

**Montana Environmental Health Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 1, 2011**

MEHA Board Members Present:

Karen Solberg, President  
Joshua Juarez, Treasure  
Christine Hughes, Past President  
Steve Kilbreath, Director  
Clark Snyder, Secretary  
Erik Leigh, Director  
Mary Lou Gilman, Director

MEHA Board Members Absent:

Frank Preskar, Alternate Treasurer/Director  
Laurel Riek, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Ruth Piccone, President Elect

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**Call to Order:** Karen called the conference call to order at 9:03 am.

**Meeting Minutes from November 3, 2011:** Karen called for comments on the Board meeting minutes as provided from November 3, 2011. Additions to the minutes were made by adding Karen to the conference planning committee and Mary Lou to the Articles and Bylaws committee. Josh motioned to approve the meeting minutes and Mary Lou seconded.

**Treasurer's Report:** Josh received money bags and W-9 form. The W-9 form was signed and returned by mail. Treasury responsibilities are still in transition and will hopefully be complete by the first of the year.

**Committee Reports:**

**Nominations** – Nothing to report.

**Awards** – Nothing to report.

**Articles/Bylaws** – Josh and Mary Lou strongly suggested that MEHA articles/bylaws should reflect the principles and beliefs that are important to sanitarians. Josh suggested that our bylaws should closely reflect NEHA's bylaws.

**Legislation/Resolutions** – Josh will be added to the Legislation and Resolution committee. Christine suggested a co-chair for the Legislative committee because of the large time commitment involved with being the chair. Discussions of hiring a lobbyist were presented. Group members would like to know the costs of hiring a lobbyist. Discussion and exploration of hiring a lobbyist need to continue, Karen will add this topic to the agenda for our spring meeting. Steve mentioned the importance of trying to find someone that could testify in front of the legislature. Erik also would be willing to approach his legislatures in Libby to present important information or ideas the group may have. Christine gave an update on American Lung Association and the need of support for Clean Air Act Laws. Karen expressed a need to discuss agreements made by committees on a yearly basis. Agreement letters will be shared with group members.

**Conference Planning** – Karen indicated the venue for fall conference will be the Butte Copper King. The conference will be October 1-3. Karen and Mary Lou also expressed a need for

speakers. Ideas and suggestions for speakers are needed. Mary Lou and Karen expressed a need for air quality speakers for the upcoming fall conference.

**Membership** – Clark will be added to the Membership committee. A list of sanitarians exists within a database used by the Board of Sanitarians. Christine volunteered to ask the Board for this database. The list has 315 names of retired and active sanitarians. The list would be helpful for MEHA to recruit potential members. Also MEHA has a database of active members that is located on mehaweb.org. This database has the capabilities of sending information out by blast emails to active members. In addition to the website a digital copy of the membership brochure needs to be posted.

**Communications** – Rod and Mary Lou will be helping out with the newsletter. Denise will handle the website. Pictures need to be posted of current board members. Karen brought up the idea of creating a Facebook page for MEHA. Christine expressed the need for overseeing and monitoring of the Facebook page if created. Mary Lou will look into the Facebook idea and give a report.

**Archives** – No Report.

**Foundation** – Foundation committee has not met. Christine expressed the need for discussions about fundraisers and ideas that are “out of the box.”

**Workforce & Professional Development Sub-Committee** – Workforce committee has not been active, Karen suggested reactivating this committee by contacting previous members.

**Old Business:** Karen has not received a report on the 2011 conference, but she did indicate that MEHA came out financially ahead. The idea of having MEHA membership meeting during spring conference on March 14<sup>th</sup> at noon was presented by Karen. Mary Lou suggested having a teleconference be made accessible for people not able to attend in person.

**New Business:**

**Board of Sanitarians:** phone conference will take place December 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss CEU requirements for sanitarians. Another item of interest will be on the qualifications of quality assurance staff and nurses who perform job duties that closely relate to that of sanitarians.

**Next Meeting:** January 5, 2012 at 1pm.

**Adjournment:** Karen entertained a motion to adjourn. Mary Lou motioned and Josh seconded the motion. Karen adjourned the meeting at 10:03 am.