

Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC) Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2024



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



ATTENDING: Annadiana Johnson, Sonja Ackman, Lucia Benavides, Madhavi Bharadwaj, David Eppelsheimer, Commissioner Nafisa Fai, Hemi Pariyani, Julie Scotland, Andrea Lara

ABSENT: Annie Paulsen, Ansley Fancher, Afam Okoye, Larysa Thomas, Michelle Williams

GUEST PRESENTERS: N/A

STAFF PRESENTERS: Alex Coleman, Kim Repp, Adrienne Donner

STAFF ATTENDING: Marie Boman-Davis, Dr. Folu Adeniyi, Kathleen Rees, Bethany Perkins (meeting minutes)

WELCOME

Alex Coleman opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions to those attending.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES,

Enough members were not present at the start of the meeting to reach quorum. Approval of the March minutes will be moved to the May meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC HEALTH 101: EPIDEMIOLOGY, *Presented by Kim Repp, PhD, MPH, Chief Epidemiologist Washington County*

The PHAC received an overview of epidemiology investigations, methods, and data collection.

Epidemiology — Defined



Study of the distribution and determinants of health-related states among specified populations and the application of that study to the control of health problems

Epidemiology Purposes in Public Health Practice

- Discover the agent, host, and environmental factors that affect health
- Determine the relative importance of causes of illness, disability, and death
- Identify those segments of the population that have the greatest risk from specific causes of ill health
- Evaluate the effectiveness of health programs and services in improving population health

Steps in an outbreak investigation

Prepare for field work

Verify the reported diagnosis

Prepare a case definition, identify and count cases (line list)

Establish the existence of an outbreak (epi curve)

Describe and orient data in terms of time place and person

Develop hypothesis

Evaluate hypothesis

Reconsider and refine hypothesis

Plan and implement additional necessary studies

Implement control and preventive actions

Communicate findings

Control/prevention of disease

Destroy agent

- Pasteurization, chlorination, radiation, heat

Break cycle of transmission

- Eliminate means of transmission
(e.g., drain swamp, sewage treatment)
- Reduce direct contact (e.g., wear condoms)

Increase immunization/resistance

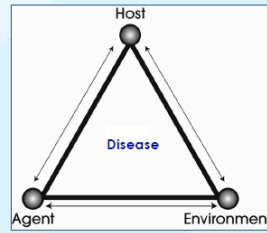
- Immunization programs, good health habits

Reduce risk factors

- Behaviors, diet, etc.
- Good hygiene, food handling, protective clothing, repellants

Isolate infectious cases

- Isolation—separate infectious cases during communicability
- Quarantine—limit freedom/movement of exposed well people



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PRESENTATION, Presented by Adrienne Donner, Washington County EMS Supervisor

