

Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB)
March 4, 2011
Portland, OR
Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Board Members Present: Betty Bode, Tom Eversole, Barry Kast, Tran Miers, Bill Perry, Mike Plunkett, Alejandro Queral, Bob Shoemaker, Steve Westberg, Liana Winett

Board Members Absent: Thomas Aschenbrener, Shawn Baird, Kathleen O’Leary, Rick Stone

OHA Public Health Division Staff: Katherine Bradley, Bill Coulombe, Katy King, Mel Kohn, Brittany Sande, Gail Shibley

Members of the Public: Morgan Cowling, Coalition of Local Health Officials; Beryl Fletcher, Oregon Dental Association; Sharron Fuchs, member of the public; Mary Lou Henrich, Oregon Public Health Institute; Connie Kirby, Northwest Food Processors Association; Beth Quartarolo, Oregon Primary Care Association; David Rebanal, Northwest Health Foundation

Opening:

Chair Eversole called the meeting to order, welcomed board members and invited introductions.

Changes to the Agenda or Announcements

No changes to the agenda or announcements were made.

Approval of Minutes

(Handout: *PHAB Meeting Minutes, December 2010*)

A motion was made that the December 2010 minutes be approved as recorded; the motion was seconded; board members voted in favor with no opposition or abstentions; minutes are approved and will stand as written.

Public Comment Period

- Sharron Fuchs, member of the public – High risk out of hospital births, data collection, morbidity/mortality:

Ms. Fuchs shared her concern about data collection by the Center for Health Statistics, Vital Records Unit as it pertains to out of hospital births and the

morbidity/mortality rates of those births, particularly high risk out of hospital births. She opined that more data needs to be collected and that it needs to be made available to the public.

- Morgan Cowling, Coalition of Local Health Officials – The Early Learning Council and the Governor’s proposal:

Governor Kitzhaber has a proposal in his Governor’s Recommended Budget about an Early Learning Council to focus on early childhood and early learning. The Governor’s goal is to make sure that children are ready to read and leave first grade reading. His proposal is to take all of the programs in different state agencies related to early childhood and early learning and put them all into an umbrella under the Early Learning Council. No programs will change in year one, only the money will move. The Governor is putting together a design team to figure out how to better coordinate all of the programs that touch on lives of children age 0 to 5 years. What this means for public health is that the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Maternal and Child Health (MCH) programs would be pulled out of public health and placed under this umbrella. Ms. Cowling emphasized the importance of having a public health voice at the table during the design process.

Public Health Division Update – Dr. Mel Kohn, Public Health Director and State Health Officer, Public Health Division, OHA

Dr. Kohn began by talking about the budget. There is a shortfall that has to be dealt with in the state. He touched on the proposal for the Early Learning Council and what that would mean to the public health budget and where WIC and MCH would end up. Other proposals in the budget would eliminate large portions of general fund to the Drinking Water Program and Emergency Medical Services. Proposed fees would backfill these deductions.

There is also a 20% cut to the Medicaid program in the proposed budget. The Governor convened the Health Systems Transformation Team to look at the Medicaid program to see how it could be restructured and improve the quality of care. The Transformation Team is working on a short timeline. The product of the team will be a legislative concept that will have the Oregon Health Authority issuing a request for proposal for a regional accountable care organization. The regional accountable care organization would do a lot of the care coordination and system redesign work in their communities. Public health will have an important role to play in this. **It was suggested that PHAB have a presentation**

on the regional accountable care organization as a policy issue as it moves statewide. Katy King will work with the PHAB executive committee to line this up as a future topic for a board meeting.

Dr. Kohn also shared information about the public health infrastructure grant. The public health infrastructure grant is a 5-year grant from the CDC to do performance management and quality improvement in the public health system, and to grow and improve infrastructure. A steering committee for this work will be put together and some PHAB members may be asked to participate.

Budget Update – Bill Coulombe, Deputy Public Health Director, Public Health Division, OHA

(Handout: *“Public Health Division’s 2011-2013 Governor’s Balanced Budget”*)

The Governor’s 2011-2013 Balanced Budget proposes a spending level of general fund (GF) support to the Public Health Division (PHD) of \$34 million. PHD is largely funded with federal funds and other funds (\$199.5 million federal and \$64.9 million other fund). The total PHD budget proposed by the GBB is \$313.4 million. See PowerPoint slides for more specific details, including how that \$34 million GF will be distributed to PHD programs. Also included in the presentation slides are the PHD GBB proposed reductions from the 09-11 budget (\$18.9 million) and how the PHD will try to mitigate those reductions.

