

# NC State Board of Environmental Health Specialist Examiners

## Minutes of September 28, 2015 Board Work Session

The North Carolina State Board of Environmental Health Specialist Examiners met on Monday, September 28, 2015 at the West Campus Office Building, Meeting Room 004, 131 W Margaret Lane, Hillsborough, NC, 27278 at 10:00 a.m. Those in attendance, either in person or via telephone, were Chair Jessica Silver, Ann Absher, Dr. Brian Byrd, Melanie Campen, Carl Kivett, Larry Michael, Ernie Nichols, Daniel Ortiz, Seth Swift, Phil Thompson and Donna Coffey. REHS Dennis Salmen, independent contractor, was present.

**Called to Order** - Chair Jessica Silver called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**Board Action. Phil Thompson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Larry Michael seconded the motion. All votes affirmative.**

### **Report – Licensing/Registration Programs of U.S. States**

Dennis Salmen reviewed the results of survey he recently conducted, per contractual agreement with the Board, "Identifying U.S. States with Statewide Current EH Specialist Licensing or Registration Programs." Following Mr. Salmen's presentation The Board reviewed registration requirements for each state listed in the report to determine how closely they aligned with NC requirements. Board members agreed that in order to consider granting full REHS status via acceptance of out-of-state registration, the state must meet the following standards:

- Degree Level: BA or BS
- Science Course Hours: Minimum 30 semester hours of science as accepted by NEHA
- Exam: NEHA Exam
- Work Related Experience to Qualify for "Full" Registration with Degree: 2 or more years of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (non-EHAC) OR 1 year of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (EHAC)

The Board made the following determinations:

<b>Grant Full REHS Status via Acceptance of Out-of-State Registration</b>	<b>Deny Full REHS Status via Acceptance of Out-of-State Registration</b>
Illinois	Arizona
<i>Maryland (applicant must have at least 2 or more years of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (non-EHAC) OR 1 year of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (EHAC))</i>	Arkansas
Minnesota	California
<i>Montana (applicant must have at least 2 or more years of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (non-EHAC) OR 1 year of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (EHAC))</i>	Connecticut
Nevada	Florida
<i>North Dakota (applicant must have 4-year degree, at least 2 or more years of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (non-EHAC) OR 1 year of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (EHAC) and passage of NEHA exam)</i>	Kentucky
Ohio	Louisiana
<i>Oregon (applicant must have 4-year degree, at least 30 hours of science and passage of NEHA exam)</i>	Massachusetts
<i>Texas (with passage of NEHA exam)</i>	Michigan
<i>Utah (applicant must have at least 2 or more years of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (non-EHAC) OR 1 year of experience at REHS or REHS-I level (EHAC) and 30 hours of science)</i>	Missouri
<i>Wisconsin (applicant must have 4-year degree, at least 30 hours of science and passage of NEHA exam)</i>	Nebraska
	New Jersey
	New York
	Oklahoma

	Washington
	West Virginia

### States Not Listed in This Document

The Board agreed that this list reflects state registration acts in place in October 2015, and applications received from states listed on the chart are subject to review by the Board to ensure the applicant meets NC registration requirements. States not listed on either list do not have registration acts and applications are subject to further review by the Board.

### **Policy – Academic Requirements for Registration in North Carolina**

Board member Dr. Brian Byrd recommended that the Board make the following amendments to its current Academic Requirements for Registration in North Carolina policy (strikeout reflects recommended policy deletions and red text/yellow highlight reflects recommended policy additions.)

*The minimum ~~basic~~ academic requirements for registration in North Carolina are based on the standards set by statute as follows: GS 90A-53(3) “Has received a baccalaureate degree from an educational institution rated as acceptable by the Board with a minimum of 30 semester hours or its equivalent in the physical and/or biological sciences.”*

*Based on the statute the following courses are usually acceptable:*

*~~BASIC SCIENCES (30 semester or 45 quarter units required) including:~~*

*~~General Basic Biological Science (lecture and laboratory).~~*

*~~General Basic Microbiology (lecture and laboratory).~~*

*~~General Basic Chemistry (lecture and laboratory).~~*

*~~General Basic Physics (lecture and laboratory).~~*

*The following courses are usually acceptable to the Board in meeting the requirements for 30 semester hours or 45-quarter hours of science:*

**Biology**

*Microbiology*

*Ecology*

*Entomology*

*Anatomy*

*Botany*

*Embryology*

*Genetics*

*Bacteriology*

*Cell Physiology*

*Endocrinology*

*Herpetology*

*Immunology*

*Molecular Biology*

*Ornithology*

*Parasitology*

*Pathology*

*Physiology*

*Taxonomy*

*Virology*

*Zoology*

**Chemistry**

*Biochemistry*

*Inorganic*

*Organic*

*Quantitative*

**Geology**

*Physical Geology*

*Soils Morphology*

*Hydrology*

**Physics**

*Biophysics*

*Geophysics*

*Medical*

*Radiation*

## Guidance Document for Transcript Evaluation Process

### Number of Hours and Types of Courses:

A minimum of thirty semester units or forty-five quarter units of **physical and biological** basic science courses is required for registration. **The Board will accept physical and biological sciences as interpreted by National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) guidelines.**

~~Basic science courses must be the same level required of science majors. This includes general basic biological science with laboratory, general basic microbiology with laboratory, general basic inorganic chemistry with laboratory, general basic organic chemistry with laboratory, and general basic physics with laboratory. The basic science electives needed to qualify for the remainder of the required science hours are on the list of basic sciences above.~~

~~The total number of educational units to qualify for registration is 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of science courses.~~

### Documentation Required:

Each applicant must have one original official transcript submitted directly to the Board from the educational institution(s). The applicant must also submit an application for registration along with the application fee. Copies of the application and supporting documents may be obtained from the Board's web site at: [www.ncrehs.com-rsboard.com](http://www.ncrehs.com-rsboard.com). Where a science course is in question, the applicant is required to produce documentation from the institution where the course in question was taken, for the same year in which the course was taken. This information may include, but is not restricted to, an original syllabus and/or a copy of the University Course Catalog, which describes the course content and the University department/program to which the course would be credited. If the information is not available in a course catalog, the applicant shall contact the institution for the required information. This information shall be forwarded directly to the Board.

### Process:

All information for an accurate and fair consideration of the applicant's qualifications is needed in a timely fashion. Information required, in addition to the application, includes an official transcript sent directly from the university/college registrar's office where the credit was received. If the Board is unable to determine from the official transcript that a particular course or courses offered for consideration by the applicant meets the above criteria, the staff will contact the applicant and request a copy of the university/college course catalog and/or a copy of the course syllabus. The course catalog and syllabus may be submitted directly by the applicant or directly from the university/college from where course credit was earned. It is the responsibility of the applicant to send and/or order from the appropriate university/college all materials requested by the Board.

*The Board, upon receipt of all requested information, will review the information regarding the course(s) in question and decide if the course(s) in question are acceptable.*

Appeals:

*An applicant who is denied registration based on the Board's decision regarding meeting the requirements for science courses may appeal that decision. Appeal may be made by filing a petition for a contested case hearing as provided in Article 3A of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes of North Carolina.*

The Board directed Donna Coffey, Board Assistant, to include these two items on the October 8, 2015 Board meeting agenda for approval.

**Meeting Adjourned 2 : 3 3 p .m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Ernie Nichols, REHS  
Secretary-Treasurer  
September 28, 2015