



**Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
January 11-12, 2026  
Virtual Meeting**

**Present**

Melissa (Moose) Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES  
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  
Laura Rasar King, EdD, MPH, MCHES  
Megan Weil Latshaw, PhD, MHS  
Cynthia N. Lebron, PhD, MPH  
Ashley S. Love, DrPH, DHSc, MPH, MS, CPH, CHC  
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**

Shontelle Dixon, MPH, CHES, *Chair*



**Sunday, January 11, 2026**

**Welcome, Roll Call, Land Acknowledgement & Executive Board Engagement Activity –  
Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW, Vice Chair**

APHA Board Vice Chair Ms. Jessica Boyer called the meeting to order, provided brief opening remarks, called roll to establish a quorum and shared a land acknowledgement from Philadelphia. Ms. Boyer then facilitated an Executive Board engagement activity.

**Administrative Affairs – Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW, Vice Chair**

- **Approve the Meeting Agenda**
- **Approve the Consent Agenda**

At the conclusion of the networking activity, Ms. Boyer requested a motion to approve the Executive Board’s January meeting agenda. The motion was moved by Dr. Alperin and seconded by Dr. Wathington, and with no further comments, a vote was called.

Motion: To approve the Executive Board’s January meeting agenda.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

Ms. Boyer then called for a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda which included the October Executive Board Meeting Minutes; New Agency Members; 2025 – 2026 Executive Board Handbook; APHA Parliamentarian; and Governing Council Seat Allocation. The motion was moved by Dr. Sankaran and seconded by Dr. Wathington and hearing no discussion, Ms. Boyer called for a vote.

Motion: To approve the consent agenda. Items on the consent agenda included October Executive Board Meeting Minutes; New Agency Members; 2025 – 2026 Executive Board Handbook; APHA Parliamentarian; and Governing Council Seat Allocation.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

At the conclusion of the vote, Ms. Boyer introduced the next agenda item.

**APHA Executive Board Fiduciary Responsibility Training – Laina C. Lopez, JD, Deputy  
Managing Partner, Berlinger Corcoran & Rowe, LLP**

Ms. Lopez addressed the following topics in her presentation: fiduciary duties (duty of care, duty or loyalty, duty of obedience); directors and their roles, obligations and rights;



APHA as a 501(c)(3); and important topics for 2026 and litigation concerns. Throughout her presentation, Ms. Lopez introduced hypotheticals and opportunities for board members to practice applying the information that was shared.

During her presentation and at its conclusion, Ms. Lopez answered questions from Executive Board members. With no further questions, Ms. Boyer thanked Ms. Lopez for her presentation and introduced the next agenda item.

### **Executive Board Goals and Expectations – Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW, Vice Chair**

Ms. Boyer shared Executive Board Goals and Expectations for the year on behalf of Ms. Dixon who was not able to participate in the meeting. Ms. Boyer emphasized the importance of upholding legal and fiduciary responsibilities by staying engaged and ensuring members have the necessary resources to fulfill their duties. Ms. Boyer highlighted the need to support key APHA initiatives, including the implementation of the strategic plan and implementation of a board self-evaluation which will be an activity of the Governance Committee. Ms. Boyer also stressed the value of clear communication with – and onboarding of – new Executive Board members; as well as communication within the Executive Board and the broader APHA membership. Ms. Boyer encouraged Board members to reach out to her or Ms. Dixon for any support related to their roles.

In closing, Ms. Boyer reminded the Board of the following expectations: active participation in Board and committee meetings, preparation, communication and- importantly – having fun. Ms. Boyer then took questions. Hearing no more questions, Ms. Boyer introduced the next agenda item.

