



August 20, 2020
Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials

Executive Members Present: Jocelyn Warren CLHO Chair, Lane; Carrie Brogoitti, Vice-Chair, Center for Human Development Union; Katrina Rothenberger, Secretary/Treasurer, Marion; Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown, Crook, CLHO Legislative Committee Co-Chair;

Absent: Dr. Pat Luedtke, Health Officer's Rep; Joseph Fiumara, Coalition of Local Environmental Health Specialists, Umatilla; Lindsey Manfrin, Public Health Administrators of Oregon, Yamhill

Members Present:

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|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baker – Nancy Staten | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hood River – Trish Elliot | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> North Central PHD – Shellie Campbell |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Benton – Charlie Fautin | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jackson – Jackson Baures | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Polk – Jacqui Umstead |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clackamas – Philip Mason-Joyner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jefferson – Mike Baker | <input type="checkbox"/> Tillamook – Marlene Putman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clatsop – Mike McNickel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Josephine – Audrey Tiberio | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Umatilla – Joseph Fiamara |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Columbia – Mike Paul | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Klamath – Jennifer Little | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Union – Carrie Brogoitti |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coos – Kathy Cooley (interim) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake – Judy Clarke | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington – Tricia Mortell |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crook – Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lane – Jocelyn Warren | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheeler – Karen Woods |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Curry – Sherrie Ward | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lincoln – Rebecca Austen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yamhill – Amanda Miller |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deschutes – George Conway | <input type="checkbox"/> Linn – Shane Sanderson | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Douglas – Bob Dannenhoffer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Malheur – Sarah Poe | <input type="checkbox"/> HO Caucus – Pat Luedtke |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant – Jessica Winegar | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marion – Katrina Rothenberger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CLEHS Caucus – Joseph Fiumara |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harney – Jolene Cawlfeld | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morrow – Diane Kilkenney | <input type="checkbox"/> AOPHNS – vacant |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Multco – Rachael Banks | <input type="checkbox"/> Lindsey Manfrin, Public Health Administrators |

Public Health Division: Danna Drum, Cara Biddlecom

Coalition of Local Health Officials: Morgan Cowling, Sierra Prior

Guests:



Agenda Review: No changes.

July 16th Minutes

Motion: Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown motioned to approve the July 16th Coalition Minutes. Tricia Mortell seconded. No discussion. No objections. Board approved.

August 6th Minutes

Motion: Jennifer Little motioned to approve July 2nd Coalition Minutes. Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown seconded. No discussion. No objections. Board approved.

Legislative Committee Appointments

Philip Mason-Joyner (Clackamas) and Heather Stuart (Crook) are appointed to the Legislative Committee

CLHO Legislative Committee Recommendations

Muriel DeLaVergne-brown presented. The committee had a two-hour meeting last week to choose specific legislative priorities. The committee discussed using a health equity lens in choosing priorities. The committee asked specific health equity questions for choosing actions in each legislative priority.

The full recommendations are in the CLHO Meeting materials for universally offered home visiting (UoHV), Public Health Modernization (PHM), and statewide tobacco retail licensing (TRL). There isn't a specific recommendation for TRL because the committee decided that there was more work to be done.

The Board was asked to vote on the two priorities for UoHV and PHM. Morgan Cowling reminded the board that they already approved these three priority buckets and asked the committee to do more work to narrow the scope of each priority.

Jocelyn Warren asked about the approach. In the past CLHO has discussed the value of this group to advocate for more funding than what OHA asks for. She asked how the legislative committee came to the decision to support the \$69 million POP. Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown said that the topic came up about whether to ask for more, and she asked for Morgan to elaborate. Morgan Cowling said the conversation was to align with the recommendation that OHA put forward to strengthen it and avoid confusion. There was some limited discussion



about advocating for more funding earlier on with the Governor's Office to help make the case for the need, but the committee supported aligning across the system rather than going further.

Tricia Mortell asked if this POP is in addition to current funding and how the \$69 million would be distributed. The Joint Leadership Team talked about it early in the day, and the \$69 million is in addition to the current \$15 million. The split would be 81% to "communities," which consists of LPHAs, Tribes, and CBOs. \$35 million of that would go to LPHAs.

George Conway said he appreciated people echoing enthusiasm for school nurses previously, and asked if there was a way for the Legislative Committee to push that. He asked if there were additional stats forthcoming on the nurse staffing ratio. He asked how funding for school nurses could fit in this. Morgan Cowling said that funding for school nurses is not part of the Modernization approach or the assessment. The distinction for legislative priorities is that these are areas we will work on ahead of session, but it is not an exhaustive list of priorities we will engage with to some extent during session. Morgan Cowling and Sierra Prior are keeping a list of legislative concepts as they hear about them. The Legislative Committee has been working on this process for some time, and school nurses were not included in the earlier steps, such as the survey for choosing priorities that was sent to public health administrators.

