



November 16th, 2023 Meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials

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

Reviewed by Secretary/Treasurer: Philip Mason-Joyner

Approved on January 18, 2024

Chair Naomi Biggs called meeting to order at 09:30 AM 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 – Jessica Guernsey
X	Benton – Sara Hartstein	X	Jackson - Jackson Baures*	X	North Central PHD - Shellie Campbell
X	Clackamas – Philip Mason-Joyner*	X	Jefferson - Mike Baker	X	Polk – Naomi Biggs*
	Clatsop – Jiancheng Huang	X	Josephine - Janet Fredrickson		Tillamook - Marlene Putnam
X	Columbia – Jaime Aanensen	X	Klamath - Jennifer Little	X	Umatilla - Joseph Fiumara
X	Coos - Anthony Arton		Lake - Judy Clarke	X	Union - Carrie Brogoitti*
X	Crook – Katie Plumb*	X	Lane - Jocelyn Warren*	X	Washington – Marie Boman-Davis*
X	Deschutes – Heather Kaisner	X	Lincoln - Florence Pourtal	X	Wheeler – Sarah Hartenstein
	Douglas - Bob Dannenhoffer		Linn – Shane Sanderson*	X	Yamhill - Lindsey Manfrin
X	Gilliam – Dailene Wilson	X	Malheur - Sarah Poe	X	HO Caucus - Pat Luedtke*
X	Grant – Jessica Winegar	X	Marion – Wendy Zieker	X	CLEHS Caucus - Joseph Fiumara*
	Harney – Kelly Singhose		Morrow – Robin Canaday	X	PHAO - Lindsey Manfrin*

*Member of the Executive Committee

Public Health Division Staff Present: Danna Drum, Cara Biddlecom, Andrew Epstein, Cessa Karson, Brean Arnold, Cate Wilcox, Wendy Polulech, Erica Sandoval, Sara Beaudrault, Dave Anderson, Jamie Coleman, Tom Jeanne, Tim Noe

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

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Other LPHA Staff: Trey Thompson

Guests Present: None

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

Motion: Mike Baker moved to approve the October 2023 minutes. Pat Luedtke seconded the motion. 0 nays, 0 abstentions, all remaining present in favor, motion passed.

Appointments: Naomi made the follow appointments:

- A2CPS: Lindsey Butler (Yamhill), Manda Palmertree (Columbia), Heather Burrows (Malheur)
- CD: Rebecca Stricker (Malheur); Bonnie Simpson (Jackson)
- HPP: Hannah Roy (Malheur)
- S&I: Sarah Poe (Malheur)

JLT Recap: Naomi provided an overview of the Joint Leadership Team meeting from this morning. Discussions included:

- MOU/MOA process following up with the CLHO Bylaws (contact Naomi if you have something you want considered for the MOU/MOA).
- A recommendation from the S&I Committee to use the PHAB Costing and Capacity Assessment Tool to inform the Modernization Implementation Plans. The committee chairs will bring more information to the January meeting, and two counties have volunteered to pilot the tool.
- OHA put together a timeline of various reporting deadlines for 2024 (Danna will send this out) and has posted a comprehensive table of the program elements (posted on the [LHD TA website](#)).
- OHA leadership team is changing – Erica Sandoval will be leaving for an opportunity at DHS, and Larry Hill will be stepping into the Equity Director role. Erica expressed gratitude to everyone for their partnership over the years.
- There will not be a Conference meeting in December, and January's meeting may be slightly extended to make up for this.

Family Connects: New Cohort Application: Kate Wilcox and Brean Arnold reviewed that Family Connects will be taking on a new cohort of counties (tentatively around July 2024 with service rollout in 2025 as sites are ready). Based on their learnings over the past two years, they've revised the application process – applications will be released shortly and will be

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due in February (date TBD). They will be holding two informational sessions: Dec 14th and Jan. 11th. This is not competitive because this program will eventually be statewide, but this new cohort will be limited to about 3-5 sites due to state capacity. This information has already been presented to the A2CPS Committee.

Discussion: LPHAs are the eligible service providers, and other organizations are eligible to be part of the early learning hubs. Concerns raised about OHA capacity and bringing on a new cohort when current sites are still struggling with reimbursement rates and working with health systems – OHA will continue working on these issues with current sites, and the July 2024 date is dependent on OHA bringing on new team members to help with new sites (may get pushed back).

Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC): Kate Wilcox reviewed that MAC is a voluntary program that brings in federal dollars for Medicaid-related activities that LPHAs are already providing. Counties participate at various levels and receive various levels of revenue from this program. Dave Anderson is the support for LPHAs in maximizing revenue, and his position was recently increased to full time. There are two fees associated with participating in the program: Multnomah Educational Serve districts (manages claims) and OHA fee (for Dave's time). The OHA fee was assessed at \$20 in 2008, and it is increasing to \$65/cost/member/quarter to support Dave's expanded time (beginning in July 2024). This will remain a voluntary program and goes through the IGA.

