AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
For science. For action. For health.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 27, 2026
Virtual Meeting

Present
Georges C. Benjamin, MD
Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW, *Vice Chair*
Monique J. Brown PhD, MPH, FGSA
Aaron Guest, PhD, MPH, MSW
Brett R. Harris, DrPH
Claude A. Jacob, DrPH, MPH
Robin Kimbrough-Melton, JD
Nandi Marshall, DrPH, MPH, CHES, CLC, CDE
Anas Khurshid Nabil, MPH, MSPH
Shirley A. Orr, MHS, APRN, NEA-BC
Donna-Marie Palakiko, PhD, MS, APRN
Kaye Reynolds, DrPH, MPH
Gopal Sankaran, MD, DrPH, MNAMS, CHES
Jimmie Smith, MD, MPH
Melissa Toledo-Ontiveros, MA, MCJ, MPA
Cathy L. Troisi, PhD, MS
Deanna J. Wathington, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Brittan Williams, MPH, CHES

Unable to Participate
Melissa Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES
Shontelle Dixon, MPH, CHES, Chair
Laura Rasar King, EdD, MPH, MCHES
Ashley S. Love, DrPH
Megan Weil Latshaw, PhD, MHS
Cynthia N. Lebron, PhD, MPH

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Call to Order – Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW, Vice Chair

APHA Board Vice Chair, Ms. Jessica Boyer, called the meeting to order, called the roll and made brief opening remarks. Ms. Boyer then turned the meeting over to APHA Treasurer, Dr. Shirly Orr.

APHA Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Discussion and Request for Approval – Shirley Orr, MHS, APRNA, NEA-BC, Treasurer, Dr. Georges Benjamin, MD, Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Orr began by explaining that the proposed APHA FY2027 budget was discussed by the Finance and Audit Committee, which unanimously recommended it for adoption. The budget projects $24,030,870 million in revenue and $26,725,630 in expenses, creating an initial deficit of roughly $2,694,760; after investment income, the planned deficit is $2,252,290. This shortfall will be covered by reserves.

Ms. Orr and Dr. Benjamin emphasized that using reserves is intentional and responsible, not a surprise or a sign of immediate fiscal crisis. Ms. Orr noted that although APHA had often budgeted reserve use in prior years, it usually avoided doing so, but this past year and the coming year are different. Even after using reserves, the organization would remain above its policy requirement to hold at least 50% of the operating budget in reserves.

The discussion also highlighted several weaker revenue areas from the prior year: convention income, book sales, and advertising. In response, Dr. Benjamin described efforts to improve conference marketing, expand digital book sales, and strengthen advertising performance through a new agency contact. Expense growth overall was described as modest, around 1.5%, and the salary line includes a cost-of-living increase for staff.

Throughout the board's discussion, members generally agreed the budget reflects reality and that there is little left to cut from operations without harming major parts of the association. Several members stressed the need for clearer communication with membership and leadership: the organization should be honest that this is a bridge strategy, not a long-term solution, and that structural balance must be restored in future years.

There was also discussion about unfunded items, including in-person meetings and unfunded position requests. Leadership clarified that some meetings remain funded, while others may need to be virtual.

Hearing no further discussion, Ms. Orr made a motion that that executive board approve the APHA FY2027 budget as presented. Ms. Boyer noted that the motion did not need a second because it came from a committee of the board and called for any further discussion. Hearing no further discussion. Ms. Boyer called for a vote.

Motion:	**That the Executive Board approve the APHA FY2027 budget as presented.** **Yes: 16** **No: 0**

Ms. Boyer thanked the members of the executive board for participating in the meeting and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was moved and seconded and hearing no further comments the motion was approved by acclamation.

The next meeting of APHA Executive Board will take place at 2 p.m. Eastern on Monday, July 6, 2026, via Zoom