

**CONFERENCE OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
July 20, 2006
Portland, Oregon**

The meeting was convened at 9:51 a.m. by Dave Houghton, Chair, with seven Executive Committee members present. Anne Peltier was absent; the Vice-Chair position is vacant.

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Videoconference on proposed voluntary credentialing of health departments.

Oregon Benchmarks – Linda Fleming

Linda reported that the Benchmarks are being reviewed for relevance, need for revision, status, etc. She suggested to Susan Allan that DHS/PHD might want to look at the health benchmarks and make recommendations to the Progress Board. Linda noted that Preparedness is not in the current benchmarks; it might be appropriate to propose including it and taking the lead on developing the appropriate language and targets.

Transition of BCC Funds – Kathy Schwartz, Jane Moore

The new focus of BCC funds is on increased screening and less administration (i.e. – screening support). CDC will only pay at the Portland area Medicare rate.

After reviewing the recommendations from Funding Formula Committee: Matt Jaqua moved, Tom Eversole seconded that they accept the FFC recommendations (passed unanimously).

Clarification: There will be funds available for provider contracts in the interim transition from counties to a state-centralized system.

Chlamydia Funding Formula – Kathy Schwartz

Title X funding for non-FPEP/OHP eligible women has been awarded to the state (\$50, 000 vs. \$51, 000 before). The proposed distribution for chlamydia testing is based on the number of tests actually done by each agency vs. the number of women, as in previous years.

Jan Wallinder moved; Genni Lehnert seconded: approve the FFC recommendation (passed unanimously).

PHEPLT – Roberta Hellman

Handouts: calendar of events for Pan Flu funding; recent Emergency Preparedness activities.

Roberta reported that the funds' guidance is continually shifting. Original: dual use between Preparedness planning and infectious disease control. Now: evolved to Preparedness only, but there will be other funds coming (e.g. – Pan Flu, HRSA) In this scenario, the leadership team continues to grapple with how the state/local system responds to the funding conditions and the gaps analysis. The current funding formula may or may not be appropriate. The state will look at the formula based on the gaps analysis and the changes in funds. The PHEPLT will meet August 16 to review the outcomes and decided on a proposed funds allocation.

The application for Phase II Pan Flu funds is out. Oregon may apply for \$2.8M. The turnaround time is again short. The state will present its plan and suggestions for the funding formula along with a budget to the PHEPLT. The presentation will provide a master view of the overall program budget, including CDC Preparedness and Pan Flu funds.

Concern: the core communicable disease expectations are probably not vulnerable in this funding scenario, but how do they prioritize and fund new expectations?

Roberta requested reaffirmation that PHEPLT has the authority to move forward on this application without coming back to CLHO Executive Committee (reaffirmed by consensus).

Kathy Schwartz asked how the \$200K set aside in the Phase I Pan Flu application to defer costs of those participating in the November exercise were going to be disbursed. There was general discussion and several suggestions. Decision: The CLHO PHEPLT representatives will advise DHS/PHD on how best to distribute the funds.

Public Health Law Review – Dave Houghton, Susan Allan, Bob Shoemaker, Shannon O’Fallon

The draft document was e-mailed to administrators on July 19 by Tom Engle. Other copies were made available at the meeting.

Susan Allan introduced Bob Shoemaker as the Chair of the workgroup and Shannon O’Fallon as the assistant AG assigned to Public Health and this project.

Purpose of this discussion: understand the key points of the proposed revisions; identify next steps; work toward eventual consensus and consistency; encourage active involvement and understanding.

Bob Shoemaker described Phase I as dealing with ORS pertaining to Emergency Preparedness; Phase II will look at the overall ORS chapters relating to Public Health. He also described the process of getting the bill from the workgroup to Legislative Council and assigned to a legislative committee.

It was agreed that there will be several opportunities to provide input between now and the end of the legislative session, but CLHO prefers to get its request for changes to Susan Allan and Legislative Council by fall to avoid any misunderstandings before the legislature.

Process for CLHO review and input:

- **The draft has already been sent electronically to all health departments, but it will be resent in pdf format.**
- **A communication will go from Dave to members to review the proposed draft and current ORS and how to provide feedback. Timeline for feedback: 8/10. BE SPECIFIC IN COMMENTS.**
- **The draft will be more thoroughly discussed at the August meeting with a CLHO response developed and forwarded to Katy King following the meeting.**

The state will contact Patrick Henry to get the draft out to the County Counsels Group.

Future Agendas

- MCH update
- Law Review response
- OD update and progress
- Social Marketing/Legislative process
- PHEPLT update

No Exec-Exec in August. CLHO meeting will start at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned.