



## January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Meeting of the Coalition of Local Health Officials

Minutes recorded by Laura Daily ([video recording available to CLHO members upon request](#))

Reviewed by Secretary Philip Mason-Joyner (2/6/2024)

Approved February 15, 2024:

Chair Naomi Biggs called meeting to order at 12:05 PM PST and requested roll call. Vice-Chair Carrie Brogoitti conducted roll call:

### Members Present (x if present):

X	Baker – Meghan Chancey	X	Hood River - Trish Elliot	X	Multnomah – Andrea Hamberg
X	Benton – Sara Hartstein	X	Jackson - Jackson Baures*		North Central PHD - Shellie Campbell
X	Clackamas – Philip Mason-Joyner*	X	Jefferson - Mike Baker	X	Polk – Naomi Biggs*
X	Clatsop – Jiancheng Huang	X	Josephine – Janet Fredrickson		Tillamook – Marlene Putnam
	Columbia – Jaime Aanensen	X	Klamath - Jennifer Little	X	Umatilla - Joseph Fiumara
	Coos - Anthony Arton		Lake - Judy Clarke	X	Union - Carrie Brogoitti*
X	Crook – Katie Plumb*		Lane - Jocelyn Warren*	X	Washington – Folu Adeniyi
	Deschutes – Heather Kaisner		Lincoln - Florence Pourtal	X	Wheeler - Shelby Thompson
X	Douglas - Bob Dannenhoffer	X	Linn – Shane Sanderson*		Yamhill - Lindsey Manfrin
X	Gilliam – Dailene Wilson	X	Malheur - Sarah Poe	X	HO Caucus - Pat Luedtke*
X	Grant – Trey Thompson	X	Marion – Wendy Zieker	X	CLEHS Caucus - Joseph Fiumara*
X	Harney – Kelly Singhose		Morrow – Robin Canaday		PHAO - Lindsey Manfrin*

\*Member of the Executive Committee

**Public Health Division Staff Present:** Danna Drum

**Coalition of Local Health Officials Staff Present:** Sarah Lochner, Executive Director; Laura Daily, Program Manager; Kate Szrom, Rural Communications Coordinator



**Guests Present:** Betty Bekemeier and Barbara Rose, NWCPHP; Jessica Pratt, AOC

Quorum established. Naomi reviewed the agenda and requested a motion to approve the November 2023 and December 2023 minutes.

**Motion:** Jennifer moved to approve the November 2023 and December 2023 minutes. Trish seconded the motion. 0 nays, 0 abstentions, all remaining present in favor, motion passed.

**Appointments:** No appointments.

**NorthWest Center for Public Health Practice (NWCPHP) Overview:** Betty Bekemeier and Barbara Rose provided an overview of the NWCPHP (slides available in the [meeting materials](#)). The NWCPHP at the University of Washington is the Regional Public Health Training Center for Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska (Region X). They provide several services:

- Learning opportunities (live, recorded training, cohort programs, and stipends for public health students completing their final projects/internships)
- Research on a variety of topics based on needs identified in the region – the public health workforce and PH WINS are a big focus currently (going to be doing a research project interviewing rural public health administrators soon).
- Assessment, evaluation, and planning

Betty and Barbara added that they want to hear from Oregon's LPHAs about other training or other needs. They also have a listserv to stay updated on new opportunities through the NWCPHP: <https://www.nwcphp.org/forms/subscribe-to-nwcphp-announce>

*Discussion:* Sarah and Philip both attested to the support the NWCPHP provides in various ways in their counties. Jennifer volunteered to be part of the rural health administrator interviews. Folu asked for a link to sign up for the listserv – Laura will follow-up with that. No other questions or comments.

**Financial Update:** Philip Mason-Joyner (Secretary/Treasurer) provided the quarterly CLHO financial update (documents available in [CLHO Library](#)). High level updates are:

- All CLHO members have paid dues.
- All current HRSA grant expenditures have been reimbursed from the Office of Rural Health.
- OHA support is paid at the end of year, so funds in that line item will not be available until CLHO's next fiscal year.



