

December 19th 2025 Meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials

Minutes recorded by Allison Mora (video recording available upon request)

Reviewed by XX Approved on XX

Chair Philip Mason-Joyner called the meeting to order at 09:30 AM PST and requested roll call. Vice-Chair Carrie Brogoitti conducted roll call:

Members Present (x if present):

	Baker – vacant	Χ	Hood River - Trish Elliot		Multnomah – Andrea Hamberg
	Benton – April Holland; proxy is Sarah Hartstein	X	Jackson - Jackson Baures*		North Central PHD (Sherman, Wasco) - Shellie Campbell
X	Clackamas – Philip Mason-Joyner*	X	Jefferson - vacant; Katie Russell is proxy	X	Polk – Kari Wilhite
X	Clatsop – Jill Quackenbush	X	Josephine – Mike Weber; proxy is Shawn Martinez		Tillamook - Marlene Putman
Χ	Columbia – Jaime Aanensen	Χ	Klamath - Jennifer Little	Χ	Umatilla - Joseph Fiumara
X	Coos – Tim Lynch		Lake - Judy Clarke	Χ	Union - Carrie Brogoitti*
X	Crook – Katie Plumb* proxy is Camille Krueger	X	Lane - Jocelyn Warren*	X	Washington – Marie Boman-Davis*
Χ	Deschutes – Heather Kaisner		Lincoln - Florence Pourtal	Χ	Wheeler - Shelby Thompson
X	Douglas - Bob Dannenhoffer	Χ	Linn – Shane Sanderson*	Χ	Yamhill - Lindsey Manfrin
Χ	Gilliam – DaiLene Wilson		Malheur - Rebecca Stricker	Χ	HO Caucus - Pat Luedtke*
X	Grant – Jessica Winegar; proxy is Trey Thompson	X	Marion – Wendy Zieker; proxy is Katrina Griffith	X	CLEHS Caucus - Joseph Fiumara*
X	Harney – Kelly Singhose		Morrow – Robin Canaday	Χ	PHAO - Lindsey Manfrin*

^{*}Member of the Executive Committee



Public Health Division Staff Present: Danna Drum, Andrew Epstein, Kirsten Aird, Naomi, Collette Young, Tim Noe, Jamie Coleman, Cessa Karson, Wendy Polulech, Michelle Barber

Coalition of Local Health Officials Staff Present: Sarah Lochner, Executive Director; Allison Mora, Program Manager

Guests Present: None

Quorum established. Philip reviewed the agenda and requested a motion to approve the November minutes.

Motion: Pat Luedtke moved to approve the November minutes. Heather Kaisner seconded the motion. 0 nays, 0 abstentions, all remaining present in favor, motion passed.

Appointments: There are appointments to make this month.

Topics:

Orpheus Access Changes Update Michelle Barber, OHA & Lea Bush, OHA

Updates: A proposal for changes to the Orpheus security model was presented, aimed at simplifying access management while ensuring users have the data they need. Key points include:

- General Access:
 - o For all conditions except HIV, all jurisdictions would have access to all diseases and disease groups.
 - Users would still be able to filter data to focus on their specific jurisdiction, reducing administrative workload.
- HIV Case Access:
 - Access to HIV cases would be restricted by default to a user's jurisdiction.

"break the glass" mechanism would allow access to HIV cases in other jurisdictions with extensive logging and tracking for additional security.

- Implementation Timeline:
 - o Pending approval, the changes would be implemented in early 2025.

The proposed updates aim to streamline security management, improve data accessibility in the Data Mart, and enhance reporting structures. Approval was requested to proceed with the plan.

