



*Louisiana Environmental Health Association
General Business Meeting Minutes
Holiday Inn, LaPlace, LA
January 29, 2004, 10:30 am*

Call to Order

President Marian Aguillard called the meeting to order at 10:25a.m.

Nominations and Voting

Ed Flynn, Nominations Chair, presented the nominations assisted by Sharon Parker. Steve Aguillard was nominated for Vice-President, Robert Freeman for President-Elect, James Miller for Treasurer, and Jodi Miller for Secretary. Nominations were requested from the floor three times. No other nominations were heard. The nominations were accepted as noted above, and approved by acclamation.

Ed then presented nominations for 5 Board seats and 2 alternates and additional nominations were then requested from the floor. These were: Judy McCleary, Henry Graham, Linda brown, Robin Basone, Carol Petranek, Marty Guidry, Holly Herrmann, and Chris Mayeux. Close of nominations for these positions were noticed three times by Ed Flynn, a motion by Marty Guidry moved to accept the nominations and it was seconded by Steve Aguillard. The motion carried.

After voting took place, and while the totals were being counted, Marian convened the business meeting.

Treasurer's Report - James Miller

James Miller read the Treasurer's report. Available funds to date are currently \$4,867.29. This total does not include finalization of conference expenses and income. The current scholarship fund equity is \$34,784.7. The dues notice will go out after the conference. All conference participants have received complimentary membership.

Secretary's Report – Jodi Miller

The following are achievements/ happenings of the year 2003 to the present.

State Science Fair Projects were judged by LEHA for the first time in 2003. Three awards were presented to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners of the High School level and Junior High level that best exemplified the Environmental Health area. The prizes of \$50 and a plaque were awarded to the first place winner; and \$25 and a plaque were awarded to the second and third place winners. Thanks to Joan Adams for the idea. Also, thanks to Joan and Betty Vidrine for volunteering to judge this first year.

Three College Scholarships of \$1000 each and a plaque were presented in 2004 to:

Jessica Miller, Undergraduate Recipient, McNeese State University
Jwill Sims, Undergraduate Recipient, McNeese State University
Bryan Riche, Graduate Recipient, McNeese State University

We were fortunate also to have 3 of the professors attend the Awards Luncheon along with the recipients.

LEHA was a contributor to the **Household Hazardous Waste Day** in Baton Rouge with funding for refreshments for the workers and a donation of the paint can opener.

A LEHA representative, Henry Graham/Pete Romanowsky served on the **Steering Committee of the Governor's Louisiana Environmental Leadership Program**.

The 2003 Conference Photo Album was posted on the LEHA website, LEHA.net .The Lafayette Conference was very successful, with a pre-conference workshop on Bio-Terrorism with emphasis on Louisiana Preparedness. We also had a special behind the scenes tour of the McIlhenny pepper sauce factory as our conference field trip.

Yesterday, we had a terrific conference on Wastewater Treatment and Bio-solids Treatment, Technology, and Beneficial Reuse. The field trip was to the Bonnet Carre' Spillway, including an in-depth presentation on the history and operation of the facility.

NEHA Report

Jim Balsamo was introduced as incoming NEHA President and LEHA Board member. Jim indicated that credentialing was important for self worth and knowledge, and that you will get out of it what you put into it. The following credentials are sponsored by NEHA:

Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian (REHS/RS)
Certified Food Professional (CFSP)
National Radon Proficiency Credential Program
Registered Environmental technician (RET)
Certified Environmental Health Technician (CEHT)
Registered Hazardous Substances Professional (RHSP)
Registered Hazardous Substances Specialist (RHSS)

Jim Balsamo introduced Brian Collins as our Region 5 liaison to NEHA. He indicated that he was Director of Environmental Health in Plano, Texas, and had Registered Sanitarian and Code Enforcement credentials, which are tools, which help you, take the next step. He is also a Past-President of TEHA in Texas. He noted that there are 15 NEHA Board members and that there were NEHA training opportunities on the web site, which can be researched through the link at LEHA.net.

Outgoing President Report

Marian Aguillard briefly discussed her LEHA activities for the past year and also suggested new ideas to consider in the future, such as awarding hard work and longevity. She also suggested that LEHA should work on trying to establish the Governor's Environmental Health Day.

Incoming President Introduced

Walter Pichon, our incoming 2004 President expressed that his affiliation with NEHA has shown him new positive leadership, as well as positive practices through certifications. He also said that the state agencies were good places to work.

Other Business

Joan Adams asked for volunteers for judging the State Science Fair projects this year. She indicated that any volunteers should be prepared to stay all day, but the experience was very rewarding. She and Betty met many people and were fed a nice lunch. The Fair is normally held at the LSU indoor track in February or March of each year.

Election Results

The totals were counted; the new Board members are as follows:

Board positions ending in January 2008 are:

Henry Graham
Linda Brown
Martin Guidry
Chris Mayeux

Board position ending in January 2006 is:

Carol Petranek

Two alternates are:

Holly Herrmann
Judy McCleary

Next Board Meeting

To be announced via email sent to each board member. General membership is also invited.

Adjournment

President Walter Pichon adjourned the meeting at 2:05 pm.