

**CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Thursday February 25, 2010**

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association was held on Thursday February 25, 2010 at the Wallingford Town Hall Wallingford, CT. The following voting members were in attendance: Scott Cook, Jennifer Eielson, Vicky Carrier, David Rogers, Sharon Antunes, John Deckert, Phyllis Amodio, Maryam Hosseini, David Boone, Joe Hock and Alessandra Litro (1:30 PM). Non-voting members present: Jessica Fletcher, Marco Palmeri, Don Mitchell and Eric McPhee (1:10 P.M.). Guest: Suzanne Blancaflor, CT DPH (12:50 P.M.)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:25 P.M. by President Scott Cook.

Approval of Agenda – President Cook distributed an updated agenda.

Motion by David Boone to approve the agenda as distributed. **Second** by Joe Hock.
Motion carried.

President's Report – President Cook discussed the guest attendance policy that is a part of the Policy Manual. He noted the problem that occurred last month but he does not think the policy needs to be amended at this time.

President Cook has also contacted Ed Briggs, the NEHA Regional VP and Heidi Shaw of NEHA about having the Connecticut RS exam replaced by the NEHA exam. No progress has been made on this. Phyllis Amodio agreed to work with NEHA on this issue and with the very low passing rate in Connecticut. Don Mitchell suggested writing to the State Health Department asking about the relevance of the PES exam being used.

Motion by Phyllis Amodio to send a letter to the people in charge of licensing at DPH questioning the relevance and content of the PES exam. **Second** by Sharon Antunes.
Motion carried. Don Mitchell will draft a letter for Board review.

President Cook noted that CEHA is not listed on the directory of ESF-8 partners that was recently distributed. He believes that CEHA should be on the list with the name and contact info of the current President and should be updated annually.

Motion by David Boone to authorize Scott to contact Greg Schiarra and have CEHA added to the list. **Second** by Jennifer Eielson. **Motion carried.**

David Boone discussed the report issued by the Governor's Council on Regionalization. He is not sure what if anything will happen next, but noted that CEHA is not listed as having representation on the Council. CADH is not opposed to CEHA having a representative but they think that representative should be a Director of Health. Don Mitchell advocated for sanitarians having a voice and is opposed to having a DOH be the CEHA representative. David Boone thinks a non DOH would be a better advocate for part time health departments.

Motion by David Boone to have CEHA send a letter to the Commissioner of Health asking for CEHA to have a representative on the Public Health Council with the current CEHA President being that representative. **Second** by Joe Hock. **Motion carried.**

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A bill regulating wood smoke (SB 126) is under consideration at the Legislature. There is a proposal to form a work group including DPH, DEP, CADH and CEHA to discuss this issue. David Boone stated that CEHA needs to be a part of this group since any complaints would likely be directed to local health departments.

Motion by David Boone to have CEHA appoint a representative to the wood smoke emissions work group. **Second** by Jennifer Eielson. **Motion carried.** John Deckert agreed to be the CEHA rep on this group.

President Cook distributed a draft letter of support for the CDC EHS-Net program, which DPH is seeking to continue.

Motion by John Deckert to authorize the sending of the letter in support of EHS-Net. **Second** by Jennifer Eielson. **Motion carried.**

President Cook took this time to welcome Suzanne Blancaflor to the meeting. Suzanne will be attending CEHA Executive Board meetings on behalf of DPH.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Antunes distributed a report for the period ending 1/30/10. She noted that she was able to get a slightly better rate for the AEC account than before (1.0% v. 0.25%).

Motion by Jennifer Eielson to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. **Second** by Phyllis Amodio. **Motion carried.**

Secretary's Report - Approval of minutes.

Minutes of the January 2010 regular meeting were sent out to the members.

Motion by Jennifer Eielson to approve the minutes as submitted. **Second** by John Deckert. **Motion carried.**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative – David Boone reported that bills of interest include a bill concerning contaminated wells in Stamford, a bill concerning health clubs and one granting an exemption from physical plant requirements for day care centers operating out of public schools.

Membership – Maryam reported that if 285 renewal applications mailed out, 212 have been returned. 7 of these are for new members. Reminder postcards were sent out today to those who have not yet renewed. She also has sent out an electronic version of the CEHA membership brochure.

Nominations & Elections – There are still no nominees for the vacancies on the board. The committee (Scott Cook, Jennifer Eielson, Vicky Carrier and Joe Hock) will meet to discuss the situation and proceed with the regular election which is coming up soon.

Education – Alessandra distributed a list of educational sessions that are planned for the next several months. The next two are legal issues with Judy Dicine on 4/6/10 and Healthy Homes on 5/27/10. All topics on the list were included on the survey she recently did.

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Publicity/Newsletter – David Knauf was not in attendance, however, photos of the Standing & Special Committee Chairpersons were taken. Members discussed creating an ongoing column for the Newsletter that would spotlight strange or unusual situations members encounter in the field or noteworthy programs or projects being done by local health departments.

