**November 19, 2020**

**Meeting of the Coalition of Local Health Officials**

**Meeting Began: 11:11am**

**Executive Members:**

Present: Jocelyn Warren CLHO Chair, Lane; Katrina Rothenberger, Secretary/Treasurer, Marion; Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown, Crook, CLHO Legislative Committee Co-Chair; Joseph Fiumara, Coalition of Local Environmental Health Specialists, Umatilla

Absent: Carrie Brogoitti, Vice-Chair, Center for Human Development Union; Dr. Pat Luedtke, Health Officer’s Rep; Lindsey Manfrin, Public Health Administrators of Oregon, Yamhill

**Members Present (x if present)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| x | Baker - Nancy Staten |  | Hood River - Trish Elliot | x | Multnomah - Jessica Guernsey |
| x | Benton - Charlie Fautin | x | Jackson - Jackson Baures | x | North Central PHD - Shellie Campbell |
| x | Clackamas - Philip Mason-Joyner | x | Jefferson - Mike Baker | x | Polk - Jacqui Umstead |
|  | Clatsop - Mike McNickle | x | Josephine - Audrey Tiberio  |  | Tillamook - Marlene Putnam |
|  | Columbia - Mike Paul | x | Klamath - Jennifer Little | x | Umatilla - Joseph Fiumara |
| x | Coos - Anthony Arton |  | Lake - Judy Clarke |  | Union - Carrie Brogoitti |
| x | Crook - Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown | x | Lane - Jocelyn Warren | x | Washington - Tricia Mortell |
| x | Curry - Sheree Ward | x | Lincoln - Rebecca Austen |  | Wheeler - Karen Woods |
| x | Deschutes - George Conway |  | Linn - Shane Sanderson |  | Yamhill - Lindsey Manfrin |
| x | Douglas - Bob Dannenhoffer | x | Malheur - Sarah Poe |  |  |
|  | Grant - Jessica Winegar | x | Marion - Katrina Rothenberger |  | HO Caucus - Pat Luedtke |
| x | Harney - Nic Calvin | x | Morrow - Diane Kilkenny | x | CLEHS Caucus - Joseph Fiumara |
|  |  |  |  |  | AOPHNS - Vacant |
|  |  |  |  |  | PHAO - Lindsey Manfrin |

**Public Health Division:** Danna Drum, Cara Biddlecom

**Coalition of Local Health Officials:** Morgan Cowling, Executive Director; Laura Daily, Program Manager **Guests:** Florence Pourtal

**Guests:**

**Agenda:** No additions/updates to the agenda.

**Motion:** Mike Baker moved to approve the October 15th, 2020 minutes. Phillip Mason-Joyner seconded. Unanimous vote and motion approved.

**CLHO End of Year & 990 Financial Update:** Treasurer Katrina Rothenberger reviewed the CLHO 2019-20 balance sheet and income sheet available on CLHO’s website. She also reviewed the Quarter 1 balance sheet and Report including the movement of $2000 from the travel budget to the equipment budget for the purchase of new computers. Tricia Mortell asked if COLA increases were still available for CLHO staff. Morgan answered that the Program Manager position does have COLA increases while the Executive Director does not due to being at the top of the pay range.

**OHA Health Equity Definition Update:** Cara Biddlecom shared OHA’s definition of health equity and equity framework in order to help CLHO develop and adopt an equity statement. A discussion followed about what to include in the Coalition’s equity statement. Sarah Poe shared the equity statement Malheur County has adopted that is modeled after OHA but includes language around people with mental health disorders and people who use drugs. Cara stated that OHA’s definition of equity was created by the Health Equity Board, not public health, and that behavioral health is included in the discussion around the social determinants of health. Jocelyn Warren asked if the CLHO board is ready to adopt OHA’s equity statement or if there are additions. Florence stated that she supported adding the language Malheur County included. Jessica Guernsey requested the inclusion of a statement about the historical harm that public health has done. She is willing to provide something from Multnomah County at a later date. Morgan asked if CLHO members were willing to adopt the present OHA definition of health equity and adapt it with language we desire moving forward.

**Motion:** Tricia Mortell moved to adopt and adapt the OHA health equity. Florence seconded. Unanimous vote and motion approved.

**Legislative Session Prep & COVID Response Funding Advocacy:** Morgan Cowling began a discussion of how to prepare for the legislative session. While COVID is dominating conversations at this time, CLHO is also advocating for funding towards modernization as well as additional COVID response funding. There have been meetings with legislators in Yamhill and Marion Counties, and local public health officials in those counties were able to provide concrete examples of how previous modernization funding has helped current COVID response.

CLHO staff have also begun meeting with Association of Oregon Counties, other county lobbyists, and AFSCME to plan a town hall meeting in early January to advocate for modernization funds. There has also been discussions here and with the CLHO Legislative Committee around the public health funding cliff. The Legislative Committee would like the following information from each county: how much does it take per month to maintain your current response structure, what FTE is that, and how dire is it? Would administrators be able to provide that information if Morgan/Laura called? This will provide us with a tangible number to give legislators for either a special session or an Emergency Board funding request so they clearly understand the need. Jessica Guernsey responded that she could provide that information but that it is important to note that the information is not static. Morgan acknowledged that there would be caveats we must include. We would need to provide several numbers: a must-have number to keep lights on and another number to have an adequate COVID response. Rebecca Austen stated that she would be able to provide that. Sarah Poe stated that it would also be interesting to capture how turnover is affecting this because everything is complicated by and made more expensive by turnover. Jocelyn Warren and George Conway stated that this is also the case in their counties. Jocelyn also discussed wanting to find a way to share the workforce statewide (remotely) as she has many limited-duration staff whose terms are ending with no replacements available. Charlie Fautin also discussed the need for stable funding because training new employees and turnover also impacts staff morale. George asked about funding cliff and possible sources of future funding. Danna Drum and Cara Biddlecom discussed that there is not currently any visible funding source at this time. Morgan Cowling discussed that the Governor has not yet called for a special session and requested this committee be willing to let the CLHO Executive Board sign off on any request for funding from the Emergency Board if that is the best option. Morgan also asked again about administrators being able to provide numbers CLHO needs to make that request. Phillip Mason-Joyner stated that CLHO staff should use a tool or worksheet to ensure administrators provide consistent information. Morgan stated that CLHO staff will do follow-up calls if needed.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:01pm**