### **Board Training – Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW, Vice Chair**

- **Topic: Executive Board Orientation**

Ms. Boyer provided training on *APHA Executive Board Service 101* which included the following topics: APHA background (role, mission, vision), Executive Board composition, key staff, board powers and duties and best practices. As part of the training, Executive Board members were reminded that the board focuses on oversight of the association as a whole and therefore thinks about high level vision, strategy and policy. The Executive Director (now CEO) and staff focus on day-to-day operations and provide leadership in specification, implementation and management of activities to realize APHA's vision and mission. Additionally, the differentiation between Executive Board and Governing Council was discussed. The Governing Council elects the Executive Board and Executive Board members serve as Governing Councilors. The Governing Council is a representative legislative body of APHA; while the Executive Board fulfills the legal and statutory roles required of a nonprofit.

Ms. Boyer then took questions. Hearing no more questions, Ms. Boyer introduced the next agenda item.

### **Report of the President – Nandi Marshall, DrPH, MPH, CHES, CLC, CDE**

Dr. Marshall began her report by thanking APHA staff. She then shared some slides from her Presidential talk, *Championing Public Health Through Advocacy and Action*. Dr. Marshall shared that as President-Elect she visited the following Public Health Associations: Colorado; Missouri; and Arizona. She also shared photos from a visit that the Georgia contingent of the 2024-25 Executive Board (Drs. Marshall, Smith and Alperin) made to meet Senator Raphael Warnock and his staff. Dr. Marshall talked about her activity since becoming APHA President – including the Rally for the Public’s Health; and Affiliate visits to Hawaii (virtual); and Nebraska. Dr. Marshall took questions and after hearing no more questions, Ms. Boyer thanked Dr. Marshall and introduced the next agenda item.

### **Executive Board Committee Presentations**

- **Committee on Social Responsibility – Claude Jacob, DrPH, MPH, Chair**
- **Development Committee – Donna-Marie Palakiko, PhD, MS, APHN, Chair**

Dr. Jacob presented on behalf of the Committee on Social Responsibility (CSR). He began his presentation by explaining the main responsibilities of the committee which is to evaluate prospective corporate, foundation, organizational and individual donors to APHA and/or its Components (i.e., Sections, SPIGs, SA) and Affiliates to assure that the philosophies, missions, values, and practices of such entities are either shared, or at minimum not in conflict with those of APHA. In fulfilling its function, CSR (1) creates, maintains, and modifies tools (e.g., APHA Guidelines for Gifts and Donations, evaluation tool template, etc.) to facilitate its evaluator processes; (2) collaborates with the Development and Finance and Audit Committees of the Executive Board; and (3) serves as a resource to APHA Components and Affiliates. Dr. Jacob shared the names of the members of the Committee and the Committee’s meeting schedule (Committee will meet jointly with the Development Committee). The Committee’s workplan for the year includes:

- Evaluate prospective company and corporate foundations based on real-time business needs of APHA.
- CSR members will review the CSR tools and resources and become familiar with completing an organization evaluation using the CSR evaluation tools.
- Modify and/or create CSR tools as needed.
- CSR-Development Committee presentations to APHA Components and Affiliates.

Dr. Palakiko presented on behalf of the Development Committee. She began her presentation by sharing the main responsibilities of the committee which is to have oversight of the development process; set, monitor and work with staff and the Board to

achieve Executive Board fundraising goals; develop and work with staff and the Executive Board to implement the Development Committee workplan; work with the Executive Board and staff to identify entities to refer to CSR for review; and explore, through networking and research and development, new opportunities and best practices to achieve and expand fundraising/development goals. Dr. Palakiko shared the names of the members of the Committee and the Committee's meeting schedule (Committee will meet jointly with the CSR). The Committee's workplan for the year includes:

- Promote leadership giving and engagement of APHA leaders in development activities.
- Support Major Gift Campaign.
- Support pragmatic growth of the APHA planned giving program.
- Discuss opportunities to enhance relationships with major donors.
- Consider opportunities to further enhance development opportunities.

Drs. Jacob and Palakiko entertained questions after which Ms. Boyer thanked them for their presentations.