Morgan Cowling said she would follow-up on the stats for school nurse staffing ratios.

George Conway asked if other board members think it's important to pursue school nurse staffing. Morgan Cowling said that CLHO has worked with the School Nurse Association and ONA in previous sessions. There were other lobbying efforts we joined. These priorities do not preclude working on other issues. Morgan Cowling said CLHO staff can reach out to the School Nurse Association to see what their 2021 legislative priorities are.

Charlie Fautin added that these are the top issues, but that there will be others in the session. Sometimes it isn't possible to engage on other issues until we see Legislative Concepts introduced in session. The committee tries not to be exhaustive in prioritizing concepts otherwise they are not priorities.

George Conway asked about what happened with non-medical exemptions. Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown said the committee discussed that issue and understands that other entities will introduce the legislation. We will monitor what's happening with that issue, but it's not a top priority right now. Morgan Cowling added that the conversation was around CLHO Staff recommending narrowing down to three issues that CLHO will take a bigger



role on pushing forward. There are many other partners that are taking on vaccines, and CLHO will have an important role in that too. These are the three issues that others will not lead the charge on. Charlie Fautin said it's important to focus Morgan's limited time and capacity on priority issues. These issues are also a call to action for CLHO members to work with their commissioners and build local support to advance these issues, too. He emphasized that all of this will come back to the board and it's not a finished conversation at this point.

George Conway clarified that he thinks it's important for someone to advocate for school nurses, but his county is doing well on that issue so it's unlikely his county will advance it. He said it's important for someone more directly impacted to do advocacy on the issue.

Jocelyn Warren asked for clarification if the committee is seeking a vote. Morgan Cowling clarified that the agenda should have indicated that this was a motion from the Legislative Committee for board approval.

Bob Dannenhoffer seconded the motion from the Legislative Committee. No objections, No abstentions. Board approved.

Second Special Session of 2020 Update

There will likely be a third Special Session in September. The priority was to update budgets based on revenue in Oregon. Specifically for OHA-PHD, there was \$4.3 million in GF reduction, and some of it was in savings from a lack of travel and vacant positions. The Ways and Means Tri-Chairs looked to make reductions that would not impact the COVID response and they looked to areas with decreased utilization and programmatic savings. Areas impacting local public health were C-CARE and RHEA there was about \$1.6 mill GF reduced to those two programs. C-CARE gets a 9:1 federal match because of how effective the program is, so there was conversation about the match reductions. The legislature put a special purpose appropriate to the Emergency Board in case there is a pent up demand and an increase in service demand to cover that for the long run through the biennium. There was also a \$600,000 reduction in UoHV.

Surprisingly, there were a couple positives results of the budget conversations. Because of how the 2020 session ended there were budget changes that were never approved. The legislature invested GF into State Support for Public Health. Medical marijuana licensing fees have been supporting public health communicable disease work, but those licensing fees have been decreasing. The legislature removed those funds and replaced them with GF. There is no GF increase, but it means that the contract is protected from further reductions this biennium. There



was left over money from TPEP in the 2017-2019 biennium that was supposed to be carried forward that was finally realized. So there were several things that were favorable to maintain public health funding.

Request for participation in PHNCI – 21C

Sierra Prior explained that Oregon has regularly had local public health administrators and OHA-PHD staff participating in the PHNCI 21C learning community. The regular volunteers have been Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown and Charlie Fautin have been the longest consistent volunteers. With Charlie Fautin's upcoming retirement, he will be stepping back so there is an opening for volunteers to participate. PHNCI sends out communication through "State Leads" that includes OHA-PHD Staff and CLHO Staff. Over the past year Sierra Prior has been helping to coordinate reaching out to the local public health volunteers and with OHA-PHD to promote attending 21C. There was a virtual event at the end of August, but the current participants in Oregon didn't have capacity to attend. Jocelyn Warren reminded Sierra Prior that she has been interested in participating and that Tricia Mortell has participated too.

