



Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
October 24-25, 2024

Present

E. Oscar Alleyne, DrPH, MPH  
Melissa (Moose) Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES, *Vice Chair*  
Georges C. Benjamin, MD  
Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW  
Monique Brown, PhD, MPH, MBA  
Bryan O. Buckley, DrPH, MPH, MBA  
Chris Chanysaulkit, PhD, MPH  
Shontelle Dixon, MPH, CHES  
Ella Greene-Moton  
Aaron Guest, PhD, MPH, MSW  
Benjamin Hernandez, MBA  
Claude A. Jacob, DrPH, MPH  
Amy Lee, MD, MPH, MBA  
Nandi Marshall, DrPH, MPH, CHES, CLC, CDE, *Chair*  
Stephen Modell, MD, MS  
Padmini Murthy, MD, MPH, MS  
Shirley Orr, MPH, APRA  
David Reyes, DNP, MPH, RN, PHNC-BC  
Gopal Sankaran, MD, DrPH, MNAMS, CHES  
Anthony Santella, DrPH, MCHES, CPH  
Denise Strehlow, MPH, MSW  
Kevin Sykes, PhD, MPH  
Deanna Wathington, MD, MPH

Unable to Attend

Veena Thamilselvan, MSPH

**Thursday, October 24, 2024**

**Welcome and Land Acknowledgement – Nandi Marshall, DrPH, MPH, CHES, CLC, CDE, Chair**

APHA Executive Board Chair Dr. Nandi Marshall called the meeting to order and gave brief opening remarks. Dr. Marshall then called for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. The motion was moved and seconded and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

MOTION: To Approve the October 2024 Executive Board Meeting Agenda

OUTCOME: Approved by Acclamation

**Ice Breaker/Networking Activity – Moose Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES, Vice Chair**

Dr. Alperin led the group in a networking activity.

**Approval of Consent Agenda – Nandi Marshall, DrPH, MPH, CHES, CLC, CDE, Chair**

Dr. Marshall called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. The items on the consent agenda included the July 2024 and September 2024 Executive Board meeting minutes; New Agency Members; APHA Leadership Appointments; and Executive Board Handbook Updates. The motion was moved and seconded and hearing no discussion, Dr. Marshall called for the vote.

MOTION: To Approve the Consent Agenda

OUTCOME: Approved by Acclamation

**Report of the Executive Director – Georges Benjamin, MD**

Dr. Benjamin began his presentation with an overview of the Annual Meeting including registration information (9820 in-person registrants, 184 digital meeting registrants); program information (702 oral session, 298 poster sessions, 75 roundtable sessions); Expos (449 booths, 355 companies); and information about open and general sessions. Dr. Benjamin shared the Annual Meeting's revenue produces 40% of the organization's annual revenue.

Dr. Benjamin mentioned Save the Dates for upcoming 2025 events: National Public Health Week (April 7-13); Policy Action Institute (June 16-17); and the Annual Meeting & Expo Conference (November 2-5).

Dr. Benjamin presented the Association's preliminary 2025 Advocacy Priorities: Public health funding; access to care & the Affordable Care Act; climate change and health & environmental policy; reproductive health care; public health legal authority; gun violence epidemic; Israel-Hamas war and hostage release and humanitarian aid; and others monitored and acted upon as appropriate. Following his presentation, Dr. Benjamin made a motion that the Executive Board

approve the 2025 Advocacy Priorities. The motion was moved and seconded and hearing no discussion, Dr. Marshall called for the vote.

MOTION: To approve the APHA 2025 Advocacy Priorities.

OUTCOME: Approved by Acclamation

Dr. Benjamin presented the proposed group members for the Executive Board commissioned proposed policy statement writing groups (Anti-Hate Writing Group, War Writing Group), which the Governance Committee had previously approved. There was a motion from the Governance Committee to approve the proposed writing group members. No second was needed as the motion came from a committee. Hearing no discussion, Dr. Marshall called for the vote.

MOTION: To approve the proposed writing group members.

OUTCOME: Approved by Acclamation

Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. Benjamin for his report on the Association Update and introduced the next item on the meeting agenda.

### **Report of the Treasurer – Benjamin Hernandez, MBA**

Mr. Hernandez began the Treasurer's Report by thanking members of the Finance and Audit Committee for their work throughout the past year. He shared that the Committee, with support of Association staff, works to accomplish the financial goals set forth in the strategic plan which includes oversight of budget process; regularly monitoring budgetary activities; oversight of auditing process; and oversight of financial policies

Mr. Hernandez discussed the status of FY2024 (July 2023-June 2024). The Association closed the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, as follows: Gain in Net Assets Operations: \$427,507; and Gain in Net Assets Operations with investments: \$1,685,902. Additionally, the Association received a clean audit from its auditors for FY 2024.