### **Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matters – Jimmie Smith, MD. MPH, Chair, Personnel Committee**

Ms. Boyer called for a motion for the Executive Board to enter a period of executive session to discuss personnel matters. The motion was moved by Dr. Smith and seconded by Dr. Alperin and hearing no discussion, Ms. Boyer called for a vote. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Motion: For the Executive Board to enter a period of executive session.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

### **Wrap-up and Adjournment**

Upon exiting the period of executive session, Ms. Boyer provided closing remarks and called for a motion to adjourn for the day. The motion was moved by Dr. Jacob and seconded by Dr. Sankaran. Hearing no discussion, Ms. Boyer called for a vote. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Motion: For the meeting to adjourn for the day.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.



## **Monday, January 12, 2026**

### **Welcome, Roll Call and Sunday Recap – Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW, Vice Chair**

Ms. Boyer called the meeting to order, called the roll and established a quorum, and made opening remarks.

### **Association Update / Policy Discussion – Georges C. Benjamin, MD, Chief Executive Officer**

- **Approve the 2026 APHA Legislative Priorities**

Dr. Benjamin began his presentation by discussing APHA's core business. As a membership association, APHA's primary customers are public health practitioners, researchers and interested persons and organizations. Secondary customers are the public, policy makers and decision makers that need a trusted source of information. APHA's primary customers seek training and education; news and information; government relations and advocacy for collective action; and networking; while its secondary customers seek trusted information and advocacy opportunities. Dr. Benjamin also discussed APHA's competition for whom the association competes for grant dollars and membership dues.

Dr. Benjamin then discussed the pillars of the association's strategic plan and many of the association's programmatic activities. These included: publications (AJPH, APHA Press); educational offerings (annual meeting, Policy Action Institute, Learning Institutes, webinars, whitepapers, fact sheets); Get Ready Campaign, and grant funded programs (climate change and health, environmental health, violence prevention). Dr. Benjamin then discussed activity that falls under the umbrella of championing public health including Generation Public Health (membership growth, general public engagement); strategic partnerships; and communications (The Nations Health, Inside Public Health, other member communications).

Dr. Benjamin shifted to discuss government relations, advocacy and collective action; and shared information about policy development and issue management; lobbying; and media advocacy. He discussed APHA's branded health advocacy campaign, #SpeakForHealth that targets active APHA members; prospective members; public health partner organizations; and lawmakers, regulators and the media. Dr. Benjamin discussed the impact that the 2024 election has had on public health and the administration's approach to health policy. This has included: healthcare reform that limits access to care; limits to federal research topics and funding; reduction in the size of government; reduction in public health and healthcare workforce; reduction in global health engagement; tariffs which affect supply chain and access to global health goods and services; limits to fluoride in drinking water; dismantling national public health infrastructure; inappropriate use of

research studies, data and surveillance systems; and unscientific changes to vaccination policy. Dr. Benjamin shared that as a result of the administration’s actions, a more engaged civil society has stepped up to fill in the gaps.

Dr. Benjamin shared information about the following additional association activities. The Alliance for the Public’s Health is a multi-sector coalition of networks working to ensure that everyone has what they need to be healthy and thrive. Launched in 2020, the Alliance advances public health and equity through strategic communications, advocacy and partnerships. They created the Public Health and Equity Resource Navigator (PHERN), to help changemakers navigate and amplify vetted resources and information. The Campaign for the Public’s Health champion’s optimal, equitable health and well-being for all. The Campaign brings together partners and allies from every sector to stand up for healthy people and healthy communities. At a time when programs, policies, research, funding, and the very systems that keep our communities safe are under threat, we cannot afford to stand still. We must act—boldly and together—to protect essential services, defend equity, and rebuild a public health system that truly serves everyone. The Campaign is about more than short-term defense; it’s about driving lasting change and building a stronger, fairer, and healthier future for all. In February 2026, APHA and the Campaign are hosting a convening of coalitions that convene, coordinate, or represent networks engaged in advocacy and policy response, education, communications and partner coordination and support. Dr. Benjamin then shared an update on the various litigation for which APHA has been a part. Dr. Benjamin reminded the Executive Board of the following APHA events:

- National Public Health Week: April 6-12, 2026
- Policy Action Institute: June 9-10, 2026 (Arlington, VA and online) + optional Hill Day on June 11, 2026
- APHA 2026 Annual Meeting and Expo: November 1-4, 2026 (San Antonio, TX)

Dr. Benjamin ended by presenting the 2026 Advocacy Priorities to the Executive Board. After discussion, Ms. Boyer called for a motion for the Executive Board to approve the 2026 APHA Advocacy priorities including edits from the Executive Board. The motion was moved by Dr. Alperin and seconded by Dr. Sankaran and hearing no additional discussion, Ms. Boyer called for a vote. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Motion: To approve the 2026 APHA Advocacy Priorities, including edits from the Executive Board.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

Final 2026 APHA Advocacy Priorities are below:

- Increase and protect funding for vital public health agencies and programs and strengthen the nation’s public health infrastructure and workforce.



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- Defend existing federal public health programs and the workforce in light of ongoing efforts to defund important agencies and programs and dramatically reduce the federal public health workforce.
- Uphold and strengthen the Affordable Care Act and the Medicaid program and further expand access to health coverage and services.
- Tackle the health impacts of climate change.
- Protect access to women’s health services and reproductive health care.
- Strengthen and uphold critical public health laws, including defending and challenging existing public health and environmental health laws and regulations in the federal courts.
- Address the nation’s gun violence epidemic by advocating for interventions to reduce firearm-related morbidity and mortality and maintaining and expanding funding for gun violence prevention research at CDC and NIH.
- Advocate for the humane treatment of all immigrants, including in detention facilities, and support access to needed health services, safe living conditions and nutritious food.

### **Understanding APHA’s Financial Profile – Georges Benjamin, MD and Kemi Oluwafemi, MBA, CPA, Chief Financial Officer**

Ms. Oluwafemi provided the Executive Board with an orientation on APHA’s financial profile. Her presentation addressed the definition of a budget, APHA’s budgeting process, an overview of APHA’s financial reports and audit documents, and key financial details.

Dr. Benjamin discussed executing operational excellence by sharing information about APHA’s staff, current business climate, finances and budget (revenue, expenses), insurance types, and major contractors.

After their presentations, both Dr. Benjamin and Ms. Oluwafemi answered questions from the members of the Executive Board. Hearing no more questions, Ms. Boyer thanked Dr. Benjamin and Ms. Oluwafemi for their presentations and introduced the next agenda item.

### **Report of the Treasurer – Shirley Orr, MHS, APRN, NEA-BC**

- **FY2026 Budget Update**

Ms. Orr started her presentation by introducing the members of the Finance and Audit Committee. Ms. Orr then explained the role and responsibility of the committee which: oversees the APHA budget process; holds monthly and ad-hoc meetings to review current financial information; selects the auditing firm, the timeline for the annual audit, and makes recommendations on approving the audit the Executive Board; reviews and



monitors financial practices; and approves reserve fund and investment policies and practices.

Ms. Orr discussed the status of the FY2026 budget as of November 2025 (the December financials were not ready for the January 2026 meeting). Ms. Orr reported that total revenue is \$15,619,298 (63% of budget), which is under budget by \$851,047 and over prior year by \$1,158,677. Total expenses are \$13,564,767 (50% of budget), which is under budget by \$1,013,993 and over prior year by \$2,206,385. The areas of revenue shortfall include the following: convention revenue; book sales; advertising; and subscriptions, fees and royalties. The association has exceeded its projected revenue in the following categories: contracts and grants; miscellaneous; and interest income. Ms. Orr noted that most of APHA's revenue is raised during the first half of the fiscal year due to the Annual Meeting.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Ms. Orr answered questions regarding APHA finances. With no further questions, Ms. Boyer thanked Ms. Orr for her presentation and introduced the next agenda item.

