



**Public Health Advisory Board meeting minutes  
February 9, 2023, 3:00-5:30 pm**

**Attendance**

Board members present: Rachael Banks, Mike Baker, Bob Dannenhoffer, Veronica Irvin, Jackie Leung, Kelle Little, Sarah Present, Erica Sandoval, Dean Sidelinger, Ryan Petteway, Jawad Khan, Marie Boman Davis, Jocelyn Warren, Nic Powers

Board members absent: Jeanne Savage, Meghan Chancey

PHAB subcommittee members and workgroup members present: Kat Mastrangelo, Jameela Norton, Beth Barker Hidalgo

OHA Staff for PHAB: Sara Beaudrault, Cara Biddlecom, Victoria Demchak, Charina Walker, Savannah Schlitt

**Welcome and introductions**

- January minutes approved. Bob made a motion and Jocelyn seconded the motion. Two members, Sarah and Nic abstained. All others approved.
- We're hopeful to have an OHPB Liaison for PHAB assigned within the next couple months. In the meantime, an OHA staff person who is closely involved in OHPB could join PHAB in a limited duration to support connections between PHAB and OHPB. Some members voiced agreement, and OHA staff will invite this person to join.

**Subcommittee updates**

**Strategic Data Plan Subcommittee**

- At the most recent meeting, the subcommittee continued to discuss the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey, building on survey

modernization recommendations. They focused on different ways to identify, ask, interpret and report back on questions in a way that is meaningful to communities. The subcommittee began to discuss the upcoming state health assessment.

#### Health Equity Review Policy and Procedures workgroup

- Meetings are being scheduled and the workgroup will have a report out for the March meeting.

#### Legislative update

- PHAB received an email last week describing public health investments in Governor Kotek's recommended budget, which was released on Jan 31. Public health modernization was included with a \$50 million request.
- Reviewed other items that are relevant to public health, included on Slide 13 of the meeting packet.
- PHD priority bills:
  - HB 2278: Pharmacist flu vaccination for all.
  - HB 2279 Death with Dignity fix.
  - Not yet introduced: technical updates to newborn screening
  - Not yet introduced: Public health housekeeping bill. If introduced, this bill will include PHAB membership changes.
- HB 2773 Coalition of Local Health Officials (CLHO) workforce bill
- Bob asked if there is a state strategy for PPE. Cara responded that there is work through Office of Emergency Management to look at improvements to PPE stockpile and distribution. At the same time OHA COVID stockpile will be transferred to be available for other public health emergencies. OHA can bring a more in-depth conversation if PHAB would like it.
- The final versions of the public health modernization funding scenarios documents that were developed in December and January were shared out. The \$50 million in the Governor's Recommended Budget varied slightly from proportional allocations related to funding for the reproductive health provider network.
- Next steps in budget process: The Governor's Recommended Budget is a starting place for the legislature. The legislature will adopt the OHA budget and decide which policy packages to include. OHA will present its budget in March. There will be opportunity for public testimony in the days following

the budget presentation. OHA's budget is usually among the last bills to pass in June.

### **Public health modernization system planning**

- Cara provided background. PHAB spent close to nine months last year updating its charter and bylaws, which included conversations about PHAB's role within the public health system and developing a vision that includes CBOs. The updated bylaws include additional seats to increase community representation, contingent on legislative action. The process in December and January to develop modernization funding scenarios highlighted the need to better understand what we're collectively working toward. Also, it has been nine years since the Future of Public Health Services Task Force report, and a lot has changed since then.
- Members reviewed a potential timeline and process (slide 15).
- Kelle said the approach seems like a reasonable path forward
- Jocelyn asked if this work could include developing definitions. At the local level, the public health system includes a range of types of partners, including mandated partnerships with CCOs and early learning hubs. PHAB is focused on how public health and CBOs work together, but it shouldn't be exclusive since there are other collaborations that are critical.
- Veronica would like to include presentations from OHPB to endure aligned priorities and connections.
- Sarah suggested getting a retreat scheduled soon, especially if planned for the summer.
- Marie recommended using a neutral facilitator
- Sarah said that as part of the process, PHAB needs ways to hear from partners about how the work of governmental public health is perceived. Is there an opportunity for open listening sessions?
- Ryan asked how sectors such as public safety and business fit into public health system. What does PHAB mean by including these in its definitions? Ryan would like to see more focus on health in all policies, and the ways in which public health brings agencies together at all levels to come up with coherent strategies for shared work and funding.
- Jawad supported the idea of listening sessions and surveys, perhaps through a community assessment of CBOs, community leaders and members of the public. We need this for system planning with goals and objectives.

- Marie said that this work needs to be grounded in PHAB’s Health equity Review Policy and Procedure.
- Jocelyn agreed and said PHAB needs to envision together how to eliminate health inequities
- Mike said that there is still confusion about what comprises the public health system and how partners work together. Clarity is needed to be able to develop the system
- Marie expressed gratitude for the time dedicated to this. It feels like there is space to do the work over this year.
- Veronica and Cara shared next steps
  - Set schedule for retreat
  - Bring back key questions to continue a discussion in March. This may include talking about definitions, how we work together and how to move equity work forward. PHAB can also continue to discuss how it wishes to facilitate public engagement and use source materials that include information provided by communities previously.

**Public health modernization investments and improvements 2021-23**

- Sara B. provided an overview of current public health modernization funding to local public health authorities. The overview included information on budgets, communicable disease and climate strategies, community partnerships, and investments in regional partnerships. (Slides 17-27)
- PHAB heard from two health administrators about local modernization priorities, accomplishments and challenges. These presentations included discussion on communicable disease and climate and health investments and the role of partnerships. Presentations were provided by Katie Plumb, Health Administrator in Crook County (Slides 28-38) and Jennifer Little, Health Administrator for Klamath County (Slides 39-46).
- Sarah expressed excitement at getting to learn about work happening in other areas of the state from where she works. Sarah reflected on the creativity needed to implement so much of public health’s work. Sarah asked about volunteer management and whether they use MRC or SERV-OR. Katie said they mostly relied on local volunteers rather than bigger systems.
- Jocelyn asked about tri-county partnership that helped with surge. How did this work when all counties were under the same level of stress? Katie said

it was less of a tri-county response during COVID than for other, more localized events.

### **Public comment**

- No comment provided

### **March meeting agenda items and 2023 work plan**

- Work plan and calendar of topics included in meeting packet. Veronica recommends including this at the beginning of the March meeting. Members can send feedback, comments or other items PHAB members would like to have added to OHA staff prior to the March meeting.

### **Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.
- The next Public Health Advisory Board meeting will be held on March 9, 2023 from 3:00-5:30 pm.

Everyone has a right to know about and use Oregon Health Authority (OHA) programs and services. OHA provides free help. Some examples of the free help OHA can provide are:

- Sign language and spoken language interpreters.
- Written materials in other languages.
- Braille.
- Large print.
- Audio and other formats.

If you need help or have questions, please contact Cara Biddlecom: at 971-673-2284, 711 TTY, or [publichealth.policy@dhsoha.state.or.us](mailto:publichealth.policy@dhsoha.state.or.us), at least 48 hours before the meeting.