

CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Wednesday January 12, 2005

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association was held on Wednesday January 12, 2005 at the West Hartford Town Hall. The following voting members were in attendance: Mike Pascucilla, Sands Cleary, Cam Walden, David Rogers, Connie Dinerman, David Knauf, David Boone, Eloise Hudd, Maureen Whelan, Don Mitchell, Sal Nesci, George Calkins (12:45). Voting members absent: Ed Briggs, Joe Hock. Non-voting members present: Brad Parandes, Marco Palmeri, Phyllis Amodio. Guests: Ray Jarema and Gerry Iwan, (DPH Drinking Water Division), Baker Salisbury (CADH), Ellen Blaschinski (DPH) 2:55.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 P.M. by President Mike Pascucilla.

2. Guest Speaker – Gerry Iwan of the DPH Drinking Water Division distributed an organizational chart of the Division without names. The chart shows the results of the recent re-organization of the Division, which changed it from a regional structure to a functional one designed to increase efficiency and customer service. There are now 3 Section Supervisors working under Gerry who is the Director. He gave a brief description of the various sections and their primary functions. Following his presentation, Ray Jarema distributed a copy of the private well web page outreach documents that are available on the DPH web page. He also distributed a pamphlet on drinking water quality testing for private wells that was recently revised. DPH is looking for input from local health departments about training needs and any other issues of importance. Dave Knauf asked about how LHDs can enforce violations found at TNCs given the time that passes between discovery of the violation and receipt by LHDs. He would like water sample results to be available before the LHD conducts its inspection. Ray replied that while this was not currently available but is in the planning stages.

3. Secretary's Report

Approval of minutes. Motion by Eloise Hudd, second by Cam Walden to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2004 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report

Motion by Don Mitchell to approve the January 12, 2005 Treasurer's report, second by Maureen Whelan. Motion carried.

5. Standing Committee Reports

Membership – Brad Parandes reported that membership renewal notices were now out. He is also scheduled to speak about CEHA to the students in the sanitarian training class at SCSU in April. The Board decided to give each student a CEHA pen and a copy of the 50th Anniversary booklet. It was also decided to provide new members with a CEHA portfolio along with a welcoming message from the President. Brad reported having problems getting the laptop to do a mail merge for the membership letters. It might be necessary for CEHA to purchase a copy of Access to make this work. Sands

Cleary would like Board members to be able to access membership information on the website. Dave Knauf will ask the webmaster about this.

Publicity – Dave Knauf recounted the problems he has been having with website input. Many items are not entered correctly or are put up very slowly. He has asked about getting a calendar on the site, but has not gotten a price yet. Some members suggested contacting other firms about hosting and maintaining the site. In the meantime, Don Mitchell offered to act as an intermediary in improving the service since he works in the same building as the webmaster.

Scholarship – Maureen Whelan indicated that scholarship letters will be going out in February. She reiterated that the committee is making an effort to give scholarships to CEHA members who are active in the Association rather than those who apply as a part of their scholarship application.

Legislation – Sal Nesci still does not have a date for this year's Public Health Advocacy Day. If anyone has information on this, they are asked to contact Sal. Upcoming legislation of interest includes FOG and food in funeral homes. The hearings recently held on the FOG issue, seemed to show a roughly 50/50 split for and against. Major concerns are having only 2 sites in the state to accept the waste and the costs of GRUs when exterior 1000 gallon tanks cannot be installed. There are also questions about who will be responsible for inspections and enforcement and applicability of the regulation. Dave Boone asked what the process for approval of the general permit is, and if it needs to go to the General Assembly or not. Marco Palmeri will contact Joe Nestico to clarify this.

Nominations/Elections – Joe Hock was not present. Sands Cleary indicated that the committee is going to try to schedule a meeting for late January or early February.