Discussion/Q&A:

- Heather asked about the impact of the proposed "break the glass" feature on regional collaboration between Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties, especially for shared STD/CD roles.
 - Michelle explained that the feature would require users to click a button to access HIV cases outside their jurisdiction during a session. The process involves additional logging and resets upon logout, requiring users to repeat the process as needed. While straightforward, it may be slightly inconvenient for frequent users.
 - Heather inquired about supporting security agreements, and Michelle confirmed that policies, procedures, and technical updates will align with the changes. While the functionality could be implemented as early as January or February, ensuring all documentation is in place means the feature would likely roll out in early spring.
- Phillip wanted to know if a vote is needed for this and Michelle said that would be great but it can wait until January. He
 mentioned that he wanted to make sure that it had been discussed and supported by the CLHO CD Committee.
 Jackson said they did and approved it.

Vote: Joseph Fiumara moved to approve the motion. Lindsey Manfrin seconded the motion. Marie Boman-Davis abstained and commented saying that she does not disapprove of this and hasn't had a chance to touch base with her representatives from the CLHO CD Committee.

OHA-PHD Transitions - Update - Naomi Adeline-Biggs, OHA

Update: Naomi announced that Kirsten Aird has a new position as Public Health Director of the Multnomah County Public Health Department and introduced Dana Drum as interim Deputy Director. Naomi also announced that Liz Hunt is the interim Local and Tribal Public Health Manager starting January 1st.

<u>Local PH Modernization Plan Review Criteria - Update - Jessica Dale, CLHO S&I Committee Rep., Andrew Epstein, OHA</u>

Updates: Jessica and Andrew provided a few updates. Jessica emphasized the importance of partner engagement, plan adoption, and alignment with accountability metrics. Andrew explained the requirement for local public health authorities to involve their governing bodies in the review process and highlighted the importance of forward-looking plans and the flexibility to include additional programs if desired. Andrew also discussed the process for reviewing and approving the plans, including a potential webinar for local public health authorities to share their experiences and discuss messaging.

Discussion/Q&A:

- Jocelyn Warren expressed concerns about the need to focus on communication strategies with legislators and local
 governing bodies. They highlighted challenges in balancing discussions about necessary budget cuts, maintaining
 core services, and addressing potential layoffs, while simultaneously presenting a positive vision for modernization.
 Jocelyn also questioned how to effectively convey these complexities and align communication efforts to address
 funding constraints and sustain critical public health services.
 - Jessica and Andrew noted that while there hasn't been specific discussion on how to address the communication challenges raised, there is recognition of the need for a strategic approach. The committee has considered organizing a webinar, potentially in March or spring, to provide a platform for LPHAs to share strategies for plan development and discuss messaging. The aim is to foster collaboration among colleagues and with OHA to address these challenges, acknowledging that there are no simple solutions.

CLHO Communicable Disease Committee- Update- Update - Jackson Baures, CLHO Committee Rep.

Update: Jackson provided an update on the HIV/STI Statewide Services (HSSS) program. During the December 6 CLHO CD Committee meeting, a funding formula with mitigation through June 2027 was approved, meaning minimal changes in the next few years. The program elements 710 and 73 will be combined into one, with discussions and a vote scheduled for January 3rd 2025. The goal is to present the funding formula and the new program element at the next CLHO Board meeting, with Allison Goldstein attending to provide detailed explanations on the funding.

Cost and Capacity Assessment Report Timeline- Update - Steve Fiala, OHA

Update: Steve provided an update on the timeline for finalizing the Capacity and Cost Assessment Report. After addressing quality checks on the Public Health Division (PHD) costing information, the finalized data was sent to the contractor, Regroup, to incorporate into the draft report. Key steps outlined include:

- **Draft Finalization:** Regroup will integrate updated PHD and LPHA costing data and visuals into the draft report, followed by an internal review within OHA.
- **Technical Group Review:** The Capacity and Cost Assessment LPHA technical group will reconvene to review the draft, focusing on the new PHD costing details, allowing for feedback and edits.
- Report Sharing and Publication: After final OHA review, the report will be shared with local public health authorities (LPHAs) prior to public release on the modernization webpage.
- **Webinar:** A webinar will follow within 1-2 weeks of publication to discuss the report findings and gather input on additional materials or talking points to support LPHA use of the assessment results.

