



## October 2024 Meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials

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

Reviewed by Secretary Shane Sanderson

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):

X	Baker – Meghan Chancey	X	Hood River - Trish Elliot		Multnomah – Andrea Hamberg
X	Benton – April Holland; proxy is Sarah Hartstein	X	Jackson - Jackson Baures*	X	North Central PHD (Sherman, Wasco) - Shellie Campbell; and new director Martha McInnes
X	Clackamas – Philip Mason-Joyner*		Jefferson - Mike Baker	X	Polk – Kari Wilhite
X	Clatsop – Jill Quackenbush	X	Josephine – Mike Weber is absent; proxy is Janet Fredrickson		Tillamook - Marlene Putman
X	Columbia – Jaime Aanensen	X	Klamath - Jennifer Little	X	Umatilla - Joseph Fiumara
X	Coos – Tim Lynch		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 (Colleen is proxy)		Wheeler - Shelby Thompson; proxy is Sarah Hartenstein
X	Douglas - Bob Dannenhoffer	X	Linn – Shane Sanderson*	X	Yamhill - Lindsey Manfrin
	Gilliam – DaiLene Wilson	X	Malheur - Rebecca Stricker	X	HO Caucus - Pat Luedtke*
X	Grant – Jessica Winegar is absent; proxy is Trey Thompson	X	Marion – Wendy Zieker	X	CLEHS Caucus - Joseph Fiumara*
X	Harney – Kelly Singhose		Morrow – Robin Canaday	X	PHAO - Lindsey Manfrin*

\*Member of the Executive Committee

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**Public Health Division Staff Present:** Danna Drum, Andrew Epstein, Kirsten Aird, Naomi Adeline-Biggs, Tim Noe, Andre Ourso, Wendy Polulech, Zintars Beldavs, Anthony Nickerson, Sara Beaudrault, Cessa Karson, DeWayne Hatcher & Jamie Coleman

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

**Guests Present:** CLHO Committee Co-Chairs

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

**Motion:** Marie Boman-Davis moved to approve the September minutes. Katie Plumb seconded the motion. 0 nays, 0 abstentions, all remaining present in favor, motion passed.

**Appointments:** Philip made the follow appointments:

- CD: Jessica Dale, Kellie Hansen, Lynn Rogers, Rachel Powell & Florence Pourtal
- HPP: Rachael Fuller

**Topics:**

**Annual CLHO Committees Reports; Reports; CLHO Committees Co-Chairs**

- Committee Reports: Clinical Preventive Services
  - Rebecca Collette provided an update on the Clinical Preventive Services Committee, focusing on maternal child health, WIC, reproductive health, school-based health centers, and immunization services.
  - Challenges include engagement and retaining members, with efforts to build relationships and work more collaboratively.
  - Successes include a retreat planned for the spring to bring the committee together in person for the first time since the pandemic.
  - Request: Rebecca asked for support in getting voting members from all counties to join the committee.
- Committee Reports: Emergency Preparedness and Response

