

### 7/17/25 Meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials

Minutes recorded by Allison Mora (video recording available upon request)
Reviewed & Approved on XX

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

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

	Baker – Chastity Anderson	X	Hood River - Trish Elliot	Х	Multnomah – Kirsten Aird
X	Benton – Sara Hartstein	X	Jackson - Jackson Baures*	X	North Central PHD (Sherman, Wasco) - Martha McInnes
Χ	Clackamas – Kim La Croix	X	Jefferson - Katie Russell		Polk – Kari Wilhite
	Clatsop – Jill Quackenbush	X	Josephine -	X	Tillamook - Marlene Putman was absent; Rockie Phillips was proxy
Χ	Columbia – Jaime Aanensen	X	Klamath - Jennifer Little	X	Umatilla - Joseph Fiumara
	Coos – Tim Lynch		Lake - Judy Clarke		Union - Carrie Brogoitti*
X	Crook – Katie Plumb*	X	Lane - Jocelyn Warren*		Washington – Marie Boman-Davis was absent; Adrienne Donner was proxy.
Χ	Deschutes – Heather Kaisner		Lincoln - Florence Pourtal		Wheeler - Sarah Hartenstein
Χ	Douglas - Bob Dannenhoffer		Linn – Shane Sanderson*	X	Yamhill - Lindsey Manfrin
Χ	Gilliam – DaiLene Wilson*	X	Malheur - Rebecca Stricker		HO Caucus - Pat Luedtke*
	Grant – Trey Thompson	X	Marion – Wendy Zieker	X	CLEHS Caucus - Joseph Fiumara*
Χ	Harney – Kelly Singhose	Х	Morrow – Robin Canaday		PHAO - Lindsey Manfrin*

<sup>\*</sup>Member of the Executive Committee

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#### **Additional Attendees Present**

- **Public Health Division Staff Present:** Liz Hunt, Andrea Krause, Andrew Epstein, Collete Young, Eric Gebbie, DeWayne Hatcher, Amanda Faulkner, Jill Snyder and Anthony Nickerson
- Coalition of Local Health Officials Staff Present: Sarah Lochner, Executive Director; Allison Mora, Program Manager
- Guests Present: Stacey Shaw (Jefferson), Emily Wegener (OHA-PHD-HSPPR), Adrienne Donner (Washington-PHEP), Araceli Gaytan (CFO at Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center (FQHC), Bernadette Williams (Lincoln County resident), Brita Meyer (Finance Manager at NCPHD), Debby Jones (Prevention Specialist at YOUTHTHINK- Wasco), Laura Turpen (Regional Epidemiologist, Douglas), Selene Jaramillo (CHLO EPR Committee/Lane County PHD), Tim Noe (OHA-PHD), John Q. Murray (Executive Director, Reporter- Whole Community News) and Shawn Martinez (Josephine County PHD).

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

• **Motion:** Heather (Deschutes) moved to approve the June minutes. Jaime (Columbia) seconded the motion. There were 0 nays, 0 abstentions, all remaining present in favor, and the motion passed.

# **Committee Appointments**

• There were no appointments to make.

# **Agenda Item Topics**

# PE 12 Funding Changes | Discussion & POSSIBLE VOTE | Eric Gebbie, DeWayne Hatcher, and Jill Snyder: OHA-PHD

**Overview:** Eric Gebbie presented on the federal Public Health Emergency Preparedness (FEP) cooperative agreement, focusing on Program Element (PE) 12 funding changes. The CDC issued a notice of award for only 72% of the expected

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funding, with the remainder potentially arriving by September 30. The group was asked to decide on a payment schedule and funding formula in light of this uncertainty.

- Oregon splits FEP funding roughly 50/50 between state and local public health agencies, with some funds taken off the top for indirect costs, tribal funding, and shared systems.
- The CDC's new approach is to issue part of the award now (72%) and possibly the rest later, creating uncertainty for budgeting.
- Two main options for payment schedule were discussed:
  - Reduce monthly payments to 72% for the whole year.
  - Maintain 100% payments until funds run out (likely March if no second award), then reassess.
- The group also discussed whether to use the traditional CLHO formula or the modernization formula for distribution. The consensus was to stick with the CLHO formula, which provides a base level of funding to all counties, supporting equity for smaller counties.

#### Debrief/Discussion:

- Several members expressed concern about the risk of running out of funds mid-year if the second award does not arrive.
- Some counties use modernization funds to supplement FEP positions; others do not.

**VOTE:** There was broad support for maintaining the current funding formula and opting for the more flexible payment schedule (option 2).

• A motion was made by Jocelyn (Lane) and seconded by another CLHO Board member. Jennifer (Klamath) voted no, there were no abstentions, and all remaining voted in favor. The motion passed to keep the existing CLHO formula and use the 100% payment schedule, with flexibility to adjust if the second award does not materialize.

# Federal Updates | Discussion | Danna Drum, OHA-PHD

**Overview:** Danna Drum provided updates on various federal funding streams and the ongoing uncertainty due to federal budget processes.

• The CDC's Office on Smoking and Health had previously been affected by staff reductions, but states were recently asked to resubmit applications for full funding.

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- No immediate concerns for funding of the Overdose Prevention (PE 62) and Alcohol Drug Prevention Education Program elements for the upcoming year, but possible reductions in future years (FY 2027 and beyond).
- Federal budget uncertainty continues, with the possibility of continuing resolutions or delayed appropriations affecting future funding streams.
- The OHA is monitoring all programs and will keep local partners informed of any changes.

#### Debrief/Discussion:

- Clarification was provided that PE 62 funding is secure for FY 2026, but future years are less certain.
- The group discussed the challenges of planning amid ongoing federal funding uncertainty.

# Standing Items: Updates for PHAB, LGAC & OSTPR | Updates | Jennifer Little Overview:

PHAB: No update was provided as Marie Boman-Davis was absent.

#### LGAC:

- Jennifer Little reported on the most recent Local Government Advisory Council (LGAC) meeting.
- Key topics included legislative session updates, Office of Housing and Community Service funding (affecting some counties), and OHA budget updates (public health modernization, Medicaid, behavioral health, reproductive health, state hospital).
- A federal response website was mentioned as a resource for updates.
- Jennifer posted links to slides in the chat and offered to answer questions.

OSTPR: No update was provided as Carrie was absent.



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

**Overview:** Philip Mason-Joyner reminded the group of the community agreements and practices, which are outlined on page two of the meeting agenda and posted on the CLHO website.

- Agreements include self-awareness, reflection, bravery, speaking truth, curiosity, and transformational accountability.
- Emphasis was placed on the importance of these agreements, especially during challenging funding discussions and decision-making.
- The chair committed to facilitating and guiding the conversation in alignment with these practices.

**Debrief/Discussion:** The group acknowledged the value of these agreements in maintaining constructive dialogue and supporting collaborative decision-making during difficult times.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:50 AM