

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST REGISTRATION COMMITTEE (EHSRC)
DRAFT MINUTES

Tuesday July 14, 2015

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Conference Line: 1-866-766-7199

California State University, Northridge
Jacaranda Hall, Room JD1535
Northridge, CA

Members Present:

Mr. Kelvin Yamada, Executive Officer, California Department of Public Health (CDPH),
Environmental Management Branch Chief

Ms. Graciela Garcia, REHS, CA Environmental Health Association

Mr. David Conway, REHS, Director, Mariposa County Health Department

Ms. Catherine Caldwell, MS, Senate Rules Committee Appointee

Members on Conference Line

Ms. Terri Williams, REHS, Assistant Director of Environmental Health, California
Conference of Environmental Health (CCDEH) Chair

Ms. Sarah Crossman, MS, REHS, Public Member

Members Absent:

Mr. Carlos Menes, CP-FS, Senior Manager Food Safety – Sodexo, Private Industry

Environmental Health Specialist Registration Program Staff Present:

Veronica L. Malloy, REHS/RS, Program Administrator

Opening

Ms. Williams called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.

A quorum was established at 11:14 when Mr. Koontz arrived.

Election of 2015-2016 Officers

The CCLHO position remains unfilled. Ms. Caldwell mentioned she has someone in mind for the Assembly position and will send the name to CDPH. CCDEH nominated Mr. Larry Fay to replace the position held by Ms. Williams and Mr. David Conway will remain for another term as the second CCDEH Director position.

Approval of Minutes from April 13, 2015

The members were given a copy of the minutes ahead of this meeting. At 1:10 pm Mr. Koontz motioned for approval of minutes as written, Ms. Crossman seconded, all in favor, motion passed, minutes were approved.

CDPH Environmental Management Branch Update

Kelvin Yamada, Executive Officer

Mr. Yamada informed the committee that CDPH has a new Director and State Health Officer, Ms. Karen Smith. The earlier reorganization of CDPH has not changed. The Environmental Management Branch reports directly to the Center of Environmental Health. With the departure of the Drinking Water Branch, a few budget issues will certainly arise.

Mr. Yamada outlined some of the legislative activities that may affect CDPH.

SB 476 – Organized camps came back for the 4th year. Ms. Williams is participating in these discussions and is eager to see how day care portion goes. Currently, this bill places organized day camps and resident camps under organized camps. Sports camps and church organization do not agree they should be considered under this legislation.

AB 300 – A task force was formed to study the algae blooms that currently exist from Washington State to the California counties of Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara as a result of a NOAA alert issued for harvesting of mussels, clams, anchovies and sardines

SB 423 – Proposes to regulate over-the-counter drugs separate from medical waste

AB 333 – A manifest for medical waste manifest is proposed to become a separate chain of custody.

AB 649 – Peace officers are requesting the ability to incinerate medical waste found in the field at a frequency of four times per year.

Continuing Education and Accrediting Agency Update

Mr. Mark Jeude, REHS, Chief, Environmental Management Branch

Update given by Mr. Kelvin Yamada

Mr. Yamada mentioned that there are a total of 41 REHS exam candidates scheduled to sit for the exam on July 17. Twenty-five are scheduled for the southern California site and 16 will sit for the exam at the Sacramento site.

Currently, there are 55 Accreditation Agencies recognized by CDPH offering continuing education credits to REHSs who need CEU credits for their renewals. These agencies go through a biannual review and update of courses as part of the re-accreditation process.

The REHS program was contacted by the CSU East Bay campus and is moving forward with plans to convert from a quarter to a semester system. As part of this conversion, the campus is interested in becoming an Option V Accredited University for the REHS Program. The committee members agreed this is a positive development and look forward to supporting the CSU East Bay program with local county internships for their students. They will be discussing future agreements with the campus to ensure the internships provided will meet the need of the Option V candidate in both the number of required hours and specific on-the-job skills. They all agree these internships are important to acquaint the student with county employment and for the county agencies to “shop” for potential employees.

Educational and Professional Standards Subcommittee Report

Mr. Brett Koontz, REHS, DPA – Chair

Mr. Koontz reported this subcommittee is meeting almost every month to discuss the course challenges coming from applicants who have received the transcript evaluation from CPS HR Consulting. Subcommittee topics include the difference between an “applied” course vs a “basic” science course and the use of assist.org to determine the appropriate level of science courses using various articulation agreements with other California universities.

Registration Process Subcommittee Report

Mr. David Conway, REHS, Director, Mariposa County Health Department

Mr. Conway reported work continues on developing a “model” training plan for all counties to use. Many of the counties submitted their updated EHS training plans to CDPH this year. Three of the most comprehensive plans were chosen and will be combined to produce a “model” This should be ready at the next full committee meeting.

Mr. Conway mentioned a new subcommittee being formed within CCDEH. The Profession Promotion Committee will take on issues of marketing and promoting the REHS profession and the topic of reciprocity with other sanitarians willing to transfer into California from other states.

Discussion Items and Announcements

There were no additional Items or Announcements.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2016
10 am – 3 pm
CDPH Headquarters – 1616 Capitol Avenue

ADJOURNED AT 1:12 pm