



# Conference of Local Health Officials

## June 18, 2009

### 9:10a-12:15p

#### *DRAFT Minutes*

#### **Agencies Represented:**

Charlie Fautin (*Benton*); Joell Archibald (*Clatsop*); Frances Smith, At-Large Rep (*Coos*); Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown (*Crook*); Georganne Greene (*Curry*); Scott Johnson (*Deschutes*); Ellen Larsen (*Hood River*); Mark Orndoff (*Jackson*); Thomas Machala (*Jefferson*); Belle Shepherd, Vice-Chair (*Josephine*); Karen Gillette (*Lane*); Paula Sampson, At-Large Rep (*Lincoln*); Pat Crozier (*Linn*); Rod Calkins (*Marion*); Rick Sherman, CLEHS Rep (*Marion*); Jessica Camargo, PHELPT Chair (*Multnomah*); Gary Oxman, Health Officers Caucus Rep (*Multnomah*); Lillian Shirley (*Multnomah*); Jan Wallinder, AOPHNS Rep (*Multnomah*); Andy Walker (*Polk*); Genni Lehnert, Secretary/Treasurer (*Umatilla*); Carrie Brogoitti (*Union*); Teri Thalhofer (*Wasco-Sherman*); Kathleen O'Leary, Chair (*Washington*); Sue Omel, At-Large Rep (*Washington*); Karen Koskela (*Wheeler*)

Morgan Cowling (*Association of Oregon Counties*)  
Gordon Fultz (*Association of Oregon Counties*)

**PHD:** Katherine Bradley, Administrator Office of Family Health; Bill Coulombe, Deputy Director, PHD; Tom Engle, PHD/HS Liaison; Gail Shibley, Administrator, Environmental and Public Health;

#### **Guest(s):**

Rosalyn Liu, Systems Resource Development, School-Based Health Center Program, Office of Family Health, DHS; Janet Matthews, School-Based Health Center Program Manager, Office of Family Health, DHS

#### **Convene:**

Chair, Kathleen O'Leary convened the June 18, 2009 meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials at 9:10a with 18 Oregon counties represented.

#### **Agenda Review:**

Kathleen O'Leary announced the addition of the agenda item 'committee appointments' to the June 18, 2009 agenda.

#### **Minutes:**

Kathleen requested a motion to approve the minutes of both the April 16, 2009 and May 21, 2009 Conference of Local Health Officials meetings.

#### **Action:**

Karen Gillette moved and Jan Wallinder seconded the approval of the April 16<sup>th</sup> and May 21, 2009 Conference minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC):**

Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown reported on the most recent LGAC meeting, stating the committee discussed the entire DHS budget; while public health 'took some hits', the Babies 1<sup>st</sup> Program was spared. In addition, committee members were also updated on the state's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) and subsequently discussed MMIS-related concerns. Muriel went on to report the committee discussed HB 2009, the Health Authority Law, which creates the Oregon Health Authority and integrates state health policy and health insurance planning, policy and functions under a



'citizen Board'; there is a July 17<sup>th</sup> conference call slated for LGAC to discuss next steps for HB 2009 – at this point, it is unknown if the call is only for county commissioners and other stakeholders or will be open to all interested.

Muriel continued, stating DHS Director, Dr. Bruce Goldberg, compared dollars from the 2007-09 budget to the 2009-11 budget; the current, 2009-11 budget includes a larger number of general funds due to cuts – not an expanding budget.

### **Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB):**

Kathleen O'Leary, CLHO rep on PHAB, stated the Board most recently met on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Bill Coulombe added that while it was reported the Tobacco Prevention and Education Program budget would be cut by \$1.2m, that projection is actually closer to \$2.2m, making it close to a 20% cut.

Kathleen reported Dr. Mel Kohn debriefed on the Public Health Divisions activities in response to H1N1 outbreak as well as presenting information on salt intake and its relationship with the leading causes of death in the U.S., heart disease and stroke. The sub-committee of PHAB is currently preparing a business case for public health focusing on tobacco – including implications and economics – in an effort to use tobacco as an example of why investing in public health makes 'good business sense'.