Scholarship & Awards – No report

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Housing/Lead & Summer Meeting – Marco has nothing new to report on a Statewide Property Maintenance Code. He noted that a circular letter about lead in artificial turf fields was recently released by the State. He asked for permission to set up a CEHA booth at a World Asthma Day event at the Legislative Office Building on May 4th. There is no cost to CEHA.

Motion by Jennifer Eielson to authorize Marco to set up a booth for World Asthma Day.

Second by Maryam Hosseini. **Motion carried.**

Marco has reserved July 29th at Hammonasset for the Summer Meeting. The reservation fee was \$229. A presentation on FOG will be included and other groups involved with FOG/grease interceptors will be invited to attend.

Food – Jessica Fletcher noted that funds are available from FDA for local health departments who will apply the FDA retail food standards in their jurisdictions. Alessandra will send out an e-mail about this and it will be posted on the CEHA website as well. She discussed HB 5287 which would permit the production and sale of “acidified” foods at local farms. There is a hearing on the bill on March 1st and CEHA will submit testimony in opposition to the bill. Jessica has completed a sheet on cooking temperatures for local inspectors that she would like to make available to CEHA members and other on the website.

Motion by Phyllis Amodio to accept the cooking temperatures sheet and include it on the website. **Second** by Maryam Hosseini. **Motion carried.**

SSDS - Don Mitchell reported that Carol Lord has retired and is stepping down as Co-Chair of the SSDS Committee. A replacement is needed. The committee met recently and discussed the forms needed to certify apprentice SSDS workers, a mentoring program for those new to the field, improving communication between PEs, installers and sanitarians and repairs done under DEP jurisdiction

Water – Eric McPhee reported that regulations about geothermal wells are pending. He submitted a draft document dealing with bacteria in water supplies at food service establishments for review and comment.

Policies & Procedures/Bylaws – Vicky Carrier reported that the policy on e-mail votes was ready for adoptions by the Board.

Motion by Vicky Carrier to approve the policy on e-mail votes as submitted. **Second** by Jennifer Eielson. David Boone suggested that the second sentence of the proposal be amended to state “*This allows all **voting board members** ...*” to better clarify which members vote on an issue.

Motion by David Boone to amend the proposed policy as noted. **Second** by Alessandra Litro. **Motion to amend the proposal is carried.**

Motion to approve the policy as amended is carried.

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Vicky presented the Educational Training Report form for approval.

Motion by Vicky Carrier to approve the form as presented. **Second** by Joe Hock.
Motion carried.

Vicky also noted that a budget policy and some budget forms are in process. She also noted that the committee would be looking at restructuring the Executive Board to include Special Committee Chairs as voting members.

OLD BUSINESS

Inventory – President Cook stated that the make, model, and serial # of all electronic equipment is needed for the inventory of CEHA owned equipment.

Motion – by Sharon Antunes to table any action on the items until the March meeting. **Second** by Jennifer Eielson. **Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Fees for Educational Sessions – President Cook noted that CEHA sponsored events need to generate enough money to avoid depleting current assets. Alessandra has scheduled her events at the DOT Building which is available at no cost to CEHA. She typically spends \$2.50 per person if snacks only are provided and \$4.99 per person if lunch is included. Maryam stated that there needs to be a different fee for members vs. non-members.

Motion by Alessandra Litro to charge \$20 for CEHA members for educational events and \$35 for non-members. **Second** by Phyllis Amodio.

Motion by David Boone to amend the motion to specify that this fee would apply only if the location is free of charge. **Second** by Phyllis Amodio. **Motion to amend the previous motion carried.**

A discussion followed at which it was noted that setting one fee for all events would be difficult since some of the planned events have costs associated with them that have not been considered. **Following the discussion David Boone withdrew his original motion.** It was decided that a fee would be established for each event on Alessandra's list.

For the April 6 Legal Issues with Judy Dicine

Motion by Alessandra Litro to charge \$20 for CEHA members and \$35 for non members. **Second** by Jennifer Eielson. **Motion carried.**

For the May 27 Healthy Homes seminar.

Motion by Alessandra Litro to charge \$20 for CEHA members and \$35 for non members. **Second** Phyllis Amodio. **Motion carried.**

For the June Certified Pool Operator Course

Motion by Alessandra Litro to charge \$150 for CEHA members and \$200 for non members. **Second** by Maryam Hosseini. **Motion carried.**

For the Hot Topics seminar in October

Motion by Alessandra Litro to charge \$10 for CEHA members and \$25 for non members. **Second** by Joe Hock. **Motion carried.**

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For the Summer Meeting

Motion by Phyllis Amodio to charge \$10 for CEHA members and \$25 for non members.

Second by Sharon Antunes. There were some questions by members of the Board about the charge for the Summer Meeting especially about children and about non members who are invited because of the FOG presentation.

Motion by Phyllis Amodio to table the decision on charges for the Summer Meeting until March. **Second** by David Rogers. **Motion to table carried.**

President Cook stated that the date and location for the March meeting would be determined later.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 3:52 PM by David Rogers

Second by Joe Hock. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

David Rogers

Secretary

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