Mr. Hernandez then discussed the status of the FY2025 budget as of September 2024. Mr. Hernandez reported revenues of \$10,223,731 and total expenses are \$6,949,998. Mr. Hernandez notes that the Finance and Audit Committee will continue to monitor the Association financial health and report accordingly.

Dr. Marshall thanked Mr. Hernandez for his report and introduced the next item on the meeting agenda.

### **Report of the *American Journal of Public Health* – Alfredo Morabia, MD, PhD, MPH**

Dr. Morabia shared five strategic imperatives from the strategic plan of the *American Journal of Public Health* (AJPH): 1.) Publish the highest quality public health research and advancements in practice to strengthen public health science, policy, and practice. 2) Disseminate journal

content to the broadest audience. 3.) Maximize utilization of journal content by public health research, policy makers, practitioners, and educators. 4.) Advise on journal business practices to ensure sustainability of the journal. and 5.) The Editorial board is fully engaged to support the journal.

Dr. Morabia noted that *AJPH* published six (6) supplements in 2023 and have signed contracts for six (6) upcoming supplements on Advancing Hispanic/Latino Research ‘Pa’Lante’; Addressing COVID-19 Health Disparities; Cannabis Research and Surveillance; Protecting Vulnerable Populations; Black Women; HIV & Health Equity; and Health Equity Action Network: Combatting Health Disparities.

Dr. Morabia mentioned in summary that the journal continues to increase its reach and impact toward advancing public health while reaffirming its commitment to editorial independence, and other core policies and ethical principle that are part of the journal’s core values and ways of moving forward to create a more just society and humanity. Feedback indicates that the journal has become more attractive for a large readership of practitioners, academics, and policymakers.

Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. Morabia for his report and introduced the next item of the meeting agenda.

### **Report of the *American Journal of Public Health* – Brian Selzer, Deputy Director of Publications**

Mr. Selzer shared metrics from the FY24 publication year of the *AJPH*: 12 regular issues; 6 supplement issues; 362 articles (211 open access); 1916 pages produced (1312 print, 504 online only). Additionally, in FY24, the journal had 2690 decisions; 377 accepted papers; 14.01% acceptance rate; 37.3 days from submission to peer review; 1.4 months from submission to acceptance; and 4.0 months from submission to online publication.

Mr. Selzer noted that there continues to be media attention in national publications – e.g., Washington Post, Reuters, New York Times, CNN, and LA Times. Twitter and Facebook followers grew from 2022 to 2023. Additional social media metrics were shared.

Mr. Selzer shared that the six special issues published in FY24 generated \$624,787 in revenue. It is anticipated that the six special issues planned for FY25 will generate a projected revenue of \$449,000.

Mr. Selzer concluded his report by saying that the *AJPH* staff will continue to look for ways to connect with APHA and the public health community; continue to evaluate opportunities for practice-based issues; and continue to implement tools to help them better understand the reach and influence of *AJPH* content.

Dr. Marshall thanked Mr. Selzer for his report.

## **Report of the President – Ella Greene-Moton**

Ms. Greene-Moton shared that her presidential journey focused on advocating for empowering spaces, which are those we intentionally create to ensure that all participants are able to express their needs and share their talents.

During her President-Elect term, Ms. Greene-Moton was introduced to several of the APHA boards and committees and a diverse set of leadership opportunities. While still serving as President-Elect and throughout her year as President, Ms. Greene-Moton had the opportunity to visit (in-person or via zoom) over twenty of state Affiliates and other public health associations, academic institutions, community/academic collaboratives, and grassroots/community groups across the country. During her visits, Ms. Greene-Moton focused on three areas: 1.) strengthening the public health workforce – by exposing elementary, middle, and high school students to the field of public health; 2.) increasing the collaborations between like-minded APHA Units (i.e., the Affiliates, Sections, and Caucuses); and 3.) unmasking and addressing the institutional, structural, and systemic racism that impact the health and health outcomes in our communities. In her role as APHA President, Ms. Greene-Moton shared that she was able to leverage her voice and share her perspectives by authoring ten articles in the APHA Nation's Health.

Dr. Marshall thanked Ms. Greene-Moton for her report.

## **Report of the Speaker of the Governing Council – Aaron Guest, PhD, MPH, MSW**

Dr. Guest shared Bylaw's amendments and upcoming amendments. Dr. Guest shared upcoming Governing Council sessions at the Annual Meeting including Optional Candidate Meet and Greet; Optional Governing Council Orientation; Governing Council Sessions 1 and 2; Optional Governing Council Roundtables; and Speaker Office Hours. In addition, Dr. Guest shared reminders for the operations of this year's Governing Council.