Discussion: Request for Dave to do an introductory webinar to support LPHAs who have not started doing MAC so it is more accessible. Discussion about how this is a complicated program - LPHAs expressed gratitude to Dave for his support over the years.

LPHA/CBO Pass-Through Funding Program Element Update: Andrew Epstein reviewed the pilot process for having Public Health Equity funding pass through to CBOs via the LPHA. Only two LPHAs (Josephine and Klamath) will be pass-throughs, so CLHO will not be approving this program element today since it only impacts two counties. These counties have met with OHA to negotiate and will be developing grant agreements and workplans with the CBOs they are funding and will be managing budgets and reporting.

Discussion: The CBOs funded are working in tobacco and Modernization. Discussion that there were more LPHAs interested but unable to due to capacity and lack of administrative fees. Danna added that an administrative fee is something we can adjust in the 2025 POP. Clarification that there were only two scenarios where both CBO and LPHAs opted in. Request to understand more about why CBOs declined – Danna and Jamie can follow up with the

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Community Engagement Team. Discussion moved to new CBO currently applying – they will not be asked about passthrough at this time because that would be too complicated. LPHAs reported concerns about providing a Letter of Support or technical assistance to a CBO and then also being part of the review panel. Clarification that an LOS is not scored in the application process and is largely meant to confirm local presence and establish communication between the LPHA and applying CBO early (template LOS is provided in the application materials). If an LPHA provided additional technical assistance to a CBO, that LPHA will be asked to excuse themselves from reviewing that CBO's application.

Medical Examiner's Workgroup: Tom Jeanne provided an update on the new Medical Examiner Improvement in Oregon Workgroup (MEIOW). The group has representatives from MEs, sheriffs, medical investigators, Tribes, a DA, funeral directors, AOC, and pathologists and has met once so far. The goal of this workgroup is to understand the problems and strains facing the Medical Examiner system and recommend improvements. The group will meet every three weeks and provide a report in mid-spring 2024.

Discussion: The workgroup is fielding a survey, and LPHAs discussed that they would like to ensure that survey goes out to all relevant people in counties (since it's different in each county). AOC/CLHO also did a survey of LPHAs about their challenges with MEs – Sarah can follow up and ensure Tom has this information. Discussion about ensuring that communications about this workgroup (and the ME system in general) go to both law enforcement and HHS/public health departments.

Public Health Advisory Board Update: Marie Boman-Davis provided an update on PHAB activities:

- A subcommittee has been working on a Strategic Data Plan since 2021 and has put together a set of recommendations for strategic data investments. PHAB has adopted this document, and it will be available on the PHAB website soon. Marie encouraged LPHAs to review these and consider adopting them within their own health departments.
- A subcommittee has also been working on a Health Equity Policy and Procedure – this should be reviewed and approved by PHAB soon.

Discussion: Heather Kaisner has applied to become the Large County Representative (replacing Jocelyn Warren). Marie also flagged that there are several new positions open on PHAB for CBOs, health equity experts, and people receiving public health services. The CCO representative position will also be open soon.

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Opioid Settlement Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Board: Carrie Brogoitti provided an update on OSPTR activities. The Board is working towards a mechanism for allocating funding – this has been a long process but will be worth it. The Board has narrowed it down to 6 categories: harm reduction and overdose, prevention, treatment, recovery, research and evaluation, and leadership and planning. Next will be prioritizing each category and prioritizing within these categories. The Board is also discussing whether to use a competitive process or direct allocations. Carrie continues to advocate for prevention, but the Board also must balance this with the current crisis of overdose deaths.

Discussion: Discussion about how to advocate for prevention when results from addressing the SDoHs take time. Carrie sees the research and evaluation bucket as a place public health can step in and provide more information on what it takes to prevent drug use. Board also discussed the harm reduction strategies – these include naloxone access, safer use sites, utilizing mobile health, and focusing on populations most impacted. Concerns raised about putting all the money into harm reduction (since much of the BM 110 funds going to the BHRNs has been to fund harm reduction) and how this work is connected to the BHRN work. Board discussed that we need to fill gaps where there isn't funding already flowing – Sarah has reached out to staff in charge of the OSPTR Board and has asked for an overview of where the funding is going so the Board can see prevention is not getting any. Group also discussed PE 62 and how public health has a “shovel ready” program in place that just needs more funding – this could be a strong way to propose public health funds. Concerns have been that counties are receiving funds directly, but many counties are not directing that money into public health or prevention. Carrie requested that anyone who has ideas or strong opinions email or call her so she can bring those up on the OSPTR Board and requested clear direction from the CLHO Board on what local public health wants to advocate for.

Non-Agenda Item: Jessica Guernsey announced that she will be leaving her role at Multnomah County at the end of December to care for a family member. She expressed gratitude for everyone in this group and stated that she hopes to be back in the next year. Andrea Hamberg will be the Interim Public Health Director, and they are in the process of hiring a permanent director.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:15 AM

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