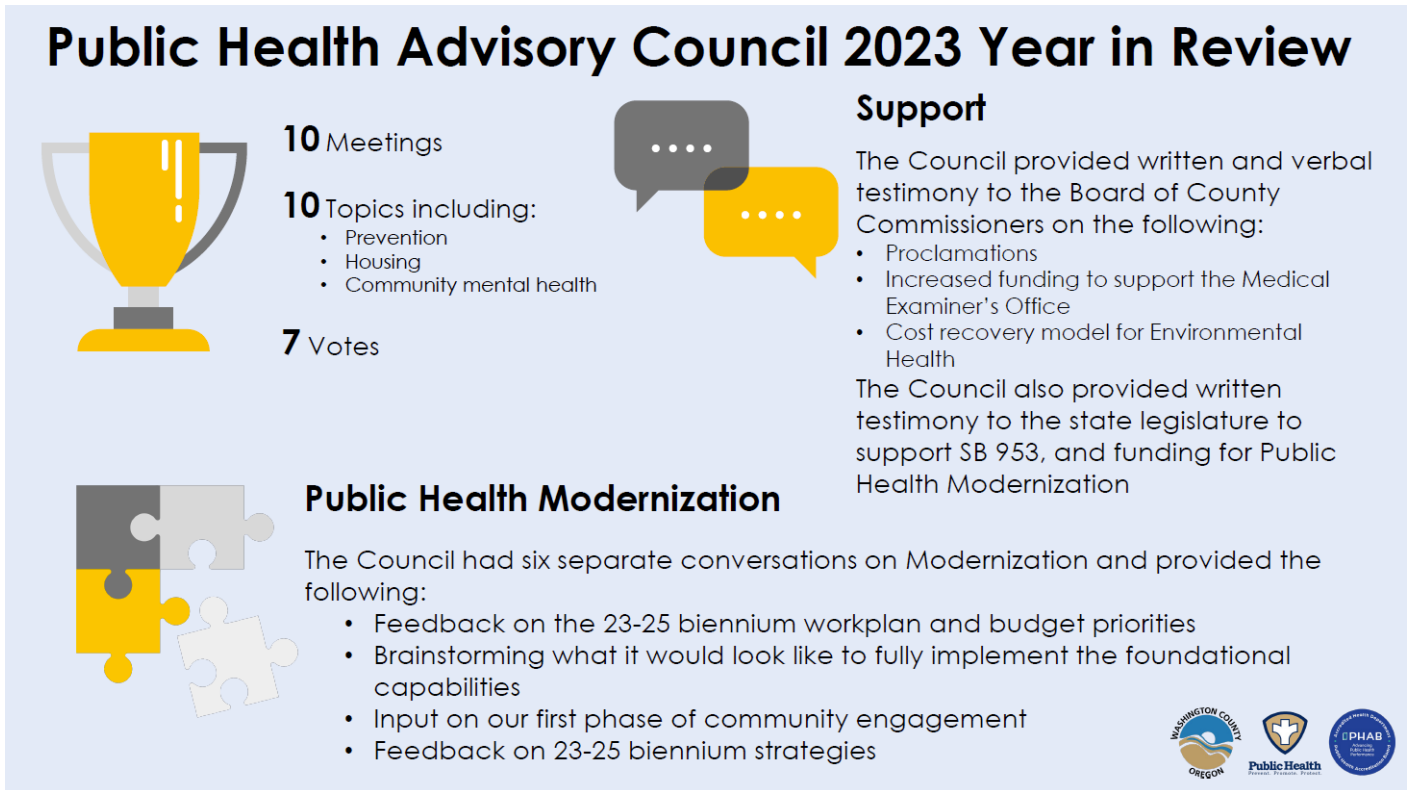
Members got a brief presentation on the EMS system and its community impact in Washington County and were asked to support proclaiming May 19-25 as National EMS week in Washington County. (See presentation entitled "EMS Week Proclamation Support_04 09 2024" for more information.)

David made a motion that the Council support the proclamation, and Hemi seconded the motion. None opposed, none abstained, and all members voted in favor. The motion was passed.

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW, Presented by Alex Coleman

Members will have an opportunity to look back at what they achieved in 2023.

Public Health Advisory Council 2023 Year in Review



10 Meetings

10 Topics including:

- Prevention
- Housing
- Community mental health

7 Votes

Support

The Council provided written and verbal testimony to the Board of County Commissioners on the following:


- Proclamations
- Increased funding to support the Medical Examiner's Office
- Cost recovery model for Environmental Health

The Council also provided written testimony to the state legislature to support SB 953, and funding for Public Health Modernization

Public Health Modernization

The Council had six separate conversations on Modernization and provided the following:

- Feedback on the 23-25 biennium workplan and budget priorities
- Brainstorming what it would look like to fully implement the foundational capabilities
- Input on our first phase of community engagement
- Feedback on 23-25 biennium strategies



UPDATES AND REMINDERS:

- Volunteer appreciation event - RSVP by April 18
- Community Needs Survey
- PHAC Planning – We are planning to make updates to bylaws and charter in the fall. Looking at developing one subcommittee involving data. We will hold off on appointing a chair and vice chair until next year after we have made any updates to the group's structure.

MEMBER UPDATES / COMMENTS:

PHAC members had the opportunity to ask questions, or to provide comments on topic outside the agenda items. No comments or questions were raised.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Community members had the opportunity to ask questions or provide comments on topics outside the agenda items. No comments or questions were raised.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS

None

CLOSING

The next PHAC meeting will be on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. Alex closed out the meeting – thank you!

As always, we welcome input from PHAC members via our [Feedback Survey](#).