

**CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday September 15, 2009**

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association was held on Tuesday September 15, 2009 at the Berlin Community Center Berlin, CT. The following voting members were in attendance: Vicky Carrier, Scott Cook, Jennifer Eielson, David Rogers, Sharon Antunes, Michael Kirby, Phyllis Amodio, Eloise Hazelwood, Robin Sleeman, David Boone, Alessandra Litro, Joe Hock and David Knauf. Non-voting member present: Marco Palmeri. Guests: Ray Jarema, CT DPH, Mira Lami (Newsletter).

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:37 P.M. by President Vicky Carrier.

Approval of Agenda – There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

President's Report – President Carrier reported that she had made her arrangements to attend the Yankee Conference in Warwick, RI September 30 – October 2.

She has also signed and sent out a letter recognizing Roger Mshar's contribution to public health.

President Carrier also reported that she had attended a onetime meeting concerning the Health Equity Index project, for which CADH has received a grant. The program will be pilot tested at 5 local health departments.

CPHA has offered CEHA a display table at no charge at their upcoming annual meeting on October 23rd. CPHA has asked about their getting a table at the CEHA meeting in November. While there normally are no vendors at this meeting, members did not think this would be a problem.

President Carrier reported receiving a note from a member about receiving the newsletter in hard copy rather than by e-mail. Robin Sleeman noted that there are about 30 members for whom we do not have e-mail addresses, and no hard copies were sent out last time. Following a discussion, it was decided that copies would be printed and sent out to those without e-mail addresses.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Antunes distributed reports for the periods ending 7/31/09 and 8/31/09. She reported that the CPO class had netted a profit of \$991. Major expenses in Jul were for the President's attendance at the NEHA AEC and the services of the accountant to review the books. The major expense in August was for the Summer Meeting (\$1453)

Motion by Eloise Hazelwood to accept the Treasurer's Reports as submitted. **Second** by Scott Cook. **Motion carried.**

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Sharon reported that she had set up a sample Facebook page for CEHA and distributed copies of it. More agencies are using social media sites as a way to recruit and communicate with members, especially younger ones. Robin Sleeman cautioned about allowing "friends" to post inappropriate comments on the page and suggested limiting that to actual CEHA members. Other members think that people would be "fans" of CEHA, not "friends" and there isn't any way to screen them. David Knauf asked if this would fall under his purview as Publicity Chair and noted that he does not have the time to monitor a Facebook page. He thinks this will need to be added to the Policy Manual under Publicity/Website.

Motion by David Rogers to authorize Sharon Antunes to establish and maintain a Facebook page for CEHA for a period of 3 months after which it will be re-evaluated.

Second by David Knauf. **Motion carried.**

Secretary's Report - Approval of minutes.

Minutes of the June and July 2009 regular meetings are available. David Rogers corrected the amount due to Town Tech in the July minutes to \$547.20.

Motion by Robin Sleeman to approve the minutes of the June and July 2009 meetings as corrected. **Second** by Eloise Hazelwood. **Motion carried.**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – Robin Sleeman several new membership applications for approval, many of which were from previous members who had been removed for failure to renew.

Scholarship & Awards – Eloise Hazelwood has received 5 complete applications and one incomplete application. The committee reviewed the complete applications and has recommended that the ML Smith Scholarship (\$1500) be awarded to Albertina Baptista (Bridgeport HD) and the Yankee Conference Scholarship (\$1250) be awarded to Sergio Lupo (New Britain HD).

Motion by Scott Cook to approve the ML Smith Scholarship as recommended.

Second by Robin Sleeman. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Scott Cook to approve the Yankee Conference Scholarship as recommended.

Second by David Knauf. **Motion carried.**

There were two nominations for the Perriello Award and the committee has recommended that the Award go to Nancy Wheeler (E. Hartford HD).

Motion by Scott Cook to approve the Perriello Award as recommended.

Second by Robin Sleeman. **Motion carried.**

Eloise has received 1 nomination for the Brunelle Award thus far. Due date is 10/1.

