

Washington State Environmental Health Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, July 1, 2022
Time: 7:00 am – 8:00 am
Location: Spokane Conference Center, Room 203



7:04 am Call to Order, Roll Call

PRESIDENT	Tom Kunesh	X	CENTRAL V-P	James Rivard	
PRESIDENT ELECT	Nancy Bernard		OLYMPIC V-P	Jodie Holdcroft	
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT	Mike Young	X	SOUTHWEST V-P	Jeremy Simmons	
SECRETARY	Jen Garcelon	X	EASTERN V-P	Vikki Barthels	X
TREASURER	Jesse Smith	X	NORTHWEST V-P	Ethan Schmidt	X
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY*	Megan McNelly	X	NEHA REP*	Bill Emminger	

*non-voting positions

7:05 am Approval of Agenda *T. Kunesh* **Action**

7:06 am Welcome with Dr. Dyjack *Dr. Dyjack*
 Dr. Dyjack, the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Executive Director, provided comments on the success of NEHA Annual Education Conference in Spokane; he provided some backstory of selecting Spokane and the successful partnership with WSEHA; Tom K really worked hard to make it a good partnership.

7:15 am Approval of Minutes *T. Kunesh* **Action**
 Approve minutes from 2/1/2022, 02/22/22, and 05/04/22
Jen motions to approve minutes, Jesse seconds, all in favor

7:15 am President Report *T. Kunesh*
 - Thank you
 Tom discussed his NEHA AEC experience, including meeting colleagues from 14 states yesterday. He talked about the important partnerships that have been cultivated including with Washington State Public Health Association (WSPHA) with the leadership of Jeff Ketchel. He feels like he will leave the Board in good hands. He was involved with WSEHA in the early

2000's, took a break, then rejoined a few years ago and is excited to see the progress of the organization.

- Future of WSEHA

He wants the Board to make a plan on how best to deploy the reserves WSEHA has for workforce development, funding interns, or funding International Health Committee (IHC).

Tom shared a message from Steven Galvez, the last years IHC Chair. Steven received information from Kirk Anderson President for Water First, the 2021 WSHEA contribution funded a project in Bangladesh that helped 9 households.

He shared time with Laken Wincaster, the current IHC Chair. This year's silent auction and raffle at the AEC raised \$4,000.

7:25 am

Treasurer's Report

J. Smith

- In regards to Profits & Losses, the largest expense this year, \$13,000, is because WSEHA paid NEHA \$100/AEC registration. 260 WSEHA members registered for NEHA AEC. Jesse plans to pull money from investment accounts for any ongoing expenses. The investment accounts have ~\$187,000 with this year's market losses. Jesse will proportionally take from each of two accounts; first pull \$10,000 from investment to bank account.
- Jesse made the first \$9,000 deposit to the Hotel Murano for next year's AEC in Tacoma.

7:35 am

Executive Secretary Report

M. McNelly

- Membership
Membership has significantly increased to 298, which has more than doubled since January 2022, largely due to registration from Washington State Department of Health and Seattle King County Public Health employees.
- Pool & Spa Conferences
Four half-day virtual sessions were offered this Spring. Attendance was ~350, Megan spent 10 hours, WSEHA did not charge for our time because it would cost more to get money to bill. Some feedback on the virtual conference was with virtual more people can attend, but attendees do not get quite as much from it. Tom wants to convene a meeting to discuss pool conference and reserves.

7:45 am

Election/Ballot Verification

M.McNelly/Board

Action

Mike Young counted ballots while other discussions occurred.

A few comments from Jeff Ketchel. WSPHA is a 501c6, so they are a trade association, they can be political and hire lobbyist. Lauren Jenks from DOH is on the WSPHA Board along with Mohammad Ali an EHS with SKCPH. At their October meeting, climate change will be a big discussion and Heather McGhee will be the keynote speaker on the topic of racism. She authored The Sum of Us What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together. She has a 2020 TED talk is entitled “Racism Has a Cost for Everyone”.

Sammy Berg the President of Washington State Board of Registered Sanitarians (WSBRS) wants to work on partnership with WSEHA.

Jeff said workforce development is also a hot topic. It’s a big issue. Jeff is on the Governor’s Public Health Advisory Board.

Around 2010, there was a survey to see if WSEHA and WSBRS should combine, and the vote showed the organizations should remain separate.

Megan reported out the election results:

For President, Susan Shelton received 50 votes

For Secretary, Jennifer Garcelon received 50 votes

For Eastern Region Vice-President, Vikki Barthels received 8 votes

For Northwest Region Vice-President, Ethan Schmidt received 9 votes

Jesse motions to approve the results of the election based on Megan’s report. Mike seconds. All in favor.

7:55 am

Adjourn

Ethan motions to adjourn. Vikki seconds the motion. All in favor.