- Corporate tax filing has been completed.
- State travel is over budget because Sarah and Naomi have made it a priority to visit every health department to build relationships. They would like to visit Gilliam and Wheeler (last two counties to visit) in May, and Sarah needs to travel to Salem in February for short session, so Philip is proposing we move \$6000 from the lobbying line item (since outside lobbying support is not as necessary during short session) into state travel.

*Discussion:* Jennifer asked if the HRSA grant covers all CLHO personnel. Sarah clarified that Madison and Janessa are completely funded by the grant, and Sarah and Laura are funded by member dues. Philip added that Kate's position is covered by a contract with the five counties she is serving.

**Motion:** Jennifer made a motion to move \$6000 from the lobbying category to state travel. Meghan seconded. 0 nays, 0 abstentions, all remaining in favor, motion passed.

**CLHO Legislative Committee Recommendations:** Sarah reviewed two recommendations from the Legislative Committee:

*Support 340B at Priority 2:* Oregon Primary Care Association is putting forward a legislative concept to prevent pharmaceutical companies from restricting the distribution of 340B priced drugs ([slides available in meeting materials](#)). Federally Qualified Health Centers, reproductive health clinics, and STI clinics benefit from the Federal 340B program because it lowers the cost of prescription drugs provided to the underserved populations served at these clinics. All money saved by 340B clinics must be reinvested in care of these underserved these populations. In 2020, pharmaceutical manufactures began restricting the locations where patients can access 340B-priced drugs – this creates barriers for patients trying to get prescriptions and potentially defunds safety net clinics. Arkansas and Louisiana have passed similar laws that are currently in litigation. Oregon's legislative concept has a trigger clause – if passed, it would go into effect if the circuit court rules in favor of the Arkansas and Louisiana laws. The Legislative Committee recommends supporting this at a Priority 2 (provide logo and testimony but not active lobbying).

*Discussion:* Joe asked if the issues arise from clinics needing to get prescription drugs from another pharmacy because they don't have the drugs on hand. Sarah will look into that and get back to him. Sarah also added that not all safety net clinics have felt the effects of this, but this LC is meant to address the issue early. Bob added that the 340B prices are negotiated between the pharmacy manufacturers and the federal government, and the savings to safety net clinics is huge (sometimes 90%).



**Motion:** The Legislative Committee has brought a recommendation to support the 340B Legislative Concept at a Priority 2 (motion and second). 0 nays, 0 abstentions, all remaining present in favor, motion passed.

*Lane County EMS Data at Priority 2:* Lane County is putting forward a request to provide county health officers, public health administrators, and community mental health administrators with access to the database that documents transportation by EMS for overdoses and the outcome of those transports (Oregon's Emergency Services Information System - OREMSIS). This would provide public health and behavioral health with early warning about overdoses and data about outcomes. [ORS 682.056](#) is statute requiring a data system, and this request would amend statute to extend access to data system. The Legislative Committee voted to support this LC at a Priority 2 (provide logo and testimony but not active lobbying via email: 9 yes votes, 1 abstention, and 0 nays).

*Discussion:* Trish sits on the EMS Modernization Workgroup, and outcome data is a big part of their discussions – she thinks this concept will fit nicely with the LC for EMS Modernization (which would create a new data system). Stacy asked if this would get pushback from advocacy groups regarding privacy – Sarah stated she does not know if there will be pushback, but Lane County did talk with many partners when proposing this.

**Motion:** The Legislative Committee has brought a recommendation to support the Lane County EMS Data Legislative Concept at a Priority 2 (motion and second). 0 nays, 0 abstentions, all remaining present in favor, motion passed.

