



Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
July 12, 2021  
2-4 p.m. ET

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call — Deanna Wathington, MD, Chair**

Dr. Wathington welcomed everyone, and a quorum was established.

*PRESENT*

Anne E. Dressel, PhD  
Brittany Marshall, DrPH  
Benjamin H. Hernandez, MBA  
Catherine L. Troisi, PhD, MS  
Charlene Cariou, MHS  
Deanna Wathington, MD, MPH  
Donna K. Beal, MPH  
David Reyes, DNP, RN, MN/MPH  
Georges C. Benjamin, MD  
Heather Walter-McCabe, JD, MSW  
Hope M. Rollins  
José Ramón Fernández-Peña, MD, MPA  
Jeanie L. Holt, MPH, MS  
Jeffrey E. Hall, PhD, MSPH, MA  
Kaye Bender, PhD, RN, FAAN  
M. Aaron Guest, PhD, MPH, MSW  
Nandi A. Marshall, DrPH, MPH  
Rachael N. Reed, DrPH, MPH  
Sarah Gareau, DrPH, MEd  
Shontelle L. Dixon, MPH

*UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE*

Lisa M. Carlson, MPH  
Sarah Gareau, DrPH, MEd  
E. Oscar Alleyne, DrPH, MPH  
Teresa Garrett, DNP, RN, PHNA-BC  
Samantha H. Xu, MPH

## **II. Administrative Affairs — Deanna Wathington, MD, Chair**

- A. Approve the meeting agenda.
- B. Approve the consent agenda items:
  - 1. May Executive Board Meeting Minutes
  - 2. New Agency Members

**Motion: To approve the meeting and consent agenda items.**

**Outcome: Approved by acclamation.**

## **III. Discussion**

### **A. Association Update — Georges Benjamin, MD, Executive Director**

Dr. Benjamin began by discussing the ongoing COVID-19 status in the country and APHA's activities associated with the pandemic. For example, recently on July 1, Dr. Benjamin testified at a congressional hearing on vaccine hesitancy. Additionally, APHA continues to be interviewed by major news outlets regarding the pandemic and is a go-to public health source on various social media platforms. The organization continues to work on various advocacy efforts such as health equity and racism, gun violence, climate change and building public health infrastructure.

He then discussed the 2021 Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado, which is currently being planned as a hybrid meeting to include some in-person featured sessions and some virtual sessions. Dr. Benjamin then briefly shared internal APHA management updates such as various staff hiring and recruitment processes as well as a return to the in-person office environment by Labor Day.

Dr. Benjamin then discussed a tentative timeline; on updating the strategic plan, implementing changes based on the Member Unit Effectiveness and Engagement project, and reassessing APHA's business plan. Currently, the Association is working with Brighter Strategies on implementing the top 10 priorities that the Executive Board approved at the May 2021 meeting. Five committees consisting of staff, volunteer leaders and members were formed to discuss and implement these 10 priority recommendations.

### **B. Treasurer's Update — Benjamin Hernandez, MBA, Treasurer**

Mr. Hernandez provided a brief financial summary of the 2021 fiscal year. As of the end of May 2021, the year-to-date income from operations is \$14,887,561 (over budget by \$1,038,962) while expenses were \$15,191,153 (under budget by \$372,694).

The organization is projecting to end the fiscal year 2021 (June 30) with a loss of \$929,111 from operations; however, with additional income from intermediate and long-term investments and appreciation, revenue is projected to be around \$574,522. Mr. Hernandez noted that these projections

do not include the amount of \$1.2 million (turned into a grant) of the federal Paycheck Protection Program loan, which will offset the proposed 2022 budget deficit as discussed at the May meeting.

**C. Planned Giving #3: Engaging family members; preparing the next generation — Christopher Clarkson, CFA, Director-Senior Vice President, and Judi Rosenthal, Financial Advisor, Bernstein Private Wealth Management**

As the chair of the Development Committee, Ms. Beal introduced the two speakers and reminded the board of the importance of these continued planned giving sessions. The presenters had a thoughtful discussion with board members about family engagement and how to facilitate cross-generational conversations regarding financial resources as part of one's legacy and financial planning. The overall goal of the presentation was to involve the board in development campaigns and equip them with talking points as APHA nears its major fundraising effort for the 150th Anniversary in 2022.

**D. Governing Council Meetings & Feedback — Aaron Guest, PhD, Governing Council Speaker**

Dr. Guest provided a quick recap of the June Governing Council Mid-Year meeting in terms of attendance and feedback from the Governing Council members. Overall, the meeting went well and was attended by 80% of the Councilors (242 out of 302 members).

**E. Strategic Plan Discussion — Catherine Troisi, PhD, Strategic Planning Committee Chair**

Dr. Troisi discussed the strategic plan survey results, which compared the Governing Councilors and the Executive Board's views on what the strategic plan is, and who is responsible for developing, implementing, communicating, and measuring its progress. The board then had a robust discussion regarding these questions. Many board members agreed that the strategic plan is a mission guidance for the organization, and the staff and all members are facilitators of the plan. Some board members also discussed the need to involve Governing Councilors for their input on the strategic plan.

Dr. Benjamin also reminded the board that the strategic plan's overall mission of 'creating the healthiest nation' is achieved by many of the Association's activities and programs such as its educational events, webinars, CE opportunities, career workshops, Annual Meeting activities, published books, journals and advocacy work. As the Member Unit Effectiveness and Engagement project recommendations are implemented, the board agrees that the strategic plan needs to be rebranded.

*Meeting Adjourned at 3:45 p.m. ET*

**The next meeting of the Executive Board will take place Sept. 13, 2021,  
from 2-4 p.m. ET via Zoom**