



Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
September 13, 2021  
2-4 p.m. ET

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call - Donna Beal, MPH, Vice Chair**

Ms. Beal welcomed everyone, and a quorum was established.

**PRESENT**

Anne E. Dressel, PhD  
Sarah Gareau, DrPH, MEd  
Benjamin H. Hernandez, MBA  
Brittany Marshall, DrPH  
Catherine L. Troisi, PhD, MS  
Charlene Cariou, MHS  
Deanna Wathington, MD, MPH (joined the second hour of the meeting)  
Donna K. Beal, MPH  
David Reyes, DNP, RN, MN/MPH  
E. Oscar Alleyne, DrPH, 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  
Lisa M. Carlson, MPH  
M. Aaron Guest, PhD, MPH, MSW (joined the second hour of the meeting)  
Nandi A. Marshall, DrPH, MPH  
Rachael N. Reed, DrPH, MPH  
Sarah Gareau, DrPH, MEd  
Samantha H. Xu, MPH  
Shontelle L. Dixon, MPH  
Teresa Garrett, DNP, RN, PHNA-BC

## II. Administrative Affairs — Donna Beal, MPH, Vice Chair

- A. Approve the meeting agenda.

**Motion: To approve the meeting agenda.**

**Outcome: Approved by acclamation.**

- B. Approve the consent agenda items:

1. September Executive Board Meeting Minutes
2. New Agency Members
3. Leadership Appointments

**Motion: To approve consent agenda items.**

**Outcome: Potential APHA Agency Member Haiti Cholera Research Funding**

**Foundation Inc., was pulled off the consent agenda to be discussed and approved during the Association update by Dr. Benjamin. The remainder of the consent agenda items were approved by acclamation.**

## III. Discussion

- A. **Veterinary SPIG Name Change (ACTION) — Rachael Reed, DrPH, Intersectional Council Chair**

The APHA Veterinary Public Health Special Interest Group would like to change their name to “One Health” to reflect the interdisciplinary membership base. The group has undergone a formal process with APHA’s Intersectional Council and is now awaiting the Executive Board’s formal approval for the name change. Dr. Reed then asked the board to make a motion and approve the name change.

**Motion: To approve the SPIG name change from Veterinary Public Health to One Health.**

**Outcome: Approved by acclamation.**

- B. **Joint Policy Committee Update — Jeffrey Hall, PhD, Science Board Chair & JPC Co-Chair; Shontelle Dixon, MPH, Education Board Chair & JPC Co-Chair; Anne Dressel, PhD, Action Board Chair & JPC Co-Chair**

Ms. Dixon discussed the recent work of the Joint Policy Committee, which, following the fall review process, will provide either a positive or negative assessment to the revised 20 proposed policy statements. Authors will be notified by Oct. 1 and allowed to resubmit a revised version by Oct. 13, ahead of the virtual JPC hearings on Oct. 18 and 19. Following the public hearings, authors can submit

a final version to the JPC. The committee will then meet in an executive session on Oct. 25 for a final markup session before the Governing Council Session on Oct. 26, when the council will discuss and vote on the proposed policy statements.

From an archiving standpoint, Dr. Hall announced that all 26 policy statements adopted in 2002 will be archived at the close of the Annual Meeting as no requests were made to keep any of the policy statements active.

### **C. Governance Committee Update (ACTION) — Lisa Carlson, MPH, Committee Chair**

Ms. Carlson discussed the recent work of the committee, which worked on the 2023 and 2024 Executive Board dates. The proposed board meeting dates follow a similar pattern from years past, with a slight exception of adding an additional 30 minutes to the 2 hour long mid-year Governing Council meeting as proposed by the Governing Council speaker.

Additionally, the Governance Committee proposed adding an official Executive Board meeting on the last Wednesday of each Annual Meeting from 11-1:30 p.m. At this Wednesday meeting, the new cohort of Executive Board members will meet and greet for the first time, go over orientation materials such as the following year's board goals, committee assignments and dates, conflict of interest forms, etc. Ms. Carlson emphasized that this new Executive Board meeting will allow board members to hit the ground running as opposed to waiting until the second week of January to get to know each other and get started. Because many continuing, appointed and newly elected board members are already scheduled to be at the Annual Meeting, it makes sense to have an official in-person Executive Board meeting on the last day of the Annual Meeting before the closing session. Ms. Carlson then made the following motion to the board:

**Motion: To approve the 2023, 2024 Executive Board and Governing Council dates, times and the new Executive Board Meeting on the last day of the Annual Meeting.**

**Outcome: Approved by acclamation.**

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

Mr. Hernandez presented the pre-audited financial numbers for fiscal year 2021, which closed on June 30, 2021. APHA's total net assets as of June 30, 2021 were \$22,265,405. The organization ended the fiscal year with a positive change of \$967,846 (which includes a loss of \$575,625 from operations plus profits from investment appreciation/depreciation).