The GBB envisions the creation of the Early Learning Council to focus on outcomes for children and their families. The Council will unify efforts and resources to a sustained strategy of early childhood investments with measurable results to achieve long term educational and economic objectives. Some PHD, Office of Family Health programs will be transferred to the Council including Babies First, Maternal and Child Health programs and WIC.

Legislative Update and Public Health Advocacy – Katy King, Government Relations Manager, Public Health Division, OHA

(Handout: *“PHAB Legislative Report”*)

There was a PHD budget overview in Ways and Means on February 14, 2011. It was just the first look at the Division’s budget, and there is a second one tentatively scheduled April 5th during Public Health Week. The public testimony evening is tentatively scheduled the evening of Tuesday, April 5th. Katy gave an overview of how PHAB members advocated for public health at the capitol last year and provided testimony at the public testimony hearing on the budget.

The Board participated in some discussion with Katy and Dr. Kohn regarding whether or not PHAB wants to participate like that again and what PHAB's advocacy role would be this year. They also discussed Public Health Week and how the Board wants to proceed with testimony during the public testimony hearing on the budget. The Division can supply information, but to the extent that PHAB wants to do organized activity at the capitol during Public Health Week this year, it needs to be decided on and happen as a board rather than with the Division leading and organizing as in the past. That should not limit the Board or individuals from doing what they feel is necessary. If members have individual questions about lobbying in their own roles, they should talk with their own administration or workplaces.

Katy gave a status update of Public Health Division bills as of early March, including:

- SB 105 – Would dedicate portion of Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) to Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (TPEP)
- SB 106 – EMS for the Future, EMS and Trauma reform – three basic improvements to the EMS system in Oregon: align EMS classifications with national standards; bring non-transporting agencies under the state's regulatory umbrella; and put the EMS Medical Director position in statute
- SB 107 – Expanding the use of the ALERT immunization data for other public health purposes
- SB 108 – Model injury prevention law – an outgrowth of something Dr. Kohn's been involved with nationally. Only a handful of states have statutory authority to do injury prevention as part of public health work.
- HB 2100 – The HB 2009 Clean-up Bill – Changes PHAB's reporting obligation from the Oregon Health Policy Board (OHPB) to the Director of the Oregon Health Authority in statute. This was a mistake that was inadvertently made when HB 2009 was passed in 2009.

Oregon Health Policy Board Action Plan – Tina Edlund, Chief of Policy, Oregon Health Authority

(Handouts: *DRAFT letter from PHAB to Bruce Goldberg, Feb 10, 2011; "Oregon's*

Action Plan for Health”, December 2010; Health Systems Transformation Team Legislative Concept; PowerPoint slides – “Oregon’s Action Plan for Health”)

Tom Eversole began by talking about the draft letter from PHAB to Dr. Bruce Goldberg that the Board agreed to put together at the December meeting, which provides PHAB’s comments to the Oregon Health Authority regarding the plan (Oregon’s Action Plan for Health) that the OHPB put together. Tom included comments and edits that he received from board members in the draft. A motion was made to move the letter forward, the motion was seconded, and the Board engaged in discussion. Alejandro, Liana and Bob proposed amendments to the letter and will work with Tom on those changes. **The Board voted all in favor of sending the letter to Dr. Bruce Goldberg after the amendments are made.**

Tina Edlund began her presentation with some background on “Oregon’s Action Plan for Health” that the OHPB put together. Out of HB 2009 from the 2009 legislative session, OHPB was given an assignment to develop a plan for comprehensive care in the state. The passing of federal health reform in the meantime enabled the OHPB to focus on cost control and delivery system reform. See handouts of slides, proposed legislative concept and “Oregon’s Action Plan for Health” report for further information.

The Health Systems Transformation Team (HSTT) has been tasked with restructuring health care delivery and developing an innovative model with partners across the whole continuum of care. The product of the HSTT’s work is a legislative concept around local accountable care organizations. A request for proposal will then be issued in the fall for people to show how they can partner and deliver the kind of care that the state wants delivered.

