

Rocky Mountain Center Occupational and Environmental Health Advisory Board Meeting

May 18, 2007

Board Members:

Dennis Lloyd	Chair, Senior V.P., Gen. Counsel, Workers Comp. Fund
Don Marano	Vice Chair, President, IHI Environmental
Craig Allen	Director of Safety, Security, & Environmental Health
William Brady	Medical Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory
Dave Creer	President, Utah Trucking Association
Rob Gardner	Liberty Mutual Insurance Group
Kim Heimsath	Director, Environmental & Safety, Questar Gas
Roger Jensen	Associate Professor, Montana Tech
Dean Lillquist	Director, OSHA Technical Center
Maureen Newman	President, Utah Association of Occ. Health Nurse
Dianne R. Nielson	Executive Director, Dept. of Environmental Quality
C. David Richards	President/Chairman, Richards Memorial Med. Found.
J. Michael Taylor	Manager, Health & Environmental Issues, LDS Church
Michael Magill	Ex-officio Board Member

Participants:

Kurt Hegmann	Director, RMCOEH
Rod Larson	Program Director, Industrial Hygiene & HSAT
Don Bloswick	Program Director, Ergonomics & Safety, OIPRT
Norm Waitzman	Program Director, Statistical & Economic Evaluation
Leon Pahler	Assistant Professor, Industrial Hygiene
Scott Collingwood	Research Associate, Industrial Hygiene
Rich Sesek	Research Assistant, Professor, Ergo & Safety
Deanne Clegg	Administrative Assistant
Toni Chambers	Executive Secretary

I. Welcome and Introductions.

Dr. Kurt Hegmann welcomed the Board
a. RMCOEH Advisory Board member introduced themselves.

II. Open & Public Meetings Act (Handouts)

Dr. Hegmann noted that new legislation, SB234, requires that the RMCOEH Advisory Board comply with the Open Public Meetings Act. Therefore the meeting notice was posted on the website and in the building and the meeting is to be recorded (see below).

III. Introduction and Overview of the RMCOEH, Funding, Grants and Activities

Board Members were given copies of each of the Abstracts, from the NIOSH Grant submission. Each program was briefly discussed regarding what they teach, require and accomplish. Board members questioned how the programs are run and how the proposed MSOH degree will affect students.

IV. RMCOEH Organizational Roles (Handout)

The Roles were reviewed and a discussion about the role of the RMCOEH Advisory Board was discussed. It was particularly noted that the RMCOEH Advisory Board has advisory oversight duties on fiscal issues involving the RMCOEH.

A. SB 234 (Handout)

B. Bylaws of the Advisory Board of the RMCOEH (Handout)

V. Chair and Vice Chair Elections

The floor was opened for nomination for Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Craig Allen nominated Mr. Dennis Lloyd for chair. The was seconded by Dr. Dianne Nielson. Mr. Dennis Lloyd nominated Mr. Don Marano, and Dr. C. David Richards seconded the nomination. Mr. Dennis Lloyd moved to end nominations. Ballots were cast and Mr. Dennis Lloyd was elected Chair of the RMCOEH Advisory Board.

Nominations were opened for Vice Chair

Mr. Dennis Lloyd nominated Mr. Don Marano for Vice Chair. It was seconded by Dr. C. David Richards. As there were no further nominations, Dr. C. David Richards moved the, by acclamation, Mr. Don Marano be elected RMCOEH Advisory Board Vice Chair. The Board voted unanimously in support of Mr. Don Marano.

Dr. Hegmann noted that per the RMCOEH Advisory Board Bylaws, the Department Chairs were to be consulted for approval of the Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair. Dr. Magill voiced his approval of the new Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Dennis Lloyd took over the meeting, asking Dr. Kurt Hegmann to give the Center Director Report.

VI. Center Director Report

A. Accolades (Handouts)

Dr. Hegmann highlighted several accolades. The conference on multicultural issues included: 218 people in attendance at conference. Also, the Paul S. Richards Safe Workplace Scholarships are to be awarded at the WCF Safety Traditions Luncheon, on May 31, 2007.

B. Newsletter (Fifth Edition, June)

Mr. Dave Creer noted the quality of the newsletter was good and suggested it would be a good idea to circulate it more widely.

C. ERC Grant (status)

The summary of the critiques of the RMCOEH NIOSH application were discussed. The Center scores were highlighted. It was noted that nearly all proposed programs are likely to be funded. A letter highlighting misperceptions in the OIPRT and Post-Doc programs was reviewed. The OIPRT is likely to be funded and the Post-Doc looks possible. It was discussed that the distance education issue is set for consideration at a retreat this summer

There was a discussion about the comment in the critiques, regarding tenure for Dr. Hegmann, the School of Medicine's involvement and how the University works. Dr. Magill indicated that tenure is not the same at the University of Utah as elsewhere. Mr. Lloyd noted this should be kept on the agenda for the RMCOEH Advisory Board Executive Committee, as well as enumerating other Center Directors positions and the expectations of NIOSH.

D. Other Grant

We are still awaiting news on our Truckers Health Study application.

E. MS in Occupational Safety & Health

This is a continuation item from the October RMCOEH Advisory Board Meeting. Dr. Hegmann noted that Dr. Magill had helped immensely in shepherding the degree proposal through the University and that we had just received approval to move forward by the Graduate Council.

VII. Budget Issues

The budget was reviewed, and there was a discussion about where RMCOEH funding comes from. Individual grant and account budgets were briefly reviewed. Mr. Lloyd would like the RMCOEH Advisory Board Executive Committee to monitor the State support, which has dropped, and **report back at the RMCOEH Advisory Board's next meeting.**

VIII. Annual SB159 Legislative Fiscal Analyst Report

The 2005 report was filed last year and 2006 is in draft form and is due July 1, 2007. The sources of funding were reported. An ad hoc committee was formed consisting of: Craig Allen, J. Michael Taylor, Rich Sesek, and Rob Gardner. The charge of the committee is to help identify additional funding sources under the SB 159 mechanism. The RMCOEH Advisory Board Executive Committee will follow up and report back to the RMCOEH Advisory Board.

IX. Strategic Objectives

Under the terms of SB234, a report is to be made by July 1, 2007 to the Legislature and the University President. The purpose of this report is to detail RMCOEH accomplishments and to suggest how occupational health and safety can be improved and to offer ideas how the economy can benefit from safer more productive work sites. RMCOEH has just a month to prepare the report.

X. Annual Report to President Young and Legislature's Business and Labor Interim Committee

The Board discussed issues proposed to be in the Annual Report. Those issues are:

Accomplishments, including the outstanding ERC score.

Plans for next year

Future accomplishments

Graduates

People to train

Also discussed was who the audience will be and what they will want to know, that it needs to be direct, action oriented and with forward thinking. Yet, Mr. Dave Creer noted it also must be succinct.

It was brought up that a major concern of employers is overall health care costs. That RMCOEH should partner with employers to reduce the overall health care cost and further reduce the expense of employers. The re-institution of the OHN program should be a point mentioned as well.

A tentative timeline was set for drafting the report:

May 25: Board Members submit ideas and thoughts to Dr. Hegmann and he will complete a first draft.

June 8: Second draft due

June 22: Final approval by board

June 29: Sent in for due date of July 1, 2007

(NOTE: This meeting was recorded, but due to a recorder malfunction, no audio was captured.)

Date for Next Meeting: October 19, 2007, 12:00 noon

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Approved by

Dennis V. Lloyd, Chair