Dr. Guest also talked about the revisions to the proposed policy brief process with a reminder of revision process and opportunities for individuals to provide feedback. Of note, the proposed Public Health Policy Statements are now Proposed Public Health Policy Briefs; and the Joint Policy Committee is dissolved, and the Science Board is replaced by the Evidentiary Review Committee, which will oversee the process. Dr. Guest reviewed additional process changes and author instructions. Dr. Guest shared that an Ad Hoc Task Force on Implementation will be responsible for designing the forms, rubrics, and material necessary for successful implementation of the new process.

At the conclusion of his report, Dr. Guest took questions from the members of the executive board. After a period of discussion, Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. Guest for his report.

**Report of the Joint Policy Committee – Stephen Modell, MD, MS, Co-Chair and Chair of the Action Board; Anthony Santella, DrPH, MCHES, CPH, Co-Chair and Chair of the Education Board; and Kevin Sykes, PhD, MPH, Co-Chair and Chair of the Science Board**

The co-chairs reported that ten (10) proposed policy statements were resubmitted in August and reviewed by the JPC in September. Seven (7) received a positive assessment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> review and three (3) received a negative assessment as they did not adequately address the changes, recommendations, and clarifications requested in the JPC’s spring review. The JPC received two (2) late breakers but both were deemed not to meet the criteria of a late breaker.

Two public hearings were held in October, attended by close to 80 members each. During the Annual Meeting, the JPC will meet in Executive Session to finalize its recommendations to the Governing Council. The Governing Council will then discuss and vote on proposed policy statements. Additionally, the 14 policy statements adopted in 2004, and the 15 policy statements adopted in 2014 are scheduled for archiving in the 2024 Annual Meeting. The Science Board received two requests to keep two policy statements active and they will meet during the Annual Meeting to finalize their recommendations regarding the archiving of these policy statements.

Dr. Marshall thanked the co-chairs of the Joint Policy Committee for their presentation.

**Report of the Intersectional Council (ISC) – Padmini Murthy, MD, MPH, MS, FESPH**

Dr. Murthy began her presentation by sharing the Council’s role and responsibilities; and composition. The ISC Steering Committee (ISC-SC) assists Sections with internal management and communication. The ISC has six topical groups: climate change; opioids; gun violence prevention; rural health; suicide prevention; and disasters and emergency preparedness. Each of these topical groups receives an ISC scientific session; a webinar; APHA LEAD online community for leaders and members to communicate; and an ISC-SC liaison.

ISC highlights from 2024 include the following: Based on results of the Section reports, the top five scientific session themes are equity; social determinants of health; rebuilding trust in public health and science; access to care; and quality of healthcare. Twenty (20) Sections/Student Assembly provided student scholarships. Sections focused on member retention and recruitment through a variety of methods. Top areas of technical assistance needed are: raise money and increase Section endowment; develop leadership among members; recruit new members; engage student members; recruit/retain a more diverse group of members; and engage retired members. In 2024, the ISC held multiple DEIA activities including webinars and training for Section Chairs-Elect and Affiliate Presidents-Elect. The 2025 ISC goals include offering more training on leadership guidelines, communication and finance/development.

Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. Murthy for her presentation.

**Report of the Council of Affiliates (CoA) – Denise Strehlow, MPH, MSW**

Ms. Strehlow began her presentation with a review of the Council of Affiliates’ role. Highlights from the CoA in 2024 include: Fifty of the 51 Affiliates completed the annual Affiliate Affairs

Advocacy and Policy Annual Survey which showed that 88% of Affiliates are engaged in some level of advocacy. The Affiliate Staff Survey was completed by the 29 Affiliates who have staff. The CoA will present three scientific sessions at the 2024 Annual Meeting. The CoA promotes and encourages all Affiliates to participate in National Public Health Week and the Speak for Health campaign. The CoA began aligning their work with the APHA new strategic plan. The CoA continues to meet monthly; recognize Affiliates and their members with a series of awards; collaborate with the ISC to host the annual Candidates Forum; hold Affiliate Day. Additionally, the CoA continued its efforts to increase JEDI activity and support the Affiliates with the refinement of the guidelines for the JEDI speaker bank to support the Affiliates and APHA.

Dr. Marshall thanked Ms. Strehlow for her presentation.