David Knauf asked if there was a reason why the amounts of the 2 scholarships were different. David Rogers explained that the amounts were set with the idea that interest in the two bank accounts would pay the scholarships without having to deplete the principal. With interest rates down, that has not happened for several years. There is less money in the YC account than in the ML Smith account and if future YCs do not take place or do badly, there soon could be no money in the account. Eloise Hazelwood made a motion to add \$250 to the YC Scholarship award beginning in 2010 to even the 2 out. The motion was seconded by Scott Cook, but was later withdrawn to allow Sharon to check the balance in the YC account.

Eloise Hazelwood leaves at 1:30 P.M.

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Legislative – Dave Boone noted that the state budget had gone into effect by default since the Governor did not sign it. The amount allocated for local health departments has been reduced by \$1.3 million but it is not known how it will be apportioned.

The Governor's Council on regionalization of local health services has been studying what an "ideal" local health department should look like. No other tangible progress has been made. Minutes of the meetings and updates are posted on the DPH website.

Nominations/Elections – See President's Report

Publicity/Newsletter – David Knauf and Mira Lami stated that articles for the next issue of the Newsletter are needed. The issue will include a Summer Meeting recap and an announcement and registration for the Annual Meeting. The deadline is 9/30/09.

Education - Alessandra submitted a written report. The cross connection and backflow seminar is scheduled for 10/8/09 at the DOT in Newington. Judy Dicine would like to begin her series on housing/legal issues in December.

There was a discussion on speakers for the Annual Meeting. Healthy Homes and Climate Change are scheduled, but a presentation on ethnic foods is unlikely since the presenter is not available. David Knauf suggested doing something on the oysters and the aquaculture industry along the Connecticut shoreline.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Housing/Lead – Marco Palmeri reported on the Healthy Homes training scheduled for 9/24/09 in Wethersfield. This is open to sanitarians in that region, not to everyone. Each region will be responsible for coordinating training in its region. He asked if the board was willing to pay the costs of morning refreshments for this meeting. Board members expressed caution about paying for refreshments for one region and not doing so for all of them. This could cost several hundred dollars if done statewide. Marco stated that the coordinator for each region would be responsible for asking for reimbursement their training. There was no motion made to pay for the refreshments.

Policies & Procedures/Bylaws – David Rogers reported that the committee had met earlier that day. The committee is planning to add language to the Policy Manual about who has signatory authority on the CEHA bank accounts and who will be covered by the "dishonesty" insurance policy. The committee has decided that no change to the CEHA fiscal year. They also agreed to allow Sharon Antunes to open up a post office box and use that address for general CEHA correspondence. Position specific mailings (membership, education, scholarship etc.) will still go to the respective Committee Chairpersons.

Robin Sleeman reported that she has been asked by members about the CEHA portfolio binders that were made for the 50th Anniversary. She would like to have more made and given to new members as a "perk" of membership. David Rogers noted that if the CEHA logo was going to be put on the front of the binders, the logo should be updated first. He stated that the motto inside the circle should be replaced with "Connecticut Environmental Health Association Est. 1954".

Motion by Scott Cook to modify the official CEHA logo by replacing the motto in the circle with the Association name and establishment date.

Second by Robin Sleeman. **Motion carried.**

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New Business

Yankee Conference Proceeds – President Carrier asked the Board if CEHA should share in the proceeds of the upcoming Yankee Conference. The Association has expended funds to pay the expenses of Nancy Wheeler who coordinated exhibitors for the Conference. However, Board members do not want to accept potential proceeds if it might expose the Association to losses if the conference does not make money. It was decided to decline any proceeds and not be responsible for any losses.

Clean Groundwater Presentation – President Carrier has been contacted by a representative of *Citizens for Clean Groundwater* about making a presentation to the Board. However, they have not made a formal request at this time.

Adequacy & Purity of New Wells – David Knauf discussed a report issued by a task force on June 10th. The draft report was distributed to task force members and he and Gil Roberts had commented on that report. However, a new report was issued and sent to the Legislature that had significant changes in it that task force members did not have the opportunity to review and comment on. He stated that there was a lack of consensus within the task force and wanted the Board to be aware of this.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 3:12 PM by Scott Cook
Second by John Deckert. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
David Rogers
Secretary
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