



## **Coalition of Local Health Officials meeting 11:30am-12:06pm**

*DRAFT Minutes: March 15, 2007*

### **Agencies Represented:**

Tom Eversole, At Large (*Benton*); Marti Franc (*Clackamas*); Frances Smith, Vice Chair (*Coos*); Georganne Greene, PHAO Rep (*Curry*); Karen Triplett\* (*Grant*); Ellen Larsen (*Hood River*); Mark Orndoff\* (*Jackson*); Diane Seyl\* (*Jefferson*); Belle Shepherd (*Josephine*); Karen Gillette\* (*Lane*); Paula Sampson (*Lincoln*); Penny Walters\* (*Malheur*); Rod Calkins (*Marion*); Dave Houghton, Chair (*Multnomah*); Gary Oxman, Health Officers Caucus Rep (*Multnomah*); Jan Wallinder, AOPHNS Rep (*Multnomah*); Roberta Hellman (*Washington*); Sue Omel (*Washington*); Linda Fleming, Executive Director **OHD**: Katherine Bradley, Tom Engle, Mike Harriman, Gail Shibley

\* *participated via videoconference*

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

### **Convene/Introductions:**

The meeting of the Conference of Local Health Officials was convened at 11:36am by Chair, Dave Houghton, with six Executive Committee members present.

### **Coalition Legislative Strategy/Activities:**

Linda Fleming reported the CMS response letter was sent earlier in the week and congressional delegations and DHS were copied. All counties received an electronic copy of the letter.

Linda further reported she recently met with Bruce Goldberg, director of Oregon DHS, to discuss the escalation of outbreaks in senior living facilities. She went on to report Bruce is committed to having more discussion on how DHS can support a resolution to this with the application of public health principles.

The general consensus out of the legislature is that the \$5 million state support for public health, HB 5031, is not being well received. Linda explained that is why emails have been sent stressing the importance of contacting members of the House Ways and Means committee. She added she recently received a call to create a document detailing the important of this money to support public health. Gordon Fultz, of AOC, is developing a handout and will ensure Representative Schrader receives it.

Gail Shibley reported CLHO's help is needed specifically when talking about Clackamas County – adding this is crunch time. She recently met with the Senate President and this is the first time anyone has raised this issue regarding DHS. Gail added that when setting up legislative meetings, CLHO members should remember the Senate President, Speaker of the House and the four Caucuses – to help keep this issue raised in all caucus meetings.



Linda Fleming briefly reported on HB 2535 – the malt beverage recovery fee. A public hearing has been scheduled and public health funding is still in the bill at 7.7%. Senator Morrisette asked Linda to testify and in her testimony, she will focus on prevention/intervention efforts and have a public health nurse talk about the work he/she does and how it will be impacted by HB 2535.

Linda then reported on HB 2850 – which relates to primary care health services for children and is sponsored by the Oregon Nurses Association. Linda is planning to testify about what Babies First! is and how it differs from other home-visiting programs. Mary Lou Hennrich, Linda explained, is also slated to testify as ex-CEO of CareOregon.

**Linda Fleming welcomes all comments and input.**

Lila Wickham reported on SB 895 – which eliminates language around restaurant inspections every six months and is sponsored by Senator Winters at the request of the Oregon Restaurant Association. The bill basically pulls the infrastructure out of the restaurant inspection process. The general idea is that **CLHO not support this bill**. Linda Fleming added the need to investigate if the bill has been assigned to committee and then discuss who is on the committee and strategize a response.

Linda Fleming stated she is interested in knowing how many people used their communication kits to meet with legislators. At the end of the session, she explained, they will discuss the process and fine tune as necessary.

Dave Houghton stated Linda is doing in excellent job in Salem diligently advocating in the legislature.

**The Coalition adjourned at 12:06pm.**