Tina asked PHAB for comments on the proposed legislative concept that she shared with the Board. Specifically, she asked PHAB to provide some insight and language that might be incorporated. Board members had a chance to ask questions of Tina and engaged in discussion related to this topic and the request of the Board. Board members that are available will meet to provide input on the legislative concept and get it to Tina by her deadline. **A motion was made for the Board to hold an emergency meeting on March 7 to craft comments on the proposed legislative concept for Tina, the motion was seconded, and the Board voted all in favor to hold a meeting to put together comments.**

Lunch with a Leader – Jeffrey Levi, PhD, Executive Director, Trust for America’s Health

(Handouts: *Biography; PowerPoint slides – “Moving to a society that values prevention: Opportunities in health reform”*)

Dr. Levi began by sharing some information about what the Trust for America’s Health is and what the organization does, and then talked with the Board about health reform in the United States. He touched on topics including the prevention elements in the Affordable Care Act, the key elements of health reform, expansion of coverage, coverage of preventive services, the Prevention and Public Health Fund, challenges in a changing political climate, and opportunities within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). See PowerPoint slides for more details.

Time was allowed for Board members to ask questions and engage in discussion with Dr. Levi.

Debrief December 2010 Board Retreat – Tom Eversole, PHAB Chair

(Handouts: *DRAFT PHAB Calendar and Work Plan; DRAFT PHAB Bylaws*)

Tom Eversole provided board members with a review of the retreat that was held in December, some of the outcomes of the retreat, and work that needs to be done:

- Looked at different roles for PHAB
- Made changes to the bylaws and need to look at codifying and approving those changes
- Discern some of the best routes for giving feedback and advocacy to the appropriate boards and agencies; could be a report to the Oregon Health Authority, the Legislature, or others including local boards of health
- Look at work with the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) and how to reach out to others, including county commissioners
- PHAB to assess emerging issues proactively rather than reactively
- Provide a voice for the public about public health and population health specifically
- Follow through with things that the Board starts and evaluate the effectiveness of the Board’s work
- Do a self-evaluation of the Board’s work throughout the year
- Approve change in bylaws and look at draft PHAB calendar and work plan
- Discernment about filling vacancies throughout the year

The Board looked at the amended bylaws, including some changes made at the

retreat and some changes made prior to September. Bob Shoemaker pointed out that in Article II, Section B it says “Advise the Director of the Oregon Health Authority on policy matters...” and questioned whether it should say “*public health* policy matters.” A motion was made to approve the bylaws with Bob’s suggested change, the motion seconded, and the Board engaged in discussion. A friendly amendment was made to the motion to accept the bylaws as presented to the Board prior to the meeting, and propose that the amendment to include “public health” be voted on at the next board meeting. **A new motion was made to accept the changes to the bylaws as written prior to this meeting and amend the bylaws at the next meeting to include “public health” in Article II, Section B. The motion was seconded and the Board voted all in favor. The addition of “public health” will be discussed at the next regular board meeting.**

Tom Eversole shared with the Board a draft calendar/work plan of things that the Board can do, realizing that the Board meets quarterly but there are things that can be done throughout the year.

There was discussion about holding a future board meeting in Bend or somewhere else within Oregon. There was also discussion about holding the next regular meeting in July rather than June. The consensus is to hold the next quarterly board meeting on July 15th instead of in June. The September meeting will be on September 23rd.

An announcement was made about the NALBOH conference in September. The Board had a brief discussion about who is attending, and whether members received the brochure about the conference.

At a previous board meeting there had been some discussion about the PHAB exec committee having a meeting with the OHPB executive team or the entire board to talk about ways to best work together. **The Board agreed that this is still something that should be pursued. Tom Eversole will make contact with the OHPB and set up a meeting for PHAB Exec.**

Closing:

Chair Eversole declared the meeting adjourned.

The next Public Health Advisory Board meeting will be held on:

**Friday, July 15, 2011
Deschutes County Health Department
2577 NE Courtney Dr., Stan Owen Room**

Bend, OR
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

If you would like these minutes in an alternate format or for copies of handouts referenced in these minutes please contact Brittany Sande at (971) 673-1291 or brittany.a.sande@state.or.us.