



Conference of Local Health Officials

**February 18, 2021**

**Meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials**

**Meeting Began: 9:31am**

**Executive Members:** Present: Jocelyn Warren, CLHO Chair, Lane; Carrie Brogoitti, Vice-Chair, Center for Human Development, Union; Joseph Fiumara, Coalition of Local Environmental Health Specialists; Tricia Mortell, Past Chair, Washington; Rebecca Austen, Small County Rep, Lincoln; Pat Luedtke, Health Officer Rep, Lane; Lindsey Manfrin, Public Health Administrator of Oregon Caucus; Jackson Baures, Large County Rep, Jackson  
Absent: Katrina Rothenberger, Secretary/Treasurer, Marion

**Members Present (x if present):**

x Baker - Nancy Staten	x Hood River - Trish Elliot	x Multnomah - Jessica Guernsey
x Benton - Suzanne Hoffman	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	x Tillamook - Marlene Putnam
Columbia - Mike Paul	x Klamath - Jennifer Little	x Umatilla - Joseph Fiumara
Coos - Anthony Arton	Lake - Judy Clarke	x 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 - Nahad Sadr-Azodi	x Linn - Shane Sanderson	x Yamhill - Lindsey Manfrin
x Douglas - Bob Dannenhoffer	x Malheur - Sarah Poe	
x Grant - Jessica Winegar	x Marion - Brian Matthews	x HO Caucus - Pat Luedtke
x Harney - Nic Calvin	x Morrow - Nazario Rivera	x CLEHS Caucus - Joseph Fiumara
		AOPHNS - Vacant
		x PHAO - Lindsey Manfrin

**Public Health Division:**

Cara Biddlecom, Tim Noe, Sara Beaudrault, Rachael Banks, Andrew Epstein, Carole Yann



Conference of Local Health Officials

**Coalition of Local Health Officials:**

Morgan Cowling, Executive Director; Laura Daily, Program Manager

**Guests:** None

**Motion:** Marlene Putman made a motion to approve November minutes. Bob Dannenhoffer seconded. Unanimous vote, motion passed.

**Agenda Items**

**Appointments**

Channa Lindsay was appointed to the Systems and Innovation Committee.

**IGA Boilerplate:** Andrew Epstein reviewed some of the changes to the IGA Boilerplate language. This will be sent out to counties in mid-May. No comments from CLHO members. Andrew also offered that there could be fiscal training opportunities for LPHA admins. Several admins stated that they were interested in this opportunity.

**Public Health Modernization:**

Sara Beaudrault reviewed that the Governor's Recommended Budget included \$30 million for public health in Oregon, and a small group of administrators (the Joint Leadership Team +) have been meeting to determine what Oregon's Public Health System will focus on and implement with this funding. This work will now go to the Systems and Innovation Committee to continue making plans. OHA will also be hosting Public Health Modernizations talks over the next few months open to all LPHAs and community partners.

**Vaccine Advisory Committee Update:**

Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown provided an update on the VAC and the final recommendations. She shared that this work centered around equity and addressing how to reach disproportionately affected populations. The recommended eligibility groups after seniors are: 1) 16-64 with underlying conditions, 2) frontline workers, 3) adults and youth in custody (which has been moved to a higher priority since), and 4) people living in low-income and congregate senior living communities. After these groups, the VAC identified multi-generational homes as the next priority. The next steps are for the Governor's Office to finalize the recommendations. There aren't any timelines for this yet.



There was a question around allocations to these groups. Muriel stated that the group did not get into this topic. There was another question about farmworkers. Muriel stated that farmworkers were discussed and will likely be included in essential workers (along with food processing workers).

**Existing COVID-19 Response Funding:** Carole Yann and Cara Biddlecom reviewed the existing streams of funding for COVID response. The timeline for current CARES funding has been extended through June 2021. As funds were ending in December, OHA and JLT discussed reconciling unspent funds and reallocating them, but since the timeline has been extended this is no longer the plan of action. LPHAs will just keep funds from the first CARES Act and will have through June 2021 to spend them.

**Future COVID-19 Response Funding:** Carole Yann and Cara Biddlecom also reviewed the future streams of funding for COVID response. About \$63.9 million is going out through a new ELC grant and \$17 million is going out for vaccination activities for a total of \$80.9 million for LPHAs.

Carole and Cara also presented the funding formula for this (using the Public Health Modernization formula). Jocelyn Warren provided an overview of the discussion at JLT around this funding formula. There is an option to pull \$5 million out of the \$63.9 million for wraparound services through CBOs. The JLT group's recommendation was that the \$5 million should not be pulled out and should just go to LPHAs to continue coordinating wraparound services and to potentially contract with CBOs.

There was a question about how much money is going to CBOs to do wraparound and whether OHA would consider the feedback from LPHAs about which CBOs have been responsive and helpful in the community. Cara Biddlecom reviewed that CBOs are getting about \$15.3 million (separate from the \$63.9 million going to LPHAs) for contact tracing, outreach, and wraparound services. Cara also reminded the group that not all LPHAs have the staffing needed to provide wraparound services.

Jocelyn asked for feedback from counties that are struggling to provide wraparound services. Sarah Poe stated that the barrier in Malheur County is that people are not interested in quarantine and isolation because they do not have COVID sick leave anymore. Cara Biddlecom stated that Oregon has a program that can provide sick leave relief and will follow up offline. Tami Stump stated that Polk County has been having Service Integration Teams coordinate some of the wraparound services (food, reimbursements from church groups, etc.). Carole



Conference of Local Health Officials

Yann will follow up offline. Jessica Guernsey stated that Multnomah County has had problems with proportionality of funding (for example, the Latinx community has been hit hard with COVID but received little funding). Cara Biddlecom stated that the CBO Activity Reports that are due this month will be reviewed along with case counts to account for this.

There were still questions and confusion around pulling \$5 million out of the \$63 million. Jocelyn offered that CLHO review the Program Element changes for more clarity. Cara Biddlecom reviewed the PE and stated that it had already been reviewed by the CLHO Communicable Disease Committee and the JLT group. In reviewing the changes to the providing and coordinating wraparound services, there weren't any more comments or questions. Cara reviewed that the bulk of the changes are in Section 8 around vaccine administration. No comments or questions around these changes.

**Motion:** Bob Dannenhoffer made a motion to approve the changes to the Program Element. Trish Elliot seconded the motion. Unanimous vote, motion passed.

**PHAB Updates:** PHAB members (Carrie Brogoitti, Bob Dannenhoffer, and Muriel DeLaVervne-Brown) provided an update on PHAB conversations and priorities. Bob shared that the focus of today is around opioid use, particularly in regards to the opioid use during the pandemic. Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown stated that last month's meeting included a work plan discussion and sharing about the COVID response.

**ELC and Vaccination Funding Formula:** Jocelyn Warren returned to the ELC and Vaccination funding formula and stated that CLHO would need to approve the recommendation from JLT to use the Modernization Formula for the new COVID Funding (without removing the \$5 million). There was a question from Cheryl Smallman (Deschutes) asking if the \$17 million is federal funding and how that works with the 100% FEMA reimbursement. Carole Yann stated that the \$17 million is federal funding, and that all these funds must be used or obligated before applying for FEMA.

**Motion:** Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown made a motion to approve using the Modernization formula to distribute the new ELC and Vaccination funding for the COVID response. Joe Fiumara seconded. Unanimous vote, motion passed.



Conference of Local Health Officials

**Other Topics:** Jocelyn Warren opened the meeting to other topics of discussion for members. No other topics, questions, or discussions came up.

**Meeting Adjourned at 10:28am**