



Conference of Local Health Officials September 18, 2008 Meeting 9:00am-11:45am *DRAFT Minutes*

Agencies Represented:

Charlie Fautin (*Benton*); Marti Franc (*Clackamas*); Joelle Archibald (*Clatsop*); Karen Fox Ladd (*Columbia*); Frances Smith, At Large Rep (*Coos*); Muriel DeLaVergne-Brown (*Crook*); Peggy Kennerly (*Douglas*); Ellen Larsen (*Hood River*); Mike McNickle (*Jefferson*); Belle Shepherd (*Josephine*); Marilyn Sutherland (*Klamath*); Karen Gillette (*Lane*); Paula Sampson (*Lincoln*); Pat Crozier (*Linn*); Dave Houghton, Chair (*Multnomah*); Gary Oxman, Health Officers Caucus Rep (*Multnomah*); Jan Wallinder, AOPHNS Rep (*Multnomah*); Lillian Shirley (*Multnomah*); Andy Walker (*Polk*); Genni Lehnert (*Umatilla*); Carrie Brogoitti (*Union*); Lynette Benjamin (*Wasco-Sherman*); Kathleen O'Leary (*Washington*); Karen Koskela (*Wheeler*)
Morgan Cowling (*Association of Oregon Counties*); Gordon Fultz (*Association of Oregon Counties*), Linda Fleming (*Coalition Executive Director*)

PHD: Mel Kohn, Acting Public Health Division Director; Grant Higginson, Health Division; ike Skeels, Interim Public Health Division Director; Katherine Bradley, Administrator Office of Family Health; Tom Engle, PHD/HS Liaison; Bill Coulombe, Public Health Deputy Director; Laurie Smith, PHD/HS; Gail Shibley

Guest(s):

Jessica Camargo Guernsey, Multnomah County Health Department; Randy Shaw, County Liaison Program Manager, DHS; Beth Crane, Operations Manager, DHS;

County Roll Call:

Twenty-one Oregon Counties were represented at the September 19, 2008 meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials: Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Crook, Douglas, Hood River, Jefferson, Josephine, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Multnomah, Polk, Umatilla, Union, Wasco-Sherman, Washington and Wheeler.

A quorum by county representation was established, and the meeting was convened with a quorum of counties.

Convene:

Dave Houghton, Chair convened the September 2008 meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials at 9am.

Announcements:

Karen Gillette announced Lane County's FQHC is desperately recruiting a physician, she asked that anyone interested be referred.

Frances Smith accounted Coos County has a levy to fund public health on the ballot at \$.09/1,000. The debate in the media is being framed as total state funding v. by county; adding, however, that the unfortunate view of some is if the levy is approved the state would give less money and if it is not approved, then the county and state aren't interested in funding.



Committees:

Dave Houghton formally made the following appointments/changes to the **Environmental Health Committee:**

- Toby Harris, Chair
- Charlie Fautin
- Chris Wirth
- Ellen Larsen
- Dan Peddycord

Dave commented the committee membership has a good mix of administrators and those working in environmental health. The committee's work on their first charge, the climate change survey, is still in the early stages – updates will be made at later meetings. **Please let Dave know if you are interested in joining.**

Dave Houghton formally made the following appointments/changes to the **Public Health Emergency Leadership Preparedness Team:**

- Gary Oxman & Dave Houghton *resigned*
- Paul Lewis & Genni Lehnert *were appointed*
Paul Lewis recently became the tri-county Health Officer.

LGAC:

Linda reported originally Anne Peltier, former CLHO rep on LGAC, planned to retire however is now on administrative leave and will return in December; she will resume her role as CLHO rep on LGAC.

Most of Linda's update is budget related and in regards to the dire projections of a budget shortfall and an increased demand of services from DHS is responsible for the 'red' budget. Linda stated she would report more in depth in the legislative report agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Action:

Karen Gillette moved and Genni Lehnert seconded the approval of the Title X Added Funds Formula and the TROCD Funding Formula.

