

# **MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH** **ASSOCIATION**

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

DATE: October 13, 2010

ATTENDEES: Gerry Cody, President  
Heidi Porter, Vice President  
Regina Hanson, Secretary

Leon Bethune, Mark Carleo, Janine Flaherty, Heather Gallant, Pat Maloney, Kathleen MacVarish, Michael Moore, Jennifer Murphy, Daniel Ottenhiemer, Alan Perry, Larry Ramdin, Deborah Rosati

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### **I WELCOME**

President Cody opened the meeting at 10:15 am and welcomed all members in attendance.

### **II MINUTES**

There were no minutes presented at this time.

### **III TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasure Blanchard was not present for the meeting but will be submitting account balances via email later this week.

### **IV COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Coalition for Public Health

G. Coady attended the last meeting and provided minutes from that meeting. The Coalition is promoting the "Community Flu Educator" training at the DeValle Institute. To improve communications, President Cody discussed getting a consensus from the executive board regarding local issues prior to Coalition meetings.

H. Gallant asked if there has been a follow up report on the "Boil Water" emergency from May. There was a discussion of methods other communities used to get the needed information to the public. M. Moore mentioned the State DPH is finalizing a "Boil Water Order" training for spring or summer of next year. The "Food and Water Disaster" documents from the State will be reviewed to see if they still meet the needs of communities. The Education Committee will investigate this matter.

#### Yankee Conference 2010

The Yankee Conference was hosted by the Northern New England Environmental Health Association in Nashua NH this year. There were 74 attendees and still turned a profit. There was a discussion about connecting Dartmouth College with NoNEHA and Brown University with RIEHA to collaborating on further trainings.

Members of the board questioned the role of the Yankee Conference Board of Directors. This topic was tabled to a future meeting given time constraints.

#### Hazardous-Materials

The "Haz-Mat Tool Kit" DVD has been distributed to communities in Massachusetts. The DVD contains templates for local regulations and how to conduct an inspection. K. McVarish talked about incorporating the tool kit information in to the "Orientation to Local Public Health in Massachusetts" webpage.

#### Education

H. Porter reviewed possible topics for upcoming seminars. There was a discussion of what direction the association should take for future training topics.

There were 25-30 participants at the REHS/RS review class and exam in October.

#### Food Safety

H. Gallant reports that the Food Code Review Committee continues. The merged Food Code with Allergen regulations is available through MEHA.

#### Environmental Data Collection and Reporting

L. Bethune reports on updates to Apple iphone and itouch. The interface is still being researched (possible use of FM touch or Access database applications). "Documents to Go", an application that creates programs for handheld devices, is also being researched for its viability.

#### **V OLD BUSINESS**

The NEPHLI candidates for this year are J. Murphy and S. Wong. Funding is secure for two candidates for next year.

K. McVarish reports that the Public Health Inspectors Training for Food Inspectors looking at certifying 12 field trainers in 2011 and starting inspector training in 2012. Also the Foundations course is going to be held in two locations.

#### **VI NEW BUSINESS**

Yankee Conference 2011 will be chaired by L. Ramdin. Members were asked to consider which committee they wish to serve on and possible topics. The Conference will also consider proctoring certifying exams for RS, CEHT and CFPL credentials.

The NEHA Annual Meeting 2011 is in Columbus Ohio. They are soliciting abstracts.

G. Cody motioned to adjourn at 12:21 pm. Seconded by R. Hanson. Motion was moved unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING: November 10, 2010 at 10:00 AM Natick Town Hall**