

**Office for Health Policy & Research  
Health Policy Commission  
Healthy Oregon Work Group**

**2005 Meeting Notes**

**February 17, 2005 11a.m.-Noon 255 Capitol St NE Room 500A, Salem, OR**

**April 21, 2005 11a.m.-1p.m. 255 Capitol St NE Room 500A, Salem, OR**

**Healthy Oregon Work Group Meeting Notes**  
**February 17, 2005**  
**Public Service Building Room 500A**  
**255 Capitol St NE**  
**Salem, Oregon**

**Members Present:** Jim Lussier, Grant Higginson, Mary Lou Hennrich, John Valley, Heather Young (via telephone)

**Members Excused:** Governor Roberts, Kent Hunsaker, Jim Lace, James Mason

**Staff:** Gretchen Morley, Director, Oregon Health Policy Commission  
Jessica van Diepen, Assistant, Oregon Health Policy Commission

Call to order 11:05 a.m.

**I. Legislative Update**

- Status of HB 2025 (Fluoridation) – two amendments being considered: (-1) gives municipalities the authority to opt out, (-2) delays implementation until either public or private funding can be found to pay for it
- John Valley asks what the role of the Commission is in supporting its legislation. Gretchen replies that she will be in contact with legislative committee administrators to arrange for testimony as hearings are scheduled. Each Commission bill will have a Commissioner assigned to it to make decisions on testimony. It is also important for the Commission to communicate the context of these legislative ideas, especially the ones with fiscal impacts that make them unlikely to pass this session
- John Valley would like feedback on the Commission's position on HB 2024, HB 2048, HB 5076, SB 228 and tobacco efforts in general and suggests that the Commission consider the positions of other stakeholders when deciding on what legislation to advocate
- Mary Lou Hennrich would like the Commission to consider getting behind SB 560 when it is properly amended to reflect the school nutrition standards the Health Status Work Group had in mind originally; she believes that the Commission's HB 2023 does not accomplish this.
- Mary Lou Hennrich asks for clarification about when or if her testimony before the Legislature speaks for the work group or for the Commission; Gretchen replies that that will be decided for each bill as it comes up

**II. Commission Update/Discussion of Healthy Oregon Proposal**

- Healthy Oregon Program proposal was authored by Jim Lussier at the request of the Commission as the Commission was deciding how to move forward in 2005 on the areas outlined by the 2004 work groups; the program will raise the consciousness level and focus of public entities and

private groups toward common goals and efforts on lifestyle issues for the long term

- There is consensus that the current work group members want to go forward with the program proposal and to add representatives from the business community and public schools to the roster
- The next step will be to circulate the proposal widely to grassroots efforts currently underway as well as to government and business groups. In doing this we will collect valuable feedback as well as enlist supporters and participants for the program
- John Valley would like the work group to consider setting benchmarks and concrete state policy changes via legislation (when appropriate) to ensure that this effort is more than a billboard campaign

**Adjournment: 12:03pm**

### **Assignments**

- Enlist new work group members from the business community and the public school system

### **Next Meeting Agenda:**

- Refine Healthy Oregon Program proposal

**Healthy Oregon Work Group Meeting Notes**  
**April 21, 2005**  
**Public Service Building Room 500A**  
**255 Capitol St NE**  
**Salem, Oregon**

**Members Present:** Jim Lussier, Robert Delf, Mary Lou Hennrich, Kent Hunsaker, Jim Lace

**Members Excused:** Grant Higginson, Governor Roberts, John Valley, Heather Young, James Mason

**Staff:** Gretchen Morley, Director, Oregon Health Policy Commission  
Jessica van Diepen, Assistant, Oregon Health Policy Commission

Call to order 11:10a.m.

**I. Introductions (Tape Side A 000-168)**

- Welcome new co-chair of the Healthy Oregon workgroup, Rob Delf, Executive Director, Medical Society of Metropolitan Portland

**II. Legislation (170-530)**

***Discussion - Obesity***

- Food and Beverage Vendors in Schools (SB 560 & SB 860)
  - SB 860 was heard in Senate Committee on March 28. The Chair stated that she was not interested in legislation that mandated revenue constraints on school districts.
  - Optimizing the healthfulness of the 6 hours per day that students spend in school is a good idea; however, those 6 hours will not make up for an unhealthy lifestyle outside of schools. Societal trends away from regular exercise, outdoor recreational activities, and regular, nutritionally balanced meals are the most difficult issues to address, but they are the ones that most affect the obesity problem. There needs to be community engagement.
- SB 228 (increased mandatory physical education): Not moving in Ways & Means because of money and space constraints on schools.
- SB 618 (breast-feeding in the workplace): workgroup member noted that breast-feeding for 6 months or more results in 15-25% reduction in childhood obesity; SB 618 passed Senate, will be heard in House Health & Human Services Committee soon.
- HB 2329 (Body-mass index in schools): Not moving, partly because the medical community is not accustomed to making use of this information. Further, the index is only a starting point for discussion and education on healthier lifestyle choices, which schools are not currently set up to handle either curriculum-wise or financially. There is also a balance to be struck

between helping kids understand their health status without creating negative self-images. Anecdotal evidence suggests that kids are very interested in learning about their health status and life skills around health.

**III. Discussion of the proposed Healthy Oregon initiative and identification of components for consideration (530-Tape Side B 037-495)**

- Sponsor a summit for initiatives across Oregon.
- Generate/stimulate local initiatives (ala Central Oregon Health Council)
- Take priorities identified by previous work groups, do an inventory of what programs are in place, & provide the public with a statewide resource for technical assistance & information sharing (best practices) for developing programs in their own local areas.
- Initiate a public-health campaign, using the lessons learned by the tobacco-cessation efforts over the years, around a disease such as diabetes.
- Important to articulate the difference between health and health care; programs such as Healthy Start are very cost effective compared to the treatment of disease resulting from unhealthy lifestyle choices.

**Adjournment: 12:40pm**

**Assignments**

- Email Gretchen ideas for the inventory of who should be contacted
- Let Gretchen know if you have any specific ideas about additional work group members

**Next Meeting Agenda:**

- Continued development of Healthy Oregon initiative

**Handouts:**

**I. Agenda**

**II. Proposed Work Plan**