



Louisiana Environmental Health Association
Board Meeting Agenda
LDEQ, Galvez Bldg, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, LA
Conference Center, Rooms C-103 & 104, Manchac & Mobile
Video Conferencing at ARO (Laf) and SERO (Harahan-Rm 118)
May 21, 2008

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President James Miller at 9:05 am.

Judy McLeary had to leave early and therefore, gave her report regarding the 2009 Conference to the Board. Judy discussed the possible dates for the conference as: January 28-30, 2009 or February 4-6, 2009, with a possible location of New Orleans. Judy, Sharon, and Claudia will make site visits to possible conference locations soon. Beverly will make the determination on the numerous possibilities. Judy indicated that the conference committee was also looking at sponsorships for sessions or vendors. The sponsorship letters were to be submitted early summer. Beverly also suggested that a sponsorship subcommittee be formed, removing the state persons from the group.

Roll Call: Jodi Miller, Secretary.

Those present were: Jason Fontenot, Henry Graham, Holly Herrmann, , Chris Mayeux, Judy McCleary, James Miller, Jodi Miller, Nathan Mills, Sharon Parker, Claudia Richard, Pete Romanowsky, Bill Schramm, Beverly Smiley, Jessica Schwarz, and Tammy Toups. Michael Griffis, an intern working with Jessica also attended the meeting.

Those excused were: Steve Aguillard, Terry Bonnette, Jeff Jackson, Jennifer Pelloat, Carol Petranek, and Susan Welch. Absent was John Koury, Jr.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Mayeux, Treasurer. Conference expenses were \$7,080.10 and the conference income was \$4,560 + a \$500 Conference Sponsorship from the Louisiana Chemical Association. ****Thank you Henry****. The following were recent expenses: NEHA Membership for James Miller as President of the association (\$95), the scholarship fund award at the conference (\$1000), and the Envirothon award (\$300). Chris also stated that the scholarship investment of \$35,000 will be reinvested. Our current scholarship balance is \$38,862.28. A question was asked and James mentioned for the benefit of everyone that the scholarship award is given from interest gained, and not from the investment.

Committee reports are as follows:

- A. **Membership** – Jessica Schwarz, Chair (Chris Mayeux, Jodi Miller, Carol Petranek, Jason Fontenot). Jessica indicated that there was some online brainstorming sessions regarding membership as well as some meetings with Publicity, and the Education and Information Committee. A brochure will be developed indicating the benefits to be a member of LEHA. Beverly worked on this but the expense was too great for her to absorb, so Jessica volunteered to work on the design portion. Jessica also mentioned the possibility of paying dues, conference fees using “Pay Pal”. She will research the possibility and determine if there are any fees for the service.
- B. **Publicity** – Beverly Smiley, Chair (Sharon Parker, Bill Schramm). Beverly mentioned that there were press releases in several newspapers and other business report papers, such as the “Business Report, April 22, 2008 and May 6, 2008 issues, and The Advocate, April 13, 2008 issue (copy of each given to Jodi for records). James mentioned that he googled and noticed a few others. Thank you Beverly for getting this done. Tammy asked if the press release had been sent to the Houma

papers, and Beverly indicated that it went to all major papers as well as many local, and that Houma was probably on the list, but she will check.

