

Conference of Local Health Officials Executive Committee Meeting DRAFT Minutes: August 17, 2006

Agencies Represented: Tom Eversole (Benton Co.); Marti Franc (Clackamas Co.); Georgeanne Greene (Curry Co.); Dan Peddycord (Deschutes Co.); Peggy Kennerly (Douglas Co.); Ellen Larsen (Hood River Co.); Mark Orndoff (Jackson Co.); Leslee O'Brien (Josephine Co.); Paula Sampson (Lincoln Co.); Anne Peltier (Linn Co.); Dave Houghton (Multnomah Co.); Gary Oxman (Multnomah Co.); Jan Wallinder (Multnomah Co.); Lisa Ladendorff (Union Co.); Sue Omel (Washington Co.); Matt Jaqua (Yamhill Co.); Linda Fleming, staff; Tom Engle, Susan Allan, Eric Pippert, Gail Shibley (DHS/PHD)

Guest(s):

David Rosenfeld (*Oregon Health News*)

Call to Order:

The Executive Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair, Dave Houghton, with seven Executive Committee members present. The Vice-chair position is vacant.

Review Agenda/Desired Outcomes

Due to a schedule conflict with Susan Allan, Dave Houghton reordered the agenda to put the PHEPLT update as the first agenda item.

PHEPLT Update – Susan Allan/Dave Houghton

Susan Allan reported that in her strategizing around emergency preparedness she first considers: 'What are the State's priorities?' And then, 'How can the State reach those priorities with its resources?' Susan went on to report she invited HRSA legislative management to the PHEPLT's August 16, 2006 retreat, where the group discussed proposed funds allocation among other related items, and from the retreat, ten priorities naturally emerged. After the priorities are organized by the facilitator, Susan will bring them to the Executive Committee.

Susan then reported the proposal for local assessment is going well, adding that, according to Mike Harryman (State Public Health Preparedness Manager), all five local Public Health Liaison positions have been filled.

PH Law Review Response

Dave Houghton distributed a handout which detailed his proposed revisions to Section 6 of the July 13, 2006 version of the draft act. He stated Susan Allan requested alternative language which would convey the statute's intent to protect the public and stressed the importance of communicating that the statute would be used rarely and only when there are no other options. The section is intended for time-sensitive public health concerns that are not considered to be emergencies and does not alter the pre-existing autonomy of local health departments, as the responsibilities of local health departments are not to be superseded by the proposal. Dave Houghton stated, by design the proposal allows for seamless command as it allows for quick action without controversy.

Gary Oxman noted Section 6 does not provide clear enough standards to when the state public health authority can step in. He then added the statute needs to be written so it can be easily facilitated and makes it obvious when the State should or should not step in and take leadership roles in individual counties.

Linda Fleming will send Dave Houghton's draft to administrators for comment. Administrators were encouraged to email any proposed language changes to Dave or Linda Fleming.

Approve June 2006 minutes – Executive Committee

Jan Wallinder noted the person referred to as Roberta Foley in the minutes is actually Ramona Foley.

Tom Eversole moved and Jan Wallinder seconded the approval of the June 2006 minutes, contingent on the correction noted above. Motion passed unanimously.

Maternal Child Health (MCH) Update – Sue Omel

Sue Omel reported on a recent federal audit of targeted case management which yielded concern over double-billing. In response to this concern a matrix was created to show what agency can bill and for what services. The outcome was a prioritized list of the order of billing, which included: Child Welfare, Babies First, Cacoon (up to 3 years) and Early Intervention.

She further reported the public health system bills on an encounter basis while all other systems bill on a capitated rate, however, OMAP is looking to have the public health system also bill on a capitated rate.

Sue Omel went on to report Nurse Family Partnership, a program to improve the health and social functioning of low-income first-time mothers and their infants, is currently only provided in Multnomah County. CLHO MCH is currently looking into initiating this program in other counties. There are barriers to the Nurse Family Partnership program, including cost, staff, lack of funding and recruitment and retention of nursing staff.

CLHO MCH is encouraging administrators to attend an information/worksession on NFP on Sept. 11 in Portland or one of the videoconference broadcasts around the state.

New Staff Person – Linda Fleming

Linda Fleming introduced Ebony Williams, Program Assistant with Community Health Partnership (CHP) as CLHO's new part-time staff person. She reported, through December 31, 2006, CLHO will pay for ten hours per week of Ebony's time. Linda also informed the committee CHP is also offering free office space/computer use for Linda, in addition to free lobbying services, free time from Kari McFarlan, Public Health Specialist at CHP to develop materials and free research/development services.

Food Services Workplan – Eric Pippert

Eric Pippert reported this is the tenth year of the food program plan, which was initiated as a result of the 1993 legislative session and is built around ten essential environmental health services. He explained there are 6,900 staff hours devoted to the program and a system has been put in place to compare allocated time v. the amount of time spent. There is currently time allocated for staff to attend both ICS training and Food Defense Task Force meetings. Linda Fleming explained the program came about due to CLEHS urging CLHO to obtain a better picture of what reimbursement is actually paying for.

Matt Jaqua noted the workplan has changed slightly from previous versions in that some desired functions have been reprioritized as high priority functions. And further, there has been a substantial reassessment of service and tools in the field.

Jan Wallinder moved and Anne Peltier seconded the approval of the Food Service Plan as presented by Eric Pippert. Motion passed unanimously.

Other/Wrap-up

Dave Houghton noted that based on the Law Review Response Group meeting and today's comments and other input, Shannon O'Fallon, Senior Assistant to the Attorney General, is redrafting the document. Either Linda Fleming or Dave will distribute the revised version to CLHO and PHAO. The revisions are to include changes to Section 6, different language around court-ordered treatment(s) and language related to the administrator authorities.

Process for drafting legislation:

- Shannon O'Fallon is redrafting the language based on input to date.
- They meet with the ACLU August 18.
- The revised draft will be out the week of August 21.
- They meet with Legislative Counsel the end of August to draft the legislation.
- There will be a ten day review period following release of the draft legislation.

Other discussion included a recommendation to change the authority to declare emergencies from the Health Officer to the Administrator and allow delegation of the authority to the Health Officer at the discretion of the Administrator.

Dave Houghton reported that he had not received a response from TACS regarding assistance with drafting revisions to the CLHO by-laws. He will continue his efforts to contact them. Dave and Bill Coulombe will be discussing how to proceed with videoconferencing, with a possible demo in October. Dave was reminded that CLHO in October is in Corvallis, November in Eugene, and January through June 2007 in Salem. Videoconferencing may be problematic.

Meeting adjourned.