



U.S. Public Health Service Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC)



Meeting #252 Minutes, 14JUN2022

I. Call to Order –CAPT Jessica Havranek

The meeting was called to order at 1300 ET.

II. Roll Call –CDR Corey Butler, Secretary/Treasurer

Roll call was performed; a quorum was confirmed.

Voting Member Attendance Status: Present, Absent, Excused

Last Name	First Name	Rank	Status	Name of Alternate in Attendance
Bales	David	CDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Bird	Bill	CDR	Excused	CDR Robert Gibbs
Butler	Corey	CDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Darr	Charles	CDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Dittrich	Michelle	CDR	Present	LCDR Kyle Moller
Erling	Doug	LCDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Evans	Erin	CDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Frank	Samuel	LCDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Ferry	Krista	LCDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Galvez	Steven	LCDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Havranek	Jessica	CAPT	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Hickey	Braden	LT	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Hunter	Candis	CDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Kupper	Drew	CDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
McLanahan	Eva	CDR	Excused	CDR Jona Johnson
McNamara	Kathryn	LT	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Merritt	Steven	LCDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Otto	Jessica	CDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Quinn	Mike	CAPT	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Smith	Martin	CDR	Present	Click or tap here to enter text.
Williams	Racquel	CDR	Excused	LT Aubree Kelly

III. Chief Professional Officer Report – CAPT Timothy Jiggins

- Provided EHOPAC Environmental Health Officer State of the Category Update (See PowerPoint)

IV. Chair Report – CAPT Jessica Havranek

- Provided the State of the PAC (See PowerPoint)
 - Acknowledged the work and contributions of the executive committee, voting membership, volunteers, alternates, and stakeholder liaisons and the guidance of the Chief Professional Officer
 - Described the PAC’s organizational structure and the vision statement
 - Detailed major responsibilities of each subcommittee
 - Reminded attendees how to get involved in the work of the PAC and how to keep in touch with its activities
 - The state of the PAC is strong, resilient, and dedicated to its mission, the Corps, and the category’s officers

V. Chair-Elect – CDR Erin Evans

- Call for new Voting Members (VMs)
 - Now Accepting Self-Nomination packages
 - 5 Open EHOPAC Seats
 - Open to ALL AGENCIES
 - Term 01JAN2023-31DEC2025
 - Application deadline 15JUL2022
 - Packages should include:
 - 2022 Self Nomination Form with supervisory approval
 - Current CV
 - Statement of Interest
 - **Selectees will be reviewed to ensure there are no Adverse Action Forms per CCI 211.07**
 - Components of a Strong Application Package
 - We often receive inquiries on how to submit a strong application package. Below are a few recommendations:
 - Active participation on an EHOPAC subcommittee as a volunteer
 - Awareness of current EHOPAC activities, initiatives, and priorities
 - Interest in chairing an EHOPAC subcommittee
 - Success as a leader in other organizations (JOAG, COA, NEHA, AIHA, etc.)
 - Strong written commitment (documented in your statement of interest, see below)
 - Willingness to devote a significant amount of personal time to the EHOPAC during your 3-year term
 - Timeline:
 - 14JUN22: Announce open seats at General PAC meeting
 - 15JUN22-15JUL22: Solicitation via ListServ and Facebook
 - 29JUL22: Self-nomination packages sent to VMs
 - 09AUG22: Open discussion during business meeting
 - 10AUG22-02SEP22: VMs review and vote
 - 13SEP22: Have votes tallied, announce new VMs at General PAC meeting, via ListServ, and October EHO Assessment
 - 30SEP22: Send appointment packages to OSG

VI. Ex-Officio – CDR Jessica Otto

- Discussed three changes to EHOPAC Voting Member Process
 - Define Agency – align with CCHQ
 - Voting Member Allocation Changes
 - Chair-Elect eligibility

VII. Secretary/Treasurer Report –CDR Corey Butler

- Encourage EHOs review EHOPAC Minutes on EHOPAC website

VIII. Executive Committee Liaison Report – LCDR Steven Merritt

Liaison Reports

- LCDR Merritt reviewed the current slate of liaisons to the EHOPAC, as follows:
- Minority Officer Liaison Council – LT Adelaida Rosario and LCDR Jorge Muniz Ortiz
- Junior Officer Advisory Group – LCDR Sandra Carpio
- National Environmental Health Association – Heather Folker
- Commissioned Officers Association – LCDR James Gooch
- American Industrial Hygiene Association – CAPT Bradley King
- American Academy of Sanitarians – CAPT Wendy Fanaselle, Ret.
- Environmental Health Accreditation Council – CAPT Michael Quinn
- Commissioned Corps Women’s Issues Advisory Board – CAPT Carolyn Oyster

Minority Officer Liaison Council – LT Adelaida Rosario and LCDR Jorge Muniz Ortiz

- Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC):
 - The council is the umbrella to the Surgeon General’s Chartered Minority Advisory Groups (CMAG), of which there are four:
 - American Indian/Alaskan Native Commissioned Officers Advisory Committee (AIANCOAC)
 - Asian Pacific American Officers Committee (APAOC)
 - Black Commissioned Officers Advisory Group (BCOAG)
 - Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC)
 - Serves as a resource to assist in the activities related to ethnic minority officers in the Public Health Service
- LCDR Jorge G. Muñiz Ortiz and LT Adelaida (Adi) Rosario are the MOLC Liaisons to the EHOPAC
- Objectives of EHOPAC MOLC Liaison:
 - Share important information pertinent to officers who consider themselves racial or ethnic minorities
 - Foster and support resolution of issues of concern as they relate to your category’s racial or ethnic minority officers
- Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC) Award to LCDR Sandra Carpio
 - HOAC Juan Carlos Finlay Award for Significant Achievement
 - Awarded to LCDR Sandra Carpio personally by VADM(R) Richard Carmona (17th Surgeon General) at the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in Glendale, AZ in May 2022
 - In recognition of her role in managing a \$19M interagency agreement between FEMA and ASPR for over 20 recovery projects in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria

Junior Officer Advisory Group – LCDR Sandra Carpio

- New Announcements
 - Virtual 10K walk or 5K run with JOAG Public Health Awareness Subcommittee – 03JUL2022
 - June’s Practicing Wellness – “Fear of the Unknown”
- JOAG Meet and Greet Events
 - Baltimore, MD virtual event – 17JUN2022
 - Farmington, NM in-person & virtual event – 19JUN2022
 - Farmington, NM in-person event – 24JUN2022
 - Phoenix, AZ virtual event – 24JUN2022
- Volunteer Opportunities
 - Membership Committee seeks officers to serve as Meet and Greet (M&G) Regional Leads
- Ongoing Announcements
 - JOAG is soliciting feedback from all Junior officers on any PHS-related questions, concerns, or input through Junior Officer “JO” Voice
 - Peer-to-Peer Network Program is seeking both mentors and mentees
 - Readiness and Deployment Committee is seeking deployment narratives

Commissioned Officers Association – LCDR James Gooch

- Thanks to attendees of 2022 Symposium- next year in Tulsa, OK
- Legislative priorities for 117th Congress:
 - Permanent solution to 60-day limit on leave carryover
 - Parity in Military Lending Act (10 U.S.C. §987) and Family/Medical Leave Act (29 U.S.C Chapter 28)
 - Seeking a legislative solution to ensure that USPHS officers are paid during government shutdowns
 - Parental leave parity with the Armed Forces
 - Inclusion of USPHS in veterans’ preference for federal hiring in 5 U.S.C.
 - Eligibility for National Park Service’s free pass program
- Check and renew your membership today!

American Industrial Hygiene Association – CAPT Bradley King

- The 2023 American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Expo (AIHce EXP) heads to Phoenix, AZ on 22–24MAY2023. The [submission portal](#) for abstracts (e.g., Professional Development Courses [PDCs], technical sessions, posters) opened 06JUN2022, with a submission deadline of 14SEPT2022. Acceptance notifications will be sent in November.
- The Product Stewardship Society, an affiliate of AIHA, is hosting their Conference (PSX 2022) 18–20OCT2022, in Louisville, KY, and registration is [now open](#). Product Stewardship responsibly manages the health, safety, and environmental aspects of raw materials, intermediates and consumer products through their life cycle.
- A newly formed Thermal Stress Working Group will develop tools and educational materials for thermal stress, with a focus on occupational heat exposure. [Open to AIHA members and non-members](#).
- Interested in serving as a leader within the Association, or know someone who would? AIHA has open calls for members to serve in various volunteer leadership capacities throughout the year. Check out the latest AIHA [open calls](#) for volunteer opportunities, updated regularly.

American Academy of Sanitarians – CAPT Wendy Fanaselle, Ret.