**Association of Oregon Counties HHS Steering Committee Public Health Update:** Jessica Pratt with Association of Oregon Counties and Pat Luedtke discussed how to raise the profile of public health at AOC. They discussed adding a regular public health update to the AOC Health and Human Services Steering Committee – this could be a 10-minute update on different topics each time. The co-chair of the committee, Commissioner Fai (who has a public health background) was supportive of the idea. Jessica would like to discuss with this group which topics to consider and to get a schedule of speakers (Pat has volunteered to pinch hit if someone cannot attend). The group brainstormed some ideas:

- Lessons learned/not learned from the COVID-19 pandemic
- Tobacco and vaping prevention
- Stable funding and collaboration between LPHAs and the state.
- Opioid Settlement Funds (advocating specifically for prevention and educating commissioners on what prevention looks like)
- Vaccine hesitancy



- Defining for commissioners that: health equity includes rurality, community-based organizations include faith-based organizations and that public health fills gaps in healthcare
- Health data literacy

*Discussion:* Sarah Poe volunteered to be a speaker. Jiancheng offered that we could do a promotional event (like a flu vaccination clinic) at the Capitol to raise the profile of public health. Sarah will follow-up via email to get more volunteers.

**Workforce Development Committee Update:** Laura provided an update on the Workforce Development Committee, which began meeting in November.

- The committee has six members (Klamath, Wheeler, Baker, Jefferson, Columbia, and Clackamas) and meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10am. The committee is recruiting additional people (Laura will send out a description from the charter in the follow-up).
- The committee voted unanimously to adopt a charter and to appoint Jennifer Little as chair.
- Laura will be completing a workplan (for the committee's approval) and getting a page in the CLHO Library up for meeting materials.
- The committee is focused on the CLHO Workforce Report 2.0. They spent the January meeting reviewing the first Workforce Report and discussing how to frame the next report (don't want to duplicate other work or do a complete repeat of previous report).
- The committee will also be providing input on the public health workforce recruitment videos (funded by the Kaiser Permanente grant).
- They are also tracking the statewide public health workforce plan (one of OHA's Modernization deliverable for 2025). Laura and two committee members are on the PHAB workgroup advising on this plan.

*No discussion or questions.*

**POP Development Process & Member Engagement:** Sarah explained that she's been tracking ideas and projects for: training and technical assistance for LPHAs (like CLHO's HOWTO grant idea), support for basic foundational public health programs outside of Modernization, data systems, and communications support. CLHO could ask for these things in the upcoming OHA policy option package. Sarah would like to define a process for getting feedback from CLHO members on which to prioritize.



**Discussion:** The Governor is not using the previous POP process, so we are uncertain on how/when we can offer input, but we want to be ready with our requests. Options include going through Legislative Committee (can be challenging because there aren't many administrators on this committee), going through Executive Committee (which doesn't meet regularly), creating a workgroup, or doing a survey. Jackson stated the Legislative Committee seemed like a good place to start. Sarah added that they could open up the meetings to administrators who want to provide input. Naomi agreed this was best approach.

**Non-Agenda Items:** Sarah covered several non-agenda items:

- Anthony Arton is leaving his role in Coos Bay and moving to a health department in California. Kathy Cooley is the interim director for the time being.
- In November, CLHO voted to appoint Lindsey Manfrin as the representative to the Behavioral Health Crisis System Advisory Committee. Due to a mix-up, Stacy Brubaker was selected to be the representative for CLHO. Sarah apologized for the mix-up – she's discussed this with Lindsey, and Lindsey does not want to turn it into a big deal, so Stacy will be the CLHO representative to the BHCS Advisory Committee. Sarah and Laura will work with Stacy to ensure there are regular updates.
- Sarah Poe shared that Malheur County has put on a Healthy Equity Conference for two years now, and they would like to make the 2024 conference as inclusive as possible and have it become the Eastern Oregon Health Equity Conference. She already has planning meetings on the calendar – reach out to her if you'd like to be part of it. LPHAs are also welcome to submit presentations and sessions for the Conference. The Conference will be on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 PM PST.**