



WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF SANITARIANS

P.O. Box 927
Charleston, West Virginia 25323

Board Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2026
Zoom conference Meeting

- The Meeting was called to order by Warren Elmer, Chair @ 10:03 AM.
- Verification of quorum which was approved with 5 Board Members, along with the CFO, Linda Lyter, and Executive Director, Linda Whaley.

- Attendees present:

Warren Elmer, Chair

AJ Root

Brad Cochran

Lloyd White

JJ Rose

Linda Lyter, CFO

Linda Whaley, Executive Director

Guests in attendance were Alexis Davy, VJ Davis, Michael Bolen, Chad Bundy, Anthony Defelice

- Quorum was verified by Chairman, Warren Elmer.
- Warren asked if everyone had read over the previous meeting minutes. Lloyd White made a motion to approve as presented, AJ Root seconded and the motion carried.
- Financial report was given by Linda Lyter. Lloyd asked about the position of the Board regarding financial projections. Linda Lyter stated that the Board was in good shape. JJ made the motion to approve the financial report. AJ seconded the motion and the motion carried.

- Training Committee: Lloyd reported that the committee had not met due to several factors. One being legislation that was introduced. AJ reported that the legislation was not well written with some of the language being inconsistent throughout the document. AJ has collaborated with VJ and others and rewritten bill 4463 to submit to the Senate. AJ discussed adding a five (5) year experience requirement for a person to be able to conduct OJT. VJ talked about a lobbyist that Local Health Association is working with is currently working with the attorney to the Government Org Committee. Brad stated that he has thought about the proposals that the Center for Local Health introduced. He thinks that a pay raise would have helped. He discussed other states surrounding WV and all of them still require a bachelor's degree. He thinks we need to leave the current education requirement in place. AJ commented on the professionalism issues that seem to be pervasive on both sides, the trainee as well as the training staff. JJ said that he has 0 zero going to an associate degree requirement for the Sanitarian 1 position. Local health departments need a bigger pool of people to choose from when filling a position. The problem is that the register is very limited when it comes to filling positions. Local health is looking at losing money due to not meeting standards when audited which is a direct result of staffing issues.
- AJ asked to hear from other administrators on the call. VJ says he thinks we need to allow the associate degree. Brad brought up the NEHA requirement for a bachelor's degree for the RS. AJ said that the associate degree is only for the entry level position of a Sanitarian 1. Lloyd stated that he doesn't like to change to the associate degree but for the profession we must make changes. Michael Bolen stated that with societal changes many people don't see the value in the bachelor's degree. Chad said that this is an opportunity to shape the legislation and that we need to take advantage of the opportunity.
- Linda Whaley spoke about a request from NEHA to make a change to the letter we send to people wanting to test. The change would notify perspective test takers of the fee change in relation to ADA accommodations.
- Crystal Lough sent a question to Warren regarding the training committee.
- Linda Whaley gave information on the status of registration renewals.
- Next meeting date is scheduled for May 15th at 10:00 a.m.
- Lloyd made the motion to adjourn, 2nd by AJ and the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:30a.m.