- Davis Calvin Wagner Sanitarian Award

- A new Wagner award winner for 2022 has been selected and the award will be presented to the new Award winner during the NEHA AEC Awards ceremony in Spokane, WA on 30JUN2022. This session can also be viewed virtually through virtual AEC registration.
- The 2022 AAS Annual Business luncheon Meeting will be held on 30JUN2022 from 1100-1530 Pacific Time, at the NEHA AEC in Spokane, WA. This meeting will also be available for virtual attendance through AEC virtual meeting registration.
 - [Representative: CAPT Wendy Fanaselle \(Retired\) new email: wlfanaselle@comcast.net](mailto:wlfanaselle@comcast.net)
 - [Website: www.Sanitarrians.org](http://www.Sanitarrians.org)
 - The American Academy of Sanitarrians is dedicated to improving the practice, elevating the standards, and advancing the profession of environmental health. Diplomate status represents the highest certification available in the field of environmental health
- Who Can Become a Diplomate?
Membership covers the breadth of the environmental health profession. Certification by the Academy is a peer-reviewed process and is open to persons who have attained high professional stature through leadership and environmental health accomplishments.
 - For more info, download this brochure on the AAS:
- <http://www.sanitarrians.org/resources/Documents/JEH%20Columns/AAS%20brochure%20October%202021.pdf>
- If you have any questions on AAS membership or on the AAS business meeting, please contact Diplomate [CAPT Wendy Fanaselle \(Retired\)](mailto:wlfanaselle@comcast.net) for more information at wlfanaselle@comcast.net

Environmental Health Accreditation Council – CAPT Michael Quinn

- EHAC is the only non-profit organization in the United States that accredits stand-alone Environmental Health Academic Programs
- EHAC accredits programs providing applied, STEM-based professional degree programs
- Benefits of Attending an EHAC Accredited School:
 - Eligibility to participate in the [US Public Health Service \(USPHS\) sponsored JRCOSTEP internship program.](#)
 - Exclusive access to the [National Environmental Health Association’s \(NEHA\) National Environmental Public Health Internship Program \(NEPHIP\)](#)
 - Eligibility to compete for scholarships and internships provided by EHAC's sister organization, the [Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs \(AEHAP\) and NSF International.](#)

Commissioned Corps Women’s Issues Advisory Board – CAPT Carolyn Oyster

- Purpose
 - To identify & analyze key issues impacting women in the USPHS
 - To develop action plans to address these issues
- New Executive Chair: RADM Richardae Araujo (FDA, Office of Minority Hlth & Hlth Equity)
- CCWIAB revised charted approved 9MAY2022 to include an updated process on Voting Membership
- Note: Solicitations soon for EHOPAC VM for 2023-2025
- CCWIAB presented current events/projects to Admiral Levine in April/May 2022
- Successful CCWIAB Booth at PHS Symposium – Thank you to LT Braden Hickey for EHO footprint
- Anti-Harassment Committee highlight:
 - Close collaboration with SOAGDAG on 2 projects relating to uniforms/grooming and medical accession standards
- CCWIAB presenting to RADM Hinton in June 2022 about key priorities:

- New Army policies related to reproductive health and potential USPHS policy alignment
- MAB policies to related to above
- Clarification of parental leave policy (and related legislative process)
- Update on anti-harassment and discrimination activities to include policy proposal and collaborations with COTA, Corps Care and SOAGDAG

IX. Open Discussion

History – CDR Smith and CDR Bird

- History SC is incorporating EC feedback into ECHO Journal and anticipates announcing the official publication before the end of July 2022
- History SC APAN Folder has been reorganized to make navigation easier
- Generic retirement letter for the Retiree Recognition Program is continuing, recognizing 2021 retirees

Training and Events – LCDR Frank and LCDR Galvez

- 2022 EHO Category Day
 - After Action Report
 - We are looking for an EHO to join our Symposium Planning Team
 - 3-yr commitment starting September 2022 through 2025
 - Applications are due **Wednesday, June 22**
 - Process
 - Officers interested in this leadership opportunity should send an [email](#) with self-nomination by Wednesday, June 22nd, with the following items to: Sandra.Carpio@hhs.gov; ijg0@cdc.gov; and Kelly.Genskow@hhs.gov
 - *Statement confirming supervisory concurrence* (i.e. email attached or written confirmation with supervisor CC'ed in email)
 - *Statement confirming a 3-year commitment* to Symposium Planning Team and attendance at each Category Day (even if at own expense)
 - *Current CV* in EHOPAC format
 - *1-Page Personal Statement* briefly addressing the following questions:
 - Describe your interest in serving as a Symposium Planner, including what skills or ideas you would bring to the planning process.
 - If you could change one thing about EHO Category Day, what would you change and why?
- Events
 - COF Symposium EHO Social
 - NEHA Social
 - Drafting RSVP invite
- Training
 - Training Listserv Website Change Request form submitted

X. Adjournment –CAPT Jessica Havranek

The meeting was adjourned at 1453 ET