#### **Personnel Matter – Jimmie Smith, MD. MPH, Chair, Personnel Committee**

Dr. Smith was added to the meeting agenda at the Chair's discretion. Dr. Smith, Chair of the Personnel Committee brought forth a motion from the Personnel Committee. A second was not needed as the motion came from a committee. There was no additional discussion from the prior day, and so Ms. Boyer called for a vote. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: The Personnel Committee moves to change the title for the position of Executive Director of the American Public Health Association to Chief Executive Officer of the American Public Health Association, effective January 12, 2026. This position is currently held by Dr. Georges Benjamin.

Outcome: Unanimously approved.

#### **Governance Committee – Jessica Boyer, MPH, MSW, Chair**

Ms. Boyer presented on behalf of the Governance Committee. She began her presentation by explaining the main responsibilities of the committee which is to monitor and evaluate Executive Board processes, governance and accountability; develop and maintain Executive Board ethics guide including the EB's COI policy and processes; address all code of conduct matters; maintain the Executive Board Handbook; and evaluate board



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performance. Ms. Boyer shared the members of the Committee. The Committee's workplan for the year includes:

- Provide training and learning opportunities for Executive Board (EB) members.
- Conduct annual review and implementation of a) Exit/End-of-Year Evaluation and b.) Meeting Evaluations aiming for a response rate of 80%.
- Implement Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures.
- Develop pathway for Caucuses to become Forums.
- Re-design and implement the Executive Board-Member Unit Liaison program.
- Review Report 2 of the Ad Hoc Committee on Nominations.
- Develop proposed approach for a.) maintaining webpage; and b.) tracking Executive Board policy/action adherence. Approach needs to have minimal staff impact.
- Conduct annual review of Executive Board Handbook; and update at other points as needed to reflect significant changes

Ms. Boyer provided additional information on the role of the Executive Board and Governing Council and the committee's goal to work to better articulate the relationship and roles of the two bodies, fostering communication between the Executive Board and various components which also make up the Governing Council. She also provided additional information about working to develop a pathway for Caucuses to become Forums. Becoming a Forum will help provide infrastructure and foster collaboration among APHA members on topics that are interdisciplinary and cross Sections. This pathway will provide the ISC with the opportunity to support the creation of Topical Committees that may become forums to support the interests of members. Ms. Boyer presented two motions from the Governance Committee related to the Forum pathway process. No second was required as the motions came from a committee. The Executive Board discussed and hearing no additional discussion, Ms. Boyer called for a vote. Each motion was approved by acclamation.

- Motion 1: That the Intersectional Council be authorized to establish cross-sectional topical committees only under the condition that each such committee shall operate for a maximum term of two years from the date of its formal establishment. Further, it is moved that:
1. The Intersectional Council may only establish up to two Topical Committees per year.
  2. At the conclusion of the two years, each committee shall automatically sunset unless it opts to obtain Forum Status or is assigned to a specific Member Unit for continuation.
  3. Annual progress updates shall be submitted to the Intersectional Council to ensure alignment with the APHA's organization's strategic priorities.



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4. Any committee wishing to continue beyond the two-year limit must demonstrate a continued, unmet organizational need and clearly articulate its added value relative to emerging priorities that cannot be met by existing APHA structures.
5. The ISC is tasked with developing a Governance Framework for the Management of these Topical Committees, which includes a clear reporting structure, a clear process for formation, including the number of required sections and areas appropriate to constitute one, and a clear goal for the Committee to achieve.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

Motion 2: That the Intersectional Council be directed to initiate the process of sunseting all existing Topical Committees in existence as of January 12, 2026, with the option for any current Topical Committee to transition toward Forum status, provided that it meets all requirements and follows the established Forum establishment process. Further, it is moved that:

1. The Intersectional Council shall develop and disseminate a clear transition timeline and communication plan to ensure that all Topical Committees are informed of the expectations and available pathways ASAP.
2. Topical Committees seeking Forum status must submit documentation in accordance with the Forum establishment procedures adopted by APHA, including demonstrated need, mission alignment, stakeholder support, and compliance with all relevant APHA rules and guidelines.
3. Any Topical Committee that does not pursue or does not successfully complete the Forum establishment process by January 1, 2027, shall be formally sunset and dissolved.
4. The ISC Council shall report progress on the transition to the Executive Board and Governing Council at regular intervals throughout 2026.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

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

- **Governing Council Evaluation Results, Executive Board**
- **Governing Council Communication Discussion**



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Dr. Guest reminded the Executive Board of the process used to determine an annual meeting theme. He presented five themes to the Executive Board for consideration and shared feedback on these themes. Based on feedback received, Dr. Guest made a motion to approve "Together Towards Better Health" as the 2027 Annual Meeting theme (Philadelphia, PA). Ms. Boyer seconded the motion. After discussion, Ms. Boyer called for the vote and the motion was approved by acclamation.

Motion: To approve "Together Towards Better Health" as the 2027 Annual Meeting theme (Philadelphia, PA).

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

Dr. Guest then shared findings from the 2025 Annual Meeting Survey Report. Of note, more than 50% of respondents (N=110) strongly agreed with the following statements:

- There was adequate communication prior to the Annual Meeting. (64.5%)
- The Governing Council processes were clearly explained. (55.5%)
- My member unit (affiliate, section, caucus, SPIG) met and discussed our questions, recommendations for voting, and Governing Council Agenda prior or during the Annual Meeting. (52.7%)
- The expectations of my role were clearly communicated to me by my member unit. (60.0%)
- The process for voting was clear. (72.7%)
- The agenda items were appropriate for the meeting. (57.3%)
- I am clear on the responsibilities of elected roles within the Association (e.g., Executive Board, President, etc.). (56.4%)
- The Speaking with the Speaker series throughout the year is helpful. (50.9%)
- If I wanted to engage with the Governing Council Speaker, I felt I had sufficient opportunities to do so. (60.0%)

Dr. Guest shared the following 2026 dates for the Governing Council:

- GC Speaker Series #1: Governing Councilors' Role in the Proposed Policy Brief Process| January 21st, 12PM-1 PM Eastern
- Orientation 1: APHA Structure and GC Roles and Responsibilities| March 17th, 1-2 PM Eastern
- Proposed Policy Briefs Public Hearing #1| March 24 and 25th-Time TBD
- GC Speaker Series #2: Proactive Member Unit Engagement| April 16th, 1-2PM Eastern
- Orientation 2: Parliamentary Procedure| May 14th, 1-2 PM Eastern
- Mid-Year Meeting| June 8th, 2-4:30 PM Eastern
- Proposed Policy Brief Public Hearing #2| October 22nd and 23rd-Time TBD
- GC Speaker Series #3: Governing Councilors Prep for the Annual Meeting| October 14th, 2-3 PM Eastern



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- APHA Annual Meeting
  - Annual Meeting Session 1: October 31st, 3-6 PM Central
  - Annual Meeting Session 2: November 3rd, 8:30 AM-1:30 PM Central
- Additional Dates
  - Submission of Mid-Year Meeting Agenda Items| April 1
  - Submission of Annual Meeting Agenda Items| September 1

Dr. Guest shared that more than 30 individuals expressed interest in serving on the APHA Governing Council Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on the Code of Conduct Process. Three individuals have expressed interest in serving as chair/co-chair of the group; and the group will meet for the first time on January 13, 2026.

The Executive Board held a generative discussion about the Governing Council.

At the conclusion of discussion, Ms. Boyer thanked Dr. Guest and moved to next agenda item.