Education – Eloise Hudd reported that the Education Committee is going to work on getting a continuing education requirement for renewal of the RS credential. Their first meeting will be January 31st and they will meet a maximum of 4 times. If the issue cannot be resolved in 4 meetings, they will adjourn in favor of another group. She is also advocating for an additional food inspector training held separately from the SCSU class and offered to LHDs at no cost. She will draft a letter for Board review and approval that can be sent to DPH. She is planning to solicit support from CADH as well. Eloise notified the Board that she is turning the position of Education Chair and voting position over to Phyllis Amodio. Motion by Sands Clary second by Sal Nesci to ratify Phyllis Amodio as Education Chair. Motion carried. Phyllis presented some other ideas for education training including disaster sanitation (water, food, sewage etc.), well training and emerging issues of national and local interest possibly using NEHA speakers. Sands Cleary is interested in recruiting more trainers and developing a 4th module on disaster sanitation.

6. Special Committee Reports

Water – Vicky Carrier was not present. President Pascucilla reported that she is working on several training ideas.

Newsletter – Connie Dinerman stated that the newsletter should have already been sent out, but the members have not reported receiving it. She will check to see what happened. The next newsletter should go out in April. Mike will put together a list assigning Board members to contribute an article for a certain newsletter. If there are extra articles that are not time sensitive, they may be saved for future editions.

Subsurface Sewage – Don Mitchell provided minutes for the last committee meeting. Topics discussed included the NEIWPC meeting in Groton in March and the FOG General Permit, the concerns about which were outlined in the Legislation report. The Committee has tentatively set 2005 meeting dates, which are normally the 2nd Thursday every other month. The State DPH has been receiving some complaints about over compaction of manufactured fill. This will be discussed further at the DPH SSDS Code Advisory Committee meeting on January 25, 2005. Other topics up for discussion are dirty fill, tire chip aggregate and mounding considerations.

Bylaws – No report

Food – No report

Housing/Pb – No report.

RS/CEU Committee – See Education Committee report.

Summer Meeting – Marco Palmeri reported that reservations for all State Park sites are now being made through a national reservation system. The cost to reserve shelter #4 at Hammonasset State Park is \$125, which cannot be waived. DEP can waive parking fees if the DPH Commissioner sends a letter indicating that this is a DPH sanctioned event. Motion by Don Mitchell to appropriate the funds needed to reserve the shelter space for the end of July (29th). Second by Eloise Hudd. Motion carried. Dave Boone will contact DPH about the parking issue.

Yankee Conference – Joe Hock was not in attendance, but George Calkins reported that there is no new information. Pat Maloney, NEHA Regional VP has been working on re-establishing a northern New England affiliate including Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, and there appears to be some movement. The next YC would be in 2006, and this might be a good opportunity for a new affiliate to host.

7. Other Business

Annual Meeting – Sands has contacted those in charge of Adrien's Landing in Hartford, but has not received a response.

Partnership Training - Sands Cleary reported that Adobe software has been purchased so documents can be converted for the classes. Sessions are being planned for the next cycle.

Guest Speaker Part 2

At this point, Baker Salisbury, President of CADH addressed the Board about areas where CEHA and CADH might collaborate.

RS/CEUs – this effort has already been discussed by the Board. CADH will wait for details from the committee meetings before proceeding.

Statewide Public Health Council – CADH is taking the lead in forming a council consisting of more than 70 public health organizations. It is hoped that the council can pick one or two issues that they want to promote and by banding together, become a more effective voice at the state level than they would be by acting individually. The first step would be to form a steering committee of CPHA, CADH and CEHA that would work on the larger council. Materials Baker had sent to the CEHA Board had not been received yet. Mike will forward the materials to the CEHA members who will review them and get back to CADH.

Part Time Health Departments – CADH has revised the language in the bill submitted last year that would amend the General Statutes and eliminate part time health departments by 2007. There would also be a move to strengthen municipal and district health departments and award incentive grants for small towns to combine with other towns to form new health districts or join existing ones. CADH is seeking CEHA support of this initiative, which was the source of considerable board discussion.

It was noted that the Commissioner of DPH has made a commitment to implementing a 5 year strategic plan through the Office of Local Health Administration.

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 P.M. by Sands Cleary, second by Dave Boone. Motion carried. The next CEHA Executive Board meeting will be February 9, 2005 at the UCONN Law School.

Respectfully submitted,

David Rogers
Secretary

1/12/05