### **2024 Annual Meeting Information – Georges Benjamin, MD, and Nandi Marshall, DrPH, MPH, CHES, CLC, CDE**

Drs. Benjamin and Marshall reminded Executive Board members of Annual Meeting highlights; events members are expected to attend; and talking points if they are asked about the policy statement development process.

### **Executive Session**

The Executive Board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

### **Meeting Concludes**

Dr. Marshall adjourned the meeting for the day.

### **Friday, October 25, 2024**

### **Call to order, welcome, and Thursday meeting recap – Nandi Marshall, DrPH, MPH, CHES, CLC, CDE, Chair**

Dr. Marshall called the meeting to order and provided a recap from the prior.

### **Report of the Governance Committee – Moose Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES, Vice Chair**

Dr. Alperin began her presentation by sharing the purpose of the Governance Committee. Dr. Alperin then shared updates committee activities which included board meeting and board service evaluations; training and learning opportunities that were provided to the board; Executive Board mentorship program update; Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures; and updates to the Executive Board Handbook Dr. Alperin shared recommendations for next year's Governance Committee to consider. The Executive Board discussed the need for a mentoring program for Executive Board members. Dr. Alperin concluded her presentation by thanking the 2024 members of the Governance Committee.

Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. Alperin for her report.

**Report of the Development Committee – Bryan O. Buckley, DrPH, MPH, MBA**

Dr. Buckley began his presentation with the purpose of the Development Committee and its workplan. Dr. Buckley then shared information about Executive Board giving (100%) and Governing Council giving (38% as of 10.08.24). Dr. Buckley shared Development Annual Meeting Activities including the Executive Board “Thank You” cards for exhibitors; Champions Lunch/Celebration; and Champions Lounge. Dr. Buckley thanked the members of the Development Committee.

Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. Buckley for his report.

**Report of the Committee on Social Responsibility (CSR) – E. Oscar Alleyne, DrPH, MPH**

Dr. Alleyne began his presentation with the purpose of the CSR and an update on the committee’s workplan. Highlights from the year include the evaluation of two (2) companies/foundations (one approved, one not approved); training to new CSR committee members on the history and importance of the CSR; in the process of adding automatic denial criteria language across APHA policies (e.g., Executive Board Policies and Actions, APHA Advertising Policy, Speaker Abstract COI Form, APHA Conflict of Interest Policy). Dr. Alleyne thanked the members of the CSR.

At the conclusion of his report, Dr. Alleyne took questions from members of the Executive Board. After a period of discussion, Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. Alleyne for his report.

**Board Appreciation Activity – Georges Benjamin, MD, Executive Director**

Dr. Benjamin recognized and thanked outgoing members of the APHA Executive Board.

**Report of the Council on Education for Public Health – Laura Rasar King, EdD, MPH**

Dr. King presented her annual report to the Executive Board. Dr. King noted that CEPH accredits 259 total units, including 66 schools of public health, 164 public health programs and 29 standalone baccalaureate programs. She said that there are currently 36 schools and programs who are new applicants. Dr. King mentioned that accredited units can be found in 48 states and seven countries outside of the United States.

Dr. King went on to discuss CEPH’s criteria revisions related to DEI and SBP; the adoption of CEPH’s new 5-year strategic plan and activities related to CEPH’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Dr. King concluded her presentation by highlighting CEPH’s 2025 activities and noting that CEPH has moved back into the APHA headquarters building in September 2024.

Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. King for her report.



**Report of the Strategic Planning Committee – David Reyes, DNP, MPH, RN, PHNC-BC; Celeste Philip, MD, MPH; Liz Scott, PhD; and Anne Ramos. PhD**

David Reyes thanked the Strategic Planning Committee and introduced the Brighter Strategies team. The different roles of individuals/groups working on the Strategic Plan were reviewed including staff committees, Senior Staff Liaison, Executive Board Strategic Planning Committee, and Brighter Strategies. The year long road map and progress towards its completion was reviewed. Work to date for each of the workgroups was shared. At the conclusion of her report Dr. Scott took questions from members of the executive board. After a period of discussion, Dr. Marshall thanked Dr. Scott for her report.

**Diversity Equity & Inclusion Activity – Gillian Atkinson, MBA**

Ms. Atkinson provided a DEI training for the Executive Board.

At the conclusion of the training, Dr. Alperin thanked Ms. Atkinson.

**Meeting Concludes – Moose Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES, Vice Chair**

Dr. Alperin provided final announcements and reminders and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was moved and seconded and hearing no discussion, the Vice Chair called for a vote.

MOTION: To adjourn the Executive Board Meeting
OUTCOME: Approved by Acclamation

The next meeting of the Executive Board will take place on January 12-13, 2025, 2-6 p.m. Eastern time, via Zoom.