



Conference of Local Health Officials April 17, 2008 Meeting 10:00am-11:30pm *DRAFT Minutes*

Agencies Represented:

Tom Eversole, Vice Chair (*Benton*); Frances Smith, At Large Rep (*Coos*); Muriel de la Vergne-Brown (*Crook*); Dan Peddycord (*Deschutes*); Ellen Larsen (*Hood River*); Belle Shepherd (*Jackson*); Diane Seyl (*Jefferson*); Karen Gillette (*Lane*); Jeff Lang (*Lane*); Paula Sampson, At-Large Rep (*Lincoln*); Pat Crozier (*Linn*); Anne Peltier (*Linn*); Pam Heilman (*Marion*); Dave Houghton, Chair (*Multnomah*); Gary Oxman, Health Officers Caucus Rep (*Multnomah*); Jan Wallinder, AOPHNS Rep (*Multnomah*); Kathleen O'Leary (*Washington*); Sue Omel, At Large Rep (*Washington*); . Morgan Cowling (*Association of Oregon Counties*); Gordon Fultz (*Association of Oregon Counties*), Linda Fleming (*Coalition Executive Director*)

PHD: Mike Skeels, Interim Public Health Division Director; Katherine Bradley, Administrator Office of Family Health; Tom Engle, PHD/HS Liaison; William Coulombe, Public Health Deputy Director; Rebecca Clark, Public Health Nurse Consultant

Guest(s):

Jessica Camargo Guernsey, Program Supervisor, Multnomah County Health Department; Gail Shibley, Administrator Oregon Office of Environmental Health

County Roll Call:

Thirteen Oregon Counties were represented at the April 17, 2008 meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials: Benton, Coos, Crook, Deschutes, Hood River, Jackson, Jefferson, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Multnomah and Washington.

Due to a lack of quorum by county representation, the meeting was convened with a quorum of the Conference Executive Committee.

Convene:

Dave Houghton, Chair convened the April 2008 meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials at 10am.

Agenda Review/Announcements:

Linda Fleming announced today is Anne Peltier's final day before retirement and on behalf of the Conference of Local Health Officials, she thanked Anne for her many years of outstanding service including her role as CLHO representative on the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC).

Any CLHO member interested in assuming the soon to be vacant role of CLHO representative on LGAC should contact Linda.

Mike Skeels reported the search committee charged with identifying potential candidates for the vacant Director of the Oregon Public Health Division position will hold its third meeting soon; adding materials soliciting applications from qualified applicants have been widely disseminated. Dave Houghton encouraged CLHO members to refer candidates possessing strong leadership for consideration.



Minutes:

Action: Jan Wallinder moved and Gary Oxman seconded the approval of the March 20, 2008 meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials.

Motion approved unanimously with no discussion.

LGAC:

Anne Peltier acknowledged Bill Coulombe's extremely supportive work with LGAC, adding his participation has provided a good local public health perspective; she also acknowledged Gordon Fultz's involvement and advocacy in LGAC meetings. At the most recent meeting, Patty O'Sullivan shared the state's 2007-09 legislative strategy represented in the draft of POPs in 5 areas: Children's Health & Safety, Community Infrastructure, Access to Healthcare, Access to Mental Healthcare and Preparedness/Health Promotion. The state's legislative approach is one of requesting 'what is needed' vs. 'what is wanted'. DHS Budget meetings are taking place, and the public is encouraged to attend. Mike Skeels stated it would be helpful for public health employees at LHDs to attend, promoting the message that they need more funding to offer basic services in their counties.

Although the deadline has passed for submitting DHS Transformation Initiative Surveys, people are still encouraged to submit them. The roadmap, which will be created using assessment results to draft a recommendation to transform DHS into a world class organization, will be done in mid-June 2008. Approximately 15 division initiatives (e.g. the exploration of regionalization) have been identified and the next step will be prioritization to be followed by implementation, through training to align with the Lean System. Lean is a widespread, global program designed with industry standards aimed at supporting firms in transforming to world-class organizations.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Leadership Team (PHEPLT):

Dave Houghton reported a major driver of discussions at recent PHEPLT meetings is decreased preparedness funding from the CDC, Jessica Camargo Guernsey added she has been the team's Co-Chair for nearly four months and committee membership has been both supportive and engaged. The committee has recently taken on two major issues: the development of a 3-5 year strategic framework for public health preparedness in the state of Oregon with realistic expectations in light of decreased funding, and a funding formula review to recommend formula options/changes in a declining funding environment meaning any formula change is a zero sum gain. Although the committee's timeline is tentative, they anticipate coming back to the May Conference meeting for a vote on a formula change, contingent on an FFC discussion. Diane Seyl reported she would send appropriate materials to FFC members prior to their next meeting on April 28, 2008. Tom Eversole suggested if the committee's goal is to get an approval on a funding formula change at the May CLHO meeting, it may be helpful to send materials to CLHO members questions can be taken to the next PHEPLT meeting and responses can be crafted as a piece of the presentation at the May CLHO meeting.

Environmental Health Workgroup:

Linda Fleming reported she was charged with the coordination of an Environmental Health Workgroup per the November 2006 revision of the bylaws, which mandated a standing committee around environmental health issues. Dave and Linda met with CLEHS last fall to discuss the workgroup's charge and how its functions will differ that of from CLEHS. The original intent of the workgroup was to have a multidisciplinary membership to cover environmental health issues that



expand into other disciplines, highlighting the connectivity (e.g. Multnomah County's Healthy Homes grant from HUD, driven by environmental health standards but is staffed by Public Health Nurses). The workgroup's membership will consist of Environmental Health Specialists, Public Health Nurses, Health Officers and LHD Administrators; CLEHS and AOPHNS are to assign representatives to serve on the workgroup. Any recommendations from the workgroup would go to the Conference Executive Committee for consideration.

Linda will come back soon with a vision, charge and guiding principles for the workgroup. **Any CLHO member with suggestions is encouraged to contact Linda.**

CLEHS members have expressed the need for facilitated planning to help guide the group's practice, they will submit a proposal asking for funding for a facilitator. Linda encouraged CLHO members to approve this proposal as it is important to support CLEHS.

Other:

Dave Houghton formally appointed Shannon Dames, of Deschutes County, to the PHELPT.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.