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- Selena provided an update on the Emergency Preparedness and Response Committee, highlighting the challenges of retaining members and the importance of having a co-chair.
  - Successes include the resumption of awards for recognizing work in emergency preparedness and response, and the development of a robust onboarding template.
  - Discussion on the need for continued support in budget and funding recommendations, and the recruitment of smaller counties.
  - Emphasis on the importance of having a co-chair to support the committee's work.
- Committee Reports: Environmental Health
  - Kathleen Johnson provided an update on the Environmental Health Committee, focusing on the remittance factor, drinking water program updates, and the Healthy Homes grant program.
  - Discussion on the challenges of licensing and mobile unit plan development, with a survey conducted to gather input on these topics.
  - Successes include a move to an every-other-month meeting schedule and great representation from counties.
  - Request: Kathleen asked for climate adaptation planning staff to join the committee to enhance discussions around climate planning.
- Committee Reports: Communicable Disease
  - Jackson and Gerald provided an update on the Communicable Disease Committee, highlighting the need for a new acronym for HIV and STI statewide services.
  - The committee has been reconvened and is working on developing a work plan and template for the local modernization implementation plans.
  - Challenges include the need for a co-chair and the importance of having a good membership to support the committee's work.
  - Successes include the appointment of 21 counties to the committee and efforts to update the website with committee information.
- Committee Reports: Health Promotion and Prevention
  - Elizabeth Maxwell provided an update on the Health Promotion and Prevention Committee, focusing on the approval of changes to PE 76 and the division of TPat funds.
  - Successes include input on the opioid settlement funds and the Garrett Lee Smith funding, as well as the approval of changes to PD 36.
  - Challenges include the need for a co-chair and the importance of having great representation from counties.
  - Request: Elizabeth asked for support in recruiting a co-chair to continue the committee's work.
- Committee Reports: Systems and Innovations

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- Katie Plum provided an update on the Systems and Innovations Committee, focusing on the development of a template for the local modernization implementation plans and the capacity and cost assessment.
- Successes include the establishment of sub-workgroups to focus on specific tasks and the support from OHA partners.
- Challenges include the need for a co-chair and the importance of having a good membership to support the committee's work.
- Request: Katie asked for support in recognizing the efforts of committee members and ensuring they have the resources they need to continue their work.

### **Vital Records Workgroup Updates; Updates; Paola Soles, Clackamas County & Jennifer Woodward, OHA**

- Paula Soles and Jennifer Woodward provided an update on the Vital Records Work Group, focusing on the recommendations for equitable access to birth and death certificates and the vital records system.
  - The work group has developed 14 options to meet the criteria of House Bill 2420, including increasing the time period for issuing certificates and requiring all death certificates to be fully electronic.
- Discussion/Q&A:
  - Heather Kaisner asked why there was a difference in years, and Dr. Woodward said the workgroup discussed this and they voted on it this past Tuesday to make it one year instead of five years.
  - Philip Mason-Joyner asked that given that it started at 43 options and went down to 14 options, are there financial benefits or negative impacts with the recommendations that do go into place? Dr. Woodward said that there was a discussion of potential financial impacts of the recommendations and the importance of balancing costs between counties and the state.
  - An emphasis by Dr. Woodward was made on the need for legislative support to implement the recommendations and ensure equitable access to vital records.

### **Vaccine Steering Committee; Updates; Kelly McDonald, OHA & Bob Dannenhoffer, CHLO Rep- Douglas County**

- Kelly McDonald and Bob Dannenhoffer provided an update on the Vaccine Finance Steering Committee, focusing on the challenges of the current finance model and the need for reform.

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The committee has developed three recommendations, including requesting an informational hearing with the legislature, establishing a formal working group, and providing additional funding to sustain current programs.

- Discussion/Q&A:
  - Jennifer Little highlighted challenges in Klamath County, where pharmacies feel overwhelmed with prescription demands and are unwilling to take on vaccine administration. Questioned what participation by large pharmaceutical companies might look like.
  - Joe Fiumara noted that in his area, Rite Aid's ability to survive depends on continuing to offer vaccines, emphasizing the importance of vaccine-related services to pharmacy sustainability.
  - Heather Kasiner mentioned potential legislation to maintain the current vaccine delivery model.
  - Sarah Lochner requested that OHA advocate for gubernatorial support for the issue, as additional advocacy is beyond her capacity.
  - Bob Dannenhoffer stated that he observed a troubling trend of pharmacy closures, declining vaccination rates, and the increasing cost of vaccines, which collectively shift the public health landscape

This discussion reflects significant challenges in vaccine delivery and the need for legislative and systemic support to sustain access.