**APHA Strategic Plan Update – Monique Brown, PhD, MPH, FGSA, Chair, Strategic Planning Committee, Liz Scott, PhD, Chief Executive Officer & Liyo Masvidal, Brighter Strategics, LLC**

Dr. Brown introduced Dr. Scott and Ms. Masvidal from Brighter Strategics. Dr. Scott and Ms. Masvidal discussed results from the APHA Member Survey Report: 2024 & 2025

Comparison. Of note:

- In 2024, 1879 people responded to the survey with a 82% completion rate; and in 2025, 1848 people responded to the survey with a 67% completion rate.
- Membership Type: Most respondents were Regular Members, followed by Student Members
- Length of Membership: Membership tenure varied, including both newer and long-standing members
- Geography: Respondents represented all U.S. regions
- Race & Ethnicity: Nearly 50% identified as White; remaining respondents represented multiple racial and ethnic groups
- Gender Identity: Majority identified as women, with representation across other gender identities
- Career Level: Mix of students, early-career, mid-career, and late-career professionals
- Education Level: Most respondents reported graduate-level education
- Age Range: Respondents spanned a wide range of ages, with a concentration in mid-career groups
- What remained strong:



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- Majority of respondents continue to consider APHA their primary professional home (2024: 72%, 2025: 70%).
- Most respondents in both years feel connected and aligned with APHA's mission and values (2024: 76%, 2025: 78%).
- Members largely maintain a positive perception of APHA's commitment to advancing health equity (2024: 85%, 2025: 86%).
- Majority of respondents are likely to recommend APHA to other public health professionals, meaning stable overall satisfaction (2024: 82%, 2025: 79%).
- Connecting with peers by joining an APHA section/Caucuses/Forums (2024: 62%, 2025: 64%) and attending the APHA Annual Meeting and Expo at a discounted rate (2024: 55%, 2025: 53%) were still the top reasons for joining APHA.
- A majority in both years find it important to be involved in their primary section for overall membership value, reinforcing the importance of sections in member engagement (2024: 70%, 2025: 68%).
- Word of mouth remains the top way members first hear about APHA, suggesting strong peer-to-peer credibility but limited diversification in outreach channels (2024: 63%, 2025: 65%).

Dr. Scott and Ms. Masvidal took questions. Hearing no more questions, Ms. Boyer introduced the next agenda item.

### **Executive Session – Aaron Guest, PhD, MPH, MSW**

- **Governance Committee to Discuss Caucus Transition Updates**

Ms. Boyer called for a motion for the Executive Board to enter a period of executive session. The motion was moved by Dr. Alperin and seconded by Dr. Sankaran and hearing no discussion, Ms. Boyer called for a vote. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Motion: For the Executive Board to enter a period of executive session.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

Upon exiting a period of executive session, Dr. Guest made a motion to revoke recognition of the Socialist Caucus as an APHA Caucus; Dr. Troisi seconded the motion. Ms. Boyer called for the vote.

Motion: The Socialist Caucus, having been out of alignment with APHA Requirements for Caucus Status for 2 Years, has its recognition as an APHA Caucus Revoked. Further, it is moved that:

- This shall have immediate effect.



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- The APHA Executive Director shall formally notify the Socialist Caucus leadership in writing of the revocation of recognition and outline the implications for all affiliated activities.
- APHA shall remove the Socialist Caucus from all official directories, governance documents, and communication platforms to reflect the revocation of recognition.
- As a separate body, APHA lays no claim to the history or work of the Socialist Caucus and wishes them well in their endeavors and future work

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

### **Wrap-up and Adjournment**

Ms. Boyer provided closing remarks and called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Dr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Orr. Hearing no discussion, Ms. Boyer called for a vote. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Outcome: Approved by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m. eastern.

The next meeting of the APHA Executive Board will take place on Monday, March 9, 2026, from 2-4 p.m. eastern time, via Zoom.