

Rural Health Coordinating Council
Draft Minutes
August 21, 2026

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter(s)
10:00 am – 10:10 am	1. Call to order A. Roll call Raymond Hino, chair, Oregon Hospital Association Jennifer Little, co-chair, Conference of Local Health Officials (CLHO) Mona McArdle, Oregon Medical Association Nigel Jagoo, Oregon Osteopathic Organization Yoona Koo, Oregon State Board of Pharmacy Deb Bartel, Health Service Area (HSA) #2 Dusti Linnell, HSA #1 Sharon Davis, communities less than 3500 Rebecca Chown, Oregon Optometric Association ORH staff: Robert Duehmig, Sara Mishalanie, Sarah Andersen, Maggie Tidmore B. Introductions C. Approval of agenda: Sharon moved to approve, Mona seconded, unanimous approval. D. Approval of minutes: Sharon moved to approve, Deb seconded, unanimous approval.	Raymond Hino, Chair
	2. Public comment: No requests for public comment were received. Time reallocated to Belle Shepherd.	N/A

10:10 am – 11:15 am	3. H.R. 1 update: Federal Rules and Upcoming Changes to Oregon Health Plan. View the slides here.	Belle Shepherd, OHA
11:15 am – 11:35 am	4. RHTP and Regional Convening update: A. Regional convenings serve as a bridge between Years 1 and 2 B. Technical assistance includes strategic plans, feasibility studies, ROIs and grant-writing support C. Five of eight meetings have been held so far D. Meetings break out into groups to discuss focus areas, including healthy communities and prevention; data and technology; workforce capacity and resilience E. Meetings will continue virtually over the winter and meet again in person in the spring.	Sarah Andersen, ORH
11:35 am – 11:50 am	5. Member discussion Raymond mentioned Senator Wyden’s statewide meetings and his attendance at the RHTP Regional Convening in Medford. He was surprised that RHTP was not mentioned during the statewide meeting. Deb reported a well-attended meeting in Salem focused on healthcare issues, including Medicare for all and Medicaid cuts. Mona attended both a virtual and in-person convening. She agreed it was striking that RHTP wasn’t mentioned at the statewide meeting and highlighted the need for more rural residencies and infrastructure investment to address provider shortages.	

	Jennifer requested information on Healthcare for All. Raymond discussed the financial struggles of Oregon hospitals, emphasizing the need for immediate support and payer reform. Robert encouraged members to bring their organization's legislative agendas for discussion at the December meeting. Raymond mentioned the creation of the Cascades Rural High Value Network, a clinically integrated network of 11 rural hospitals and clinics. It is awaiting approval in the healthcare market oversight process. Dusti raised concerns about losing SNAP education funding, impacting nutrition education efforts in Oregon. Robert mentioned OHA's Healthcare Workforce report. OHA staff will present the report at September's RHCC meeting and it will be sent to members in advance for review.	
11:50 am	Adjourn	