EJAB Appointment Update

Purpose
1. Update the EJAB bylaws to allow for mid-term appointments as needed.
2. Update the appointment schedule to standardize appointment dates.
3. Stagger the appointment schedule to encourage continuity of the board.

Proposal
When positions are filled for a part of a term where less than 2 years remain, members will be appointed to fill the remainder of the existing term in order to maintain a consistent reappointment date and to keep the odd and even year balance.

Determine half of the available board appointments to be on odd and even years, starting January 1. New terms will run through January 1, 2021 or January 1, 2022. After 2020 all term reappointments or filled vacancies will fill the term vacancy remaining or full two years if at the start of the year.

Reasoning
The current bylaws read that each member is appointed for a two year term. This has led to a mix of term reappointment dates which is will only become exacerbated as new members are added to fill available spaces on the Board. The mix of term reappointment dates adds increased clerical work to DEP staff and increases the likelihood that members may not be serving in accordance with the bylaws. Having all EJAB members reappointment date on the same year increases the likelihood of a completely new board, losing institutional knowledge.

Actions Needed
Update the bylaws to read, “The Secretary of the Department shall appoint or reappoint members of the Board at his or her discretion to a two year term appointment or to complete an existing vacant term.”

Considerations
Chair and Vice Chair Elections
Should Chair and Vice-Chair be on the same year schedule to allow for smoother elections, team candidacies or on opposite schedules to promote continuity if one chooses to not complete their term? The current bylaws text on elections allows for longer terms. “The officers of the Board may be elected at any meeting or special meeting of the board where quorum has been attained in accordance to Article V. Officers shall be elected by a simple majority of those members present at any meeting where a quorum has been attained, provided that written notice of the election shall be sent to each member at least one week prior to the meeting.”