The motion was approved with no abstentions or oppositions.

PE 12/PHEP:

Randy Shaw reported that in the past, a working group of county and state representatives made revisions to PHEP PEs, however in this process, PHELPT gave direction in light of the budget shortfall. He then gave a brief overview of the changes/updates made:

- the CD requirement was removed – CD elements will end up in PE 1 where they used to be
- there is a separate PE for CRI
- there is added language regarding a logistics working group
- no new plan development
- reduced exercises from 3 to 2
- PE 12 includes guidance from the CDC



Frances Smith asked if the formal review tool was consistently used at every site; Randy responded, the same tool is used across the state and the data from the annual summaries is used to create a workplan for the assigned liaison and reported to CDC. The review is crucial to identifying gaps.

Paula Sampson commented she would like the state to consider alternatives to the annual review requirement, especially in light of budget cuts and subsequent job shifting; adding the time it takes to complete the review outweighs the benefit. Marti Franc added that although she saw the educational value in the initial reviews, she questioned the need for an ongoing annual review. Paula continued that the option for counties to self-assess and have some input in the process would be beneficial.

Dave Houghton suggested a motion to adopt with the contingency that review language be modified to reference technical assistance piece and tie to a tri-annual review cycle. Randy responded that the state is required to report to the CDC on an annual basis adding there have been some past accuracy issues with self-reporting.

Jessica Camargo Guernsey reported the funding formula for this PE is unchanged, adding a workgroup was convened to look at the PE 12 FF and in May it was proposed a transitional FF be brought to CLHO, however feedback suggested it wasn't ready to bring to CLHO. The current FF in PE 12 is the same as it was in 2007; the amount of money coming in will not change.

Beth Crane reported if PE 12 is adopted today, it will be included in the September amendment with formal documents available for viewing in October, pending an update from DOJ. She stated she will send a spreadsheet so counties can see the numbers.

Action:

Karen Gillette moved and Kathleen O'Leary seconded the adoption of PE 12.

The motion passed with no abstentions and 1 opposition.

TPEP:

Linda Fleming reported it is difficult to manage TPEP when cost allocations undulate, causing problems at the program level. There is much concern about fluctuating allocation and miscommunication. Mel Kohn added this is a long-term and frustrating issue that unfortunately goes across all programs. There will be some adjustments - program level employees have tried to look at contractual/one-time dollars to hold until the end of the biennium to fix the budget shortfall. No percentage allocation for upcoming years has changed, but the issue will probably have to be revisited in an open process.

Linda added Commissioners are not wanting to get involved due to the program's previous de-funding, adding they are concerned about the message to legislators – and it is in everyone's best interests to 'fix' the problem prior to the legislative session.

New PH Funding:

Linda reported POPs for new general funds essentially have no chance of survival, however there is good news – the Oregon Health Fund Board (OHFB) will potentially contribute \$55m with \$25m to the local public health system and \$2m to the state; remaining funds would be used around the prevention act. Bruce Goldberg's office has asked CLHO to take the POP and revise it as necessary, asking for a summary of distribution, but a broad summary v. specific spending, i.e. answering 'How would the funds be allocated? What would it do for the public health system?'



In the draft Guiding Principles draft Linda electronically distributed to CLHO members, she stated she tried to reflect the tone of the first meeting with the Timber Task Force while maintaining an allegiance to the Capacity Assessment Report. The draft encourages core funding, not competitive and combining/sharing services per the interests of counties; the current structure is a disincentive for combining/sharing services as two or more counties joining forces get 1 base.

Please send any feedback to Linda so ultimately principles can be accepted by everyone.

Gary Oxman asked CLHO members to pay careful attention to the principles and align now and not just when the financial piece comes out. He added it is critical and tantamount to the success of CLHO's legislative priorities.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.