



PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (PHAB) MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2021, 2:00-4:00 pm

Attendance

Board members present: Dr. Eli Schwarz, Kelle Little, Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, Dr. Veronica Irvin, Dr. Jeanne Savage, Dr. David Bangsberg, Rebecca Tiel, Sarah Poe, Dr. Sarah Present, Rachael Banks, Carrie Brogotti, Eva Rippleteau, Jocelyn Warren

Board members absent: Dr. Dean Sidelinger, Alejandro Qeral, Erica Sandoval

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) staff: Cara Biddlecom, Lisa Rau, Sara Beaudrault, Victoria Demchak, Steph Jarem, Laura Daily

Members of the public: Sarah Pettey, Jackie Leung, AHO/We Can Do Better

Meeting Objectives

- Welcome and introduction of new board members
- Approve May meeting minutes
- Provide updates on Curry County public health services and legislative session
- Discuss Public Health Advisory Board subcommittees
- Discuss the 1115 Medicaid Waiver application

Welcome and Agenda Review

Veronica Irvin, *PHAB Chair*

Cara Biddlecom took role. A quorum was present.

Veronica announced that there were two new PHAB members starting today.

Jocelyn Warren, representing Local Public Health Administrators, has been a Lane County Health Administrator for six years, and is happy to join the PHAB.

Erica Sandoval, representing State Employees, the COVID-19 Equity Director.

The May meeting minutes were presented and approved, with Eva Rippleteau and Jocelyn Warren abstaining.

Update on Curry County Public Health Services

Cara Biddlecom, *OHA*

The Curry County Board of Commissioners resolved in April to transfer public health authority to OHA. The official date of transition will be July 1, 2021. There will be a town hall meeting on June 22 for Curry County residents. OHA is working closely with the county and our internal teams to make this transition successful. Josephine County is helping to provide some health services as well.

Update on Legislative Session

Cara Biddlecom, *OHA*

Cara shared that the legislative session is ending in the next few days, so she will be able to give a more updated report next month.

In this session, there was an additional \$45 million investment made towards Public Health Modernization for the 2021-23 fiscal budget. This is on top of the \$15.6 million that had already been awarded, bringing the total to over \$60 million towards Public Health Modernization. We will be coming back to the PHAB committee to make sure we are on track with the framework and priorities that were set 1 ½ years ago for these funds. It will be important to make sure we stay on course with your suggestions.

A question was asked about a federal bill that was presented in March called “Public Health Saves Lives.” Does anyone know if this funding will be happening? Cara shared that we have received federal money from the American Rescue Plan Act. Oregon has been awarded \$25.67 million starting July 1, mostly to fund school-based health personnel, OHA staff, and local public health workers.

Another question was asked if the counties who have turned over their public health authority to OHA get access to some of this money. The answer is not directly, but OHA use the counties’ share of federal money toward supporting those counties.

Discussion of PHAB Subcommittees

- Veronica introduced the PHAB Incentive and Funding subcommittee and encouraged PHAB members to join. The current members are Bob and Carrie. Members can belong to more than one committee.
- Sarah Present provided an update on the PHAB Accountability Metrics subcommittee. They had a productive breakfast meeting. Follow-up information was provided on Public Health Modernization that was presented at the last PHAB meeting. How can we look at metrics in a way that is actionable and moves Public Health forward? They discussed what the deliverables and timelines for the committee will be. “When we talk about accountability metrics, we need to know who exactly we are accountable to. “
- Veronica Irvin provided an update on the PHAB Strategic Data Plan subcommittee.

1115 Medicaid Waiver Application and Discussion

Steph Jarem, *OHA*

Steph presented a slideshow providing information on the 1115 Medicaid Waiver. Her goal was to present an overview and history of the waiver along with the steps being taken to draft the policy concept paper. Then she would follow up with outlining the strategies and next steps in the process. The entire slideshow is included in today’s meeting packet for anyone who would like additional information about the waiver.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments. This period was closed.

PHAB Member discussion

Veronica Irvin, *PHAB Chair*

Veronica asked the committee what topics they would like to see discussed at future meetings.

- There is not a good system of data-sharing between the federal immunization databases and state data systems. So much of this data is important, and we need to be able to track it.
- Laura has helped created a presentation on how funding levels work in Public Health administration, and what the funds would be going towards at each level. She shared this presentation with legislators and others, and she would be happy to give this presentation to the PHAB.

- Are there any agencies doing an “after-action report” to see what lessons were learned? The suggestion was made that PHAB does not need to lead it but should participate in it. It was added that LPHAs should participate in this process as well.
- Help with National Accreditation for counties in Oregon. This would fit nicely into the Public Health Modernization effort. How can we bring all counties up to standards? Can counties possibly work together on this process?

Next Meeting Agenda Items and Adjourn

Veronica Irvin, *PHAB Chair*

- Report on legislative session
- Reports from the PHAB subcommittees
- Possibly to include items discussed above.

The meeting was dismissed at 3:45 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 15, from 2-4 p.m.