### **Home Visiting:**

Sue Omel reported federal dollars may be coming to states to fund home visiting programs. Early Support for Families Act or HR 2667 is federal legislation introduced approximately two weeks ago "To amend part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide grants to States to establish or expand quality programs providing home visitation for families with young children and families expecting children". The bill would require a state match of 15% in the first year, 20% in year two, and a 25% match by year three and would dole out an estimated \$8.6b in funding, over 10 years. The funding is to incentivize states' primary focus on evidence-based programs; additional programs may be eligible for funding, if they are structured to evolve into evidence-based programs. States are to submit grant applications detailing current needs and the level of those needs to be considered. Sue explained she wanted to update CLHO members with this information in case the bill is passed and funding allocated, adding she wants to ensure Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) has an unbiased look and potentially receives some funding.

Sue asked CLHO members what her 'next steps' should include, taking this to CLHO MCH for a recommendation back to CLHO or forming a new group to discuss. Kathleen proposed using small county reps and CLHO MCH to get both properly prepared and informed on the subject; adding she will take the lead on spearheading this effort.

### **Nominating Committee:**

Kathleen O'Leary reported Conference of Local Health Officials officer elections will be in November, with a slate of nominees being presented at least 30 days prior, according to bylaws. The bylaws also dictate the committee must include at least 5 members – Kathleen asked for volunteers to serve:

- Rod Calkins (*Marion*) volunteered to serve as committee Chair
- Jan Wallinder (*Multnomah*) volunteered to serve on the committee as the AOPHNS Rep
- Gary Oxman (*Multnomah*) will follow up with Rod and tell him who will serve as the Health Officers Caucus Rep on the committee
- Georganne Greene (*Curry*) will also follow up with Rod and tell him who will serve as the Public Health Administrative Officer (PHAO) Rep on the committee



### **Meeting Schedule:**

Kathleen O’Leary explained that last summer, CLHO did not meet in July or August, however due to the level of activities and potentially time-sensitive agenda items, she would like to schedule a tentative August meeting that can be cancelled if need be. **CLHO is tentatively scheduled to meet on Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup> in Portland, OR.**

### **School-Based Health Centers:**

Karen Gillette thanked CLHO MCH and state staff for their work on a revised School-Based Health Center (SBHC) funding formula prepared for DHS; the CLHO Funding Formula (FF) committee approved the change.

#### **Action:**

Karen Gillette moved and Genni Lehnert seconded CLHO’s acceptance of the revised funding formula. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Accreditation:**

Tom Engle reported that a few months ago, he first brought the accreditation movement to CLHO for discussion – the subsequent action of that discussion was a charge for a workgroup to look at and examine it. Shannon Dames agreed to revamp the current accreditation tool so it can be used as a self-assessment tool. Tom proposed that a deliverable be written into the contract, providing \$3k to counties to execute the survey, and have completion be a requirement. He encouraged counties to analyze survey results, examining gaps and how to improve accreditation – including possibly linking with another county who scored higher in areas they did not. Tom added the hope is to have the results finished by September.

#### **Action:**

Genni Lehnert moved and Jan Wallinder seconded the approval of modifying the contract as explained by Tom. Motion passed by consensus, with one ‘nay’ vote.

### **County Officials for Health Reform:**

Lillian Shirley reported this resolution is an effort to give those at the local level a ‘voice’ in the healthcare reform discussion, in light of the recent introduction of the Senate Health Reform Bill, by Senator Edward Kennedy; the bill, Lillian explained, is ‘very good for public health’. Tom Engle asked if Lillian has brought this to all county governments, she responded, so far it has just gone to NACo members.

Lillian reported her ‘next steps’ include obtaining resolution approval from the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners. She added she will be happy to engage in off-line communication with CLHO members who have questions or would like to discuss this further.

**Meeting was adjourned at 11:55a.**