



AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

*For science. For action. For health.*

**Action Board Conference Call Minutes**  
**Wednesday, May 19, 2021**  
**3:00 - 4:00 p.m. EST**

**Agenda:**

- 1. Welcome and introductions – Anne Dressel/Don Hoppert/Jordan Wolfe**
  - i. Attendance: Jordan Wolfe, Joyce Buckner Brown, Stephen Modell, Janet Simon, Don Hoppert, Ginny Chadwick, Celeste Monforton, Anne Dressel, Carol Dabbs, Shannon Guillot-Wright, Chelsea Pallatino
- 2. Executive Board and JPC update – Anne Dressel**
  - i. Executive Board Update:
    - i. There is a workgroup reviewing and coming up with a plan for moving forward based on the MUEEP (Member Unit Effectiveness and Engagement Project) survey responses.
    - ii. Upcoming Annual Meeting will be in person in Denver with some sessions held virtually. Registration opens July 1 - please share this info with your sections.
    - iii. APHA is looking for members to serve on a variety of Association-wide boards and committees. The deadline to apply is Friday, July 16. Visit the APHA Leadership Appointment Page for more information: <https://www.apha.org/about-apha/governance/leadership-appointment>.
  - ii. JPC Update:
    - i. JPC met to review [20 proposed policy statements](#) on April 29-30. Nineteen proposed statements received conditional assessments and one received a negative assessment.
    - ii. Authors will receive letters from the JPC with the JPC's disposition on each proposed policy statement (positive, conditional or negative) by May 21, and authors are to resubmit their revised proposals addressing the JPC's comments by Aug. 13.
    - iii. 26 current policy statements [up for archiving](#) this year. These statements are from 2002.
- 3. Legislative/federal update – Don Hoppert/Jordan Wolfe**
  - i. See [May legislative update](#) for recent stories
  - ii. National Public Health Week advocacy:
    - i. 22 meetings were scheduled with Senators from 16 different states.

- ii. Average of 4 participants per meeting (range from 1 to 7)
- iii. All reported discussing PH funding + other issues such as racial equity, gun violence, climate change, tobacco, substance use.
- iv. 258 advocates sent action alerts during NPHW for a total of 1389 messages sent to Congress – this is up from previous average of 65 advocates / 135 messages per week.

#### **4. Workgroups – Don Hoppert, Jordan Wolfe and Anne Dressel**

- i. Annual meeting workgroup:
  - i. Document for ideas about annual meeting session is [here](#).
  - ii. Upcoming workgroup meetings:
    - 1. June 9, 2pm-2:30pm ET
    - 2. August 4, 2pm-2:30pm ET
    - 3. October 6, 2pm-2:30pm ET
- ii. Direct advocacy workgroup:
  - i. Many thanks to everyone on the Action Board who led groups for the virtual Capitol Hill visit during National Public Health Week. We have heard good feedback from those who were involved. It was a good way to invite others to join the group & get them oriented to advocacy.
  - ii. Thank you for sharing the Advocacy Curriculum with your sections! The Direct Advocacy workgroup is exploring whether or not it will be able to be posted on the APHA website. Thank you to Don and Jordan for their help with this process.
  - iii. There will be an advocacy webinar offered shortly before the summer Speak for Health Campaign (most of August – Labor Day). Information will be forthcoming. Thank you to Jordan for his work on this!
  - iv. The workgroup talked about offering some sort of prize (Starbucks gift card) to a participant in the summer Speak for Health Campaign, as a way to get more APHA members involved in advocacy. More details to come.
  - v. The workgroup talked about having an op/ed writing group during the Speak for Health Campaign. These would be op/eds to advocate for APHA priorities. Cathy Troisi, who has chaired the Action Board in the past, and is now on the APHA Executive Board, and has had good success getting op/eds published, said she would be willing to mentor the group. More details to come.
  - vi. Next workgroup meeting: June 15, 3pm-4pm ET