

**Montana Environmental Health Association
Board of Directors Meeting
January 5, 2012**

MEHA Board Members Present:

Karen Solberg, President
Joshua Juarez, Treasure
Ruth Piccone, President Elect
Steve Kilbreath, Director
Clark Snyder, Secretary
Erik Leigh, Director
Mary Lou Gilman, Director
Frank Preskar, Alternate Treasurer/Director

MEHA Board Members Absent:

Laurel Riek, 1st Vice President
Christine Hughes, Past President

Call to Order: Karen called the conference call to order at 1:05 pm.

Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2011: Karen called for comments on the Board meeting minutes as provided from December 1, 2011. No new additions to the minutes were made. Mary Lou motioned to approve the meeting minutes and Josh seconded.

Treasurer's Report: Josh indicated that progress has been made with his transition into the treasurer's role. No solid numbers to report, still waiting for paperwork from the bank. The spreadsheet is setup based on the approved budget for 2012. A couple of line items on the spreadsheet from 2011 do not match 2012. Those items are "authorize.net" and "credit card discount," Josh will work with Kathy to "iron" those issues out. Membership renewals are coming in for 2012. Also, Josh has updated information on the website to reflect current board members positions and contact information. Karen pointed out that seven people overpaid for the fall conference and that those people should be reimbursed fifty dollars or given a credit for either membership or spring 2012 conference fees.

Committee Reports:

Nominations – Ruth reported that she will update paperwork for nominations and awards and email those forms out before spring conference.

Awards – Ruth will begin prompting people sooner for nominations for awards. She specified that supervisors will be targeted due to the fact that a lot of the sanitarians are too busy to nominate fellow colleagues, Mary Lou strongly agreed with this idea.

Articles/Bylaws – Karen discussed definition of an "agency" membership and the intent is not for it to act as an "individual" membership for a group of sanitarians. Language in the by-laws should clarify "agency" and "individual" memberships more clearly. Karen indicated that inconsistencies exist between membership descriptions on the website and by-laws.

Legislation/Resolutions – Ruth revisited the question about costs for a lobbyist, Karen indicated she would get some more information at her next meeting with MPHA and AMPHO (Associations of Montana Public Health Officials) regarding this topic. Karen reported on a previous meeting with AMPHO and MPHA where they discussed group roles and the strengths of each organization. During the meeting groups brainstormed on how they could

engage their members in advocacy. Next meeting between MEHA, AMPHO, and MPHA a draft MOU will be created by the group. Steve indicated that the MEHA website should have a link to AMPHO. Karen received a request from Montana American Lung Association to support the Clean Air Act. Karen reiterated the importance of updating and documenting the groups that MEHA supports.

Conference Planning – Conference call with MPHA to discuss conference planning will take place on December 2, 2011. Both groups will discuss fall conference surveys and plan to make necessary improvements based on survey results. The survey from the fall conference suggested that the presentations were too long, too many tracks, and that the conference dinner be joint. There is concern that a joint dinner would take too much time. MEHA would like to know what awards and recognitions MPHA conducts during their conference dinner.

Membership – Karen presented the need for an updated list of sanitarians. The list of sanitarians can be purchased from the board of sanitarians for \$35. Mary Lou is interested in finding a list of past sanitarians for potential MEHA membership recruitment. Christine has MEHA pamphlets. Steve has a list in his possession that has all sanitarians licensed in Montana which is updated to March 2010 (list was emailed to MEHA board members). Steve's list will be evaluated by membership committee and if there is a need a more current list of sanitarians may be purchased.

Communications – Newsletter will be posted to the website by Denise. Ruth indicated that MEHA website needs updating. Links to board members names are not linking to emails. Mary Lou volunteered to take website concerns to Denise. Karen will make up a bulleted list of changes to take to Denise. Mary Lou indicated that discussions about a facebook account will continue.

Archives – No report.

Foundation – No report

Workforce & Professional Development Sub-Committee – No report.

Old Business: Discussions need to continue about having a MEHA meeting during spring conference.

New Business: Mary Lou indicated that there is a movement by nutritionist to have food and nutrition guidelines fall under CDC rather than USDA. Mary Lou also noted a possible FDA and USDA merger??

Next Meeting: February 2, 2012 at 1pm.

Adjournment: Karen entertained a motion to adjourn. Mary Lou motioned and Frank seconded the motion. Karen adjourned the meeting at 2:09 pm.