Jennifer Little asked for more background information about PHNCI-21C, and Sierra Prior asked for current volunteers to provide more information. Charlie Fautin explain that PHNCI is under the umbrella of PHAB, and that 21C is an exciting multistate effort to work on national public health foundational services and programs. It was funded initially by the RWJ Foundation to have a learning community for implementing the model. The core states were Oregon, Washington, and Ohio and all three states took different approaches to implementing the same model. This has grown and states are learning a lot from each other. Charlie Fautin said this is a valuable national learning cohort. Sierra Prior reviewed the time commitment for participating. Charlie Fautin added that they do presentations at national conferences and there is usually 2-3 opportunities throughout the year to work with other states on this outside of email connections and virtual webinars.

George Conway asked if this is a group that could push national legislation given he attention to the tattered public health system. Charlie Fautin said from his perspective this is a grassroots movement to build support for the foundational capabilities and program model and to drive adoption with enough states. Kansas is an example where local jurisdictions are taking this on even without state support. Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown added that she pushed this a lot when she was on the NACCHO board and they understand this model more now. She said that she thinks the fate of public health funding at the federal level will depend on elections.



The volunteers to participate moving forward (based on capacity and availability) will be: Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown, Jocelyn Warren, Tricia Mortell, and Philip Mason-Joyner. CLHO staff will coordinate with these ongoing volunteers as opportunities come up.

Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown also advocated for LPHAs to be involved with NACCHO for additional connections with peers in other states.

OAR COVID-19 Permanent Rule Public Comments

Dr. Thomson reviewed the OAR for altering Health Officer authority for recommendations for communicable diseases. This OAR change adds COVID-19 to this authority to modify the investigative guidelines. The rule has been in effect as a temporary rule, and OHA is making it permanent. Dr. Thomson heard about this through his affiliation with the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians. The OAR was sent to 22 organizations and OHA wanted confirmation that it had been done from OAFP. This was not sent to Health Officers and Local Public Health Administrators. There's concern about adding COVID to other communicable disease practices. Dr. Thomson thought it was important for CLHO and Health Officers (HOs) to provide feedback.

The deadline for oral public comment is Friday 8/21 at 10:00am. The HO's will not meet again until next week. Dr. Thomson said it would be helpful for CLHO to put in comment. The deadline for written comment is on the 26th.

Morgan Cowling said the draft comments address two points: 1) that HO's should be involved in this process, and 2) the exceptions for return to work or release from isolation should be narrower. The current IGs allow the HO to release someone if there is a workforce shortage or other need in consultation with the employer, and the OARs are broader.

Morgan Cowling asked if the Coalition board wants to submit comment. The Coalition can submit, or if there isn't interest in doing so as a coalition, health administrators can submit on their own.

Sarah Poe said she would move to have the coalition support it unless it would be more appropriate for the HO's to do so.

Jocelyn said Sara Poe motioned for the Coalition to submit the proposed public comment. Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown seconded. No objections. No abstentions. Board approved.



Cleaner Air Oregon Update

Cleaner Air Oregon is working on aligning programs to do more robust work. In the past they had a 20+ RAC, and they are looking to make it smaller. In the past there were two LPHA representatives - one HO and one from Environmental Health. DEQ is reducing public health representation to one person for a one day RAC. There will be some preparation work.

Jennifer Little said she could ask if Ramona wants to do it again. Jocelyn Warren said that there are many industry seats, and that having a public health voice will be critical moving forward. Jennifer Little asked if there is room to nominate a local professor who specializes in air quality. Morgan Cowling said she didn't know how DEQ was selecting other representations, but they are looking at folks from academia. George Conway asked about timeframe and whether it would be virtual. Morgan said it will be one large virtual meeting in November for almost a whole day.

George Conway volunteered to participate on the RAC.

September Meeting Planning

Morgan Cowling reminded everyone that there is not going to be a one-day fall CLHO Retreat this year. Everyone has two calendar holds with a registration link for the Health Equity Workshop instead. The intent is that it should be the administrator/director and a supervisor/manager from each LPHA. We also need a Conference and Coalition meeting in September, as well, to continue business. Morgan Cowling asked if we should stay within the current holds for business meetings, or if there is room to extend. There was general agreement to extend the time into lunch hour. Morgan said she will send a separate invitation for the business meeting.

Morgan Cowling reminded everyone that we did fundraising for this health equity workshop. Our County Health Rankings (CHR) grant was focused on supporting travel, and now we don't need those travel resources. Morgan Cowling worked with HIP and CHR to make adjustments and CLHO Staff landed on mailing materials and a poster to LPHAs that includes tools from HIP, and adding an additional 1-hour meeting to hear about the health equity lens tool in a presentation from HIP on September 21st. It will be an optional meeting to attend, but you will have needed to attend the first HIP meeting to get background information to be prepared for the 21st.

Morgan will send out this information in a follow-up email too.



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