



Arkansas Board of Health Education 7/21/2015 – Meeting Minutes

Present: Alison Rose, Carrie Poston, Dechantria Wallace, Becky Hall, Rosemary Alcon

Minutes: Minutes from April 21, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

Discussion: In follow up to a previous discussion, the question regarding course of action (if any) when a person is known to practice under title of “public health educator” but does not hold CHES or MCHES credential:

Carrie took previous questions to ADH attorney who provided the following response:

A 2014 policy of the AR Dept of Health states that their employees who practice under the title Public Health Educator do not require certification. The previous title was Certified Public Health Educator.

Group discussed again the intent of the act which is that those who claim to practice health education should be certified to do so. Group acknowledged that the ADH policy is directed at its own employees and does not dictate direction of the Board. Question arose as to whether Board should respond to ADH to address intent of law and point out that their referenced policy is not aligned with the intent of the law.

Action: Alison will seek additional legal review from a non-involved party, albeit informal. Questions we hope to answer remain:

Act – Section 2 first page – is Act only about certified people?

What are the Board’s options with regard to responding to a situation in which one is practicing as a health educator without certification?

Action: Rosemary will discuss intent of law with Dr. Jacquie Rainey who was instrumental in its passing.

Action: Dechantria will review laws of other states, if any.

Treasury Report: Treasurer Carrie Poston reported a balance (as of 6/30/15) of \$5,520.08. There are no uncleared expenses. A recent audit by the State of Arkansas was conducted. Initial verbal feedback from the audit is that there are no problems noted. A written report is forthcoming.

Membership: Membership appointments remain in tact in the upcoming fiscal year for: Alison (Chair), Becky (Hearing Officer), Carrie (Treasurer), Dechantria (Secretary). Board needs to seek appointments for 2 CHES/MCHES and 1 non-certified person. Carrie submitted 4 nominees to the Governor’s office and

will follow up to determine if progress has been made. Alison will reach out to the Community Health Centers of AR to see if they can nominate a non-certified individual.

Next meeting: October 20, 12:00 PM, UAMS and via ITV