### **EH Remittance Memo; Updates; Erica Van Ess, OHA**

- Erica Van Ess provided an update on the Environmental Health Remittance Rates, highlighting the small increase for the food program remittance due to staff step increases.
  - The preliminary remittance report was provided in September, with a final report expected in April to assist with budgeting for the next fiscal year.
  - Erica emphasized on the importance of accurate budgeting and the need for ongoing communication with counties to ensure compliance.
  - Erica encouraged for counties to provide feedback and ask questions to ensure the remittance rates are fair and equitable.

### **Cost & Capacity Assessment Product Development; Updates; Steven Fiala, OHA**

- Steven Fiala provided an update on the Public Health Modernization Cost and Capacity Assessment, focusing on the importance of clear communication and plain language framing.

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- Discussed the need for products that highlight successes and progress, as well as areas for improvement.
- Mentioned receiving feedback to guide data collection discussed during two review sessions with the Rede Group.
- The primary focus was on data analysis and determining the format and content of reporting products.
- Requested input from the CLHO Board on potential product development options.
- Discussion/q&A:
  - Jennifer Little mentioned that having the stratified data by size bands was really helpful and glad that it was included.
  - Marie Boman-Davis and Florence Pourtal emphasized on the importance of using the assessment to support health equity and ensure alignment within the public health system.
  - Steven Fiala encouraged the CLHO Board for ongoing feedback and collaboration to develop effective communication materials and strategies.

#### **PE LPHA Funding for CBO Mini-Grants; Updates; Katie Plumb, CLHO S&I Co-Chair & Danna Drum, OHA**

- Katie Plum and Deanna Drum provide an update on the new LPHA CBO Mini Grant program element, focusing on the pilot program for six counties to address gaps in CDO funding.
  - Funding will be provided to LPHAs to award directly to CBOs, with a range of \$500 to \$5,000 per grant.
  - Katie and Danna emphasized the importance of collaboration and support from LPHAs to ensure the success of the program, and encouraged ongoing communication and feedback to refine the program and address any challenges that may arise.
- Discussion/Q&A:
  - Bob Dannenhoffer asked about Subrecipient Monitoring.
    - Danna said that since these are state general funds, federal subrecipient monitoring requirements do not apply. Contract monitoring will be conducted by LPHAs.
  - Katie and Joe Fiumara raised concerns about the administrative workload for smaller contracts, with suggestions to streamline processes to enable efficient use of funds.
  - Bob also mentioned that some LPHAs may have concerns about the short timeline for fund utilization given the administrative setup time.
- VOTE:
  - This program element (PE) was approved, with 0 abstentions, 0 nays. Motion passed.

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### **PHAB Vacancies; REQUEST: Sara Beaudrault, OHA**

- Sara provided background on the Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB), noting that six members represent Local Public Health Authorities (LPHAs). Two Health Administrator positions are open:
  1. Eligible counties: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Wallowa, and Wheeler.
  2. Eligible counties: Clatsop, Columbia, Crook, Curry, Hood River, Jefferson, Lincoln, Tillamook, Union, and Wasco.
- Discussion/Q&A:
  - Florence Pourtal expressed interest in discussing with Sarah Lochner and Sara Beaudrault potential contributions to PHAB.

### **Agenda Items Debrief:**

- Vital Records Workgroup Updates:
  - Jocelyn Warner asked for clarification on why the group was not pursuing a 5-year option for vital records, wanting to understand the rationale for choosing 1 year over 5 years.
  - Danna Drum shared insights from a conversation with Jennifer Woodward, noting the financial differences between the two options.
  - Jocelyn expressed concerns about equitable access, and Naomi sought to clarify Jocelyn's request, confirming it was about the reasoning behind selecting the 1-year option.
  - Joe Fiumara emphasized that Jocelyn's concern around equitable access was a significant issue discussed.

#### **Additional Notes:**

- Sarah Lochner mentioned that Meghan Chancey and Mike Baker are leaving their positions.

### **Group Agreements & Practices; Debrief; Philip Mason-Joyner, Chair**

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:53 AM**

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