The report aims to present streamlined assessment results, with opportunities for complementary materials to address broader contextual details. Feedback was requested on the proposed approach and engagement steps.

Discussion Q&A: The group discussed the importance of proactive communication and shared talking points before publishing the Capacity and Cost Assessment Report, emphasizing the need to address how public health has changed since the data was collected. Key points included:

- Proactive Communication: Heather Kaisner highlighted the need to ensure legislators and local governing bodies understand the nuances of modernization, including state and local contributions to core public health services.
- **Reframing Messaging:** There is a need to shift the focus from technical systems language to communicating the tangible benefits for the public, aligning with the interests of legislators and stakeholders.
- **Visioning for Modernization:** Kirsten Aird acknowledged that the original modernization goals and language need revisiting, particularly in light of the pandemic's impact and changing public health needs. Visioning work is planned for a future retreat but cannot occur before the upcoming legislative session.
- **Short-Term Strategy:** Steve Fiala shared that the report process will include a webinar to align messaging, gather feedback, and prepare for legislative advocacy. It was noted that modernization is generational work, requiring incremental improvements over time.
- Next Steps: Steve Fiala also shared that a more specific timeline for report-related engagement will be shared, and
 efforts will focus on uniting stakeholders with consistent communication before public release.

TPEP Ambassador Group: Updates and Timeline - Update - Tim Noe, OHA

Update: Tim provided an update on the TPEP ambassador group, which includes representatives from LPHA, RECs, CBOs, advocacy organizations, and cross-sector partners.

- Reviewed the scope of work for the TPEP Council includes policy development, program improvement, budgeting strategy, and ongoing engagement.
- Reviewed the composition of the council and the proposed ethos, including commitments to racial equity, social and economic justice, and long-term change.
- Reviewed the timeline for convening the council, with applications opening in mid-December and an orientation in March 2025.

<u>2025-2027 Tobacco Tax Revenue Projections and TPEP Funding - Update - Jen Chandler, OHA; Tameka Brazile Miles, OHA; Tim Noe, OHA</u>

Update: Tameka provided an overview of the current budget for TPEP, including projected revenue and allocations to local organizations, public health equity grantees, tribal governments, and more.

- Discussed the impact of ballot measure 108 on revenue and the need to plan accordingly.
- Highlighted the breakdown of funding and the importance of allocating funds to meet community needs.
- Outlined proposed changes to the program guidance, including expanded recommended strategies, an evaluation opt-in, and quarterly check-ins with liaisons.

Discussion/Q&A:

- Marie Boman-Davis asked if this was presented to the CLHO HPP Committee and Tameka confirmed that yes they
 were.
- Jennifer Little commented how much she appreciated this and that a lot of LPHAs don't have the ADPEP program element so the more they can align things is appreciated.

<u>Standing Items: Updates for PHAB, LGAC & OSTPR Board - Update - CLHO Representatives: Marie Boman-Davis, Jennifer Little & Carrie Brogoitti</u>

PHAB Updates: Marie Boman Davis provided the following updates:

- 1. Public Health System Workforce Workgroup (12/11):
 - o Finalized recommendations for the public health system workforce plan.
 - Scheduled a PHAB presentation for January to review and revise the plan.
- 2. PHAB Meeting (12/14):
 - Welcomed new member Florence to PHAB.
 - o Approved changes to the leadership structure in the bylaws and elected new leadership:
 - Chair: Sarah Present
 - Incoming Chair: Jackie Leung



- Past Chair: Veronica Irvin
- Updated bylaws available <u>here</u>.
- 3. Health Equity Framework Workgroup (12/18):
 - Working on a health equity framework as a companion document to the Public Health Modernization Manual, focusing on the role of CBOs in foundational capabilities (Health Equity, Cultural Responsiveness, and Community Partnership Development).
 - Progress is ongoing, with plans to continue in the new year. A draft will be presented to PHAB for review and edits before finalization.

Group Agreements & Practices - Debrief - Philip Mason-Joyner, Chair

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Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 AM