB File No. R067-21. All other sections have been incorporated.

Ms. Ponton asked if there were any comments from the public on the proposed regulation. There were no comments.

Ms. Ponton closed the Public Hearing on LCB File No. R067-21.

Consideration of Adoption of Proposed Regulation LCB File No. R067-21 – Brian Northam asked members if they had any comments or discussion on the proposed revisions. Having considered public comments and hearing no further discussion by the Board, Mr. Northam called for a motion.

Jim Barnes made the motion, seconded by Amber English to approve LCB File No. R067-21. The motion passed.

Reinstatement Application – Marissa Cook – Brian Northam confirmed members had reviewed the application and request for extension of provisional registration and approval of prior training.

Ms. Ponton explained Ms. Cook is requesting reinstatement of her EHST registration #533 which expired February 22, 2021. Ms. Cook changed positions and notified the Board via email on 12/29/20 that she was no longer employed in an environmental health position with the State of Nevada. She has subsequently returned to the Department of Behavior Health and is seeking reinstatement.

Ms. Cook is requesting approval of an additional year as an EHST to take the REHS examination pursuant to NRS 625A.115(4). In addition, Ms. Cook is requesting approval of prior training pursuant to NAC 625A.013.

Ms. Cook is present to answer any questions of the Board.

Brian Northam asked if there were any questions of Ms. Cook. Hearing none, called for a motion.

Amber English made the motion, seconded by Jim Barnes to approve the reinstatement of Melissa Cook's provisional registration #533, with approval of an additional year as an EHST and credit for prior training. The motion passed.

Executive Director's Report: Chair Northam called upon Ms. Ponton. Ms. Ponton directed the members to the written report and provided a summary of registration statistics. Ms. Ponton stated there are 259 current registrants with one (1) application pending.

FY 2022 2nd Quarter Financial Statements as of December 31, 2021 - Ms. Ponton reported revenue reflects receipt of December renewal income and influx of new application. Revenue as of 2nd Quarter totals \$22,212.50; expenses were \$14,724.42 for a net gain of \$7,489.90. Cash available is \$45,718.08

Loretta Ponton summarized January financial information reporting cash increased slightly by approximately \$250.

Loretta Ponton reported six individuals were notified of eligibility for refund of fingerprinting fees; no requests for refund have been received.

Ms. Ponton provided a brief report on Legislative activities, including the start of interim committee meetings including the Sunset Subcommittee and Interim Commerce and Labor Committee. Ms. Ponton reported on the Governor's State of State address in which he indicated the creation of an Advisory Group to look at barriers to licensure in Nevada.

Ms. Ponton concluded with a reminder that Mr. Northam's current term expires June 30, 2022. Mr. Northam is eligible for reappointment.

Brian Northam called for a motion.

Jim Barnes made the motion, seconded by Teresa Hayes to approve the Executive Director's Report and Financial Statements as presented. The motion passed.

Report by Deputy Attorney General: Henna Rasul stated she had no report.

Report by Board Chair and Members – Chair Northam asked members if they had any comments or future agenda items.

Mr. Northam stated he would be reapplying for appointment to the Board.

Ms. Ponton requested the June meeting date be moved to June 27, 2022, due to conflicts with graduation dates. Members discussed their availability and agreed to move the date to June 27, 2022.

Public Comment: Chair Northam asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments.

Adjournment: Chair Northam adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.