He then briefly discussed fiscal year 2022, which started on July 1, 2021. As of July 31, the

Association has gained \$755,118 from operations and \$892,246 from investment appreciation. He noted that it is too early into the fiscal year to read anything into the numbers, as some expenses and revenues are not included in the above numbers due to the timing of invoice receipts.

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

##### *Consent Agenda*

Dr. Benjamin began by discussing the Haiti Cholera Research Funding Foundation Inc. potential Agency Member, which was pulled off from the consent agenda. The board briefly discussed the agency and moved to approve the agency:

**Motion: To approve Haiti Cholera Research Funding Foundation Inc. as an APHA Agency Member.**

**Outcome: Approved by acclamation.**

He then pointed out that a few leadership appointments that were approved as part of the consent agenda in the past sometimes don't work out when the appointed members never attend their board or committee meetings or participate in its work plan. In those cases, APHA will thank and notify them of their voluntary resignation due to inactivity.

##### *Council on Education for Public Health*

Dr. Benjamin then briefly discussed the Council on Education for Public Health council expansion proposal from 10 to 14 council members. CEPH's article of incorporation states that the articles can only be amended by its two founding members: APHA and ASPPH. The rationale is that when CEPH was founded in 1974, it accredited 10 public health schools and had 10 council members. Currently, CEPH accredits 227 public health schools, public health programs, three-degree levels, hundreds of concentrations and many other delivery models, yet the number of council members have remained the same, hence, CEPH proposes to bring on additional members to make the work manageable and bring on individuals with needed expertise to help with increase of diversity and complexity surrounding the accreditation work. There will be no increased cost, as moving forward the council plans to hold two of its four meetings virtually. Dr. Benjamin then made the following motion to the board:

**Motion: To approve the Council on Education for Public Health council expansion from 10 to 14 council members.**

**Outcome: Approved by acclamation.**

### *Legislator of the Year Award*

Dr. Benjamin then discussed the proposed APHA's 2021 Legislator of the Year Award to U.S. Rep. Lauren Underwood. He then asked the board to formally vote and approve the proposed Legislator of the Year Award. Executive Board member Dr. Brittany Marshall, a federal employee, abstained from this voting.

**Motion: To approve U.S. Rep. Lauren Underwood for the Legislature of the Year Award.**

**Outcome: Approved by acclamation.**

### *APHA Programs and Activities Update*

Dr. Benjamin was pleased to announce that APHA has recently been re-accredited by ACCME and ANCC through 2023. Hence, the Association will continue to offer many continuing education credit options, such as CHES, CME, CNE, CPH and VET, through *AJPH* articles, webinars, APHA published books, podcasts, Annual Meeting Featured Sessions, the Policy Action Institute through its new APHA NOW online learning platform, leading to a new revenue stream.

He then briefly discussed the Member Unit Effectiveness and Engagement project implementation plan. Two of five committees consisting of staff, volunteer leaders and members have already begun working on implementing the IT and mentoring part of the priority recommendations. The project has also been rebranded to "APHA Your Way" to attract members attending the Annual Meeting to see what's new for APHA members.

Dr. Benjamin then discussed the Student Bulk Membership program and its membership value and revenue performance since its inception in 2017. The program did well pre-pandemic. The Association is now recommending expanding the program to include allied professions such as nursing, social work, engineering, transportation, education, planning, etc. APHA is also recommending providing only one payment option (student member rate), allowing schools/programs to enroll as few as a minimum of five students for the bulk rate, mapping out content to CEPH core competencies, and creating a personalized onboarding support system. Dr. Benjamin then made a motion to the board to make the program permanent, along with the recommendations.

**Motion: To make the APHA Student Bulk Membership Program permanent and approve the discussed recommendations.**

**Outcome: Approved by acclamation.**

**F. Executive Session — Georges Benjamin, MD, Executive Director**

The board went into an executive session to discuss the 2021 Annual Meeting format and how to execute it most safely and efficiently.

**The next meeting of the Executive Board will take place Oct. 21-22, 2021 via Zoom.**