- C. **Awards** – Claudia Richard, Chair (Jennifer Pelloat, Jodi Miller). No report.
- D. **Education & Information** (Newsletter) – John Koury, Chair (Monica Montero, Jodi Miller). Reported above with the Membership report.
- E. **Constitution & Bylaws** – Susan Welch, Chair (Jim Balsamo, Bill Schramm). No report.
- F. **Nominations** – Steve Aguillard, Chair (Henry Graham, Marian Aguillard). Henry indicated that meetings will be held for this at a later time.
- G. **Resolution** – Holly Herrmann, Chair (Carol Petranek, Tammy Toups). Holly asked if there were any resolution ideas. Sharon mentioned that we had not done anything for the passing of Past President Claude Lewis. After discussion, it was determined that \$100 would be donated to the scholarship fund in Claude's name. Jodi also mentioned that she noted Claude's passing in the LEHA History that she is currently updating. There was also discussion about the past concurrent resolution and proclamation for the Health and Environmental professionals and whether it was recurring. Holly will revise the old documents and submit to Henry to be introduced to the Legislature.
- H. **Professional Development** – Judy McCleary, Vice-President, Chair (Beverly Smiley, Sharon Parker, Claudia Richard, Jodi Miller, Marian Aguillard, Jeff Jackson). Continued from above, Beverly noted that a committee meeting was held on May 7, and that the consensus was that we would go on the themes of rebuilding green and the green movement in general. We discussed the rebuilding of the New Orleans infrastructure, specifically the sewerage, and the possibility of Day 1: a ½ day trip to the Water & Sewer facility with the Director of the Water & Sewer Board as a speaker or a tour at one of the wetland assimilations projects, either Hammond or New Orleans East. Casual dinner the first night; Day 2: Registration, breakfast, President Miller, opening remarks, Secretary of DEQ, try to get Mitch Landrieu to present information on his "Eco-Tourism", the Chlorine Council can sponsor a speaker from NEHA to talk about water issue (water supplies and safe drinking water issues, Ron Foreman with the Audubon Institute (Zoo and Aquarium) and how they dealt with the animals after the storm and getting back on line. Jason had an idea regarding Southern University's "Urban Forestry" program, recycling (city/urban plan), green energy used by the sugar mills, solar energy used to make Sun Chips, *Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). Tammy also suggested a health topic on the increased mold counts in the New Orleans area. Ending day 2 with a hospitality. Day 3: Green Buildings: a panel of home builders, possibly a speaker with the US Green Building Council. James suggested including LSU's smart house. Also, Beverly mentioned possible speakers such as Jerry Jones with Facility Planning (state facilities) as new buildings will be built and/or renovated, closing remarks and lunch. Other suggestions for speaker topics mentioned were: hypoxia, green products talk from EPA RCRA, green tips from Philips for environmental safe mercury and other issues.

Sharon indicated that they needed a budget for the reception. Sponsorships were discussed.

Adhoc Committee Reports:

- **Louisiana Environmental Leadership Program** – Nathan Mills, Chair (Henry Graham). Nathan indicated that the EPA and LDEQ would be holding a meeting in Shreveport to talk to the businesses about waste minimization, reuse and mercury issues.
- **Web Report** – Jodi Miller, Chair. Jodi indicated that the LEHA web page was updated with the Envirothon winners of the \$300 scholarship from LEHA as well as the 2007 conference pictures and 2008 presentations. She is still working on updating the LEHA History, and will be submitting the 2008 Scholarship article soon.
- **NEHA Update** "NEHA News at <http://www.neha.org/NEHA-News.html> " Jeff Jackson, Chair. Past President Robert Freeman was sitting in for Jeff. Robert indicated that there was no report.
- **Adhoc Committee** – Terry Bonnette, Chair (Jessica Schwarz). Native American Environmental Outreach Committee. No Report from Terry. Jessica did mention that she was working with the tribes on the "sharps program" as presented at the conference from the Safe Needles Council.

Old Business: *Action Item from March* The membership dues need to be mailed. The deadline was set at around June 5, 2008. The Board agreed to help wherever they can if the Treasurer needed help. Jessica also mentioned that we could send additional information out such as the revised pamphlet mentioned earlier, etc with the dues notice. The Board agreed.

Old Business: *Action Item* NEHA contacted Steve prior to the change in presidents and asked if LEHA was interested in holding a NEHA Workshop. In addition, James was contacted by NEHA regarding LEHA holding the NEHA Conference in New Orleans in the future. Discussion. The Board indicated that they would like to look into that possibility. It was mentioned that in March Carol and Susan were interested in looking into this. Jessica mentioned that NEHA had venues until 2012, so if it was held in New Orleans, it would be after that time.

Next Meeting: **September 24, 2008**
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602 North 5th Street
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Adjournment: 10:40 am