

Committee on Rural Health

Meeting Minutes

11/18/2025 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST

Attendees:

- **APA Staff:** Maddie Boening, Andrew Strickland
- **CRH Committee:** Tess Kilwein, Douglas Knutson, Christianne Connelly, Mary Louise Cashel, Ashley Norwood, Reed Maxwell, Christine McKibbin, Royleen Ross, Calista Kern-Lyons
- **Guests:** Mary Ann McCabe (BOD Liaison), Emily Selby-Nelson (Division 31 Rural Health Section Liaison)

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Needs Assessment Final Report – Douglas**

The Needs Assessment Final Report has been finalized and approved for distribution. CRH members are invited to widely distribute the report to their networks. APA staff are working to confirm with the legal team that this may be posted to the CRH webpage.

- **Update on CRH Officer Elections Results**

Dr. Christianne Connelly has been elected as the 2026 Chair of CRH, and Dr. Ashley Norwood Strickland has been elected as the 2026 Vice Chair.

Chelsea Wallen is an incoming CRH member with a term beginning in January 2026. APA staff will extend an invitation to Dr. Wallen to attend the December CRH meeting.

APA staff will send a doodle poll to schedule a CRH leadership transition meeting with the 2025 Chair and Vice Chair and the incoming 2026 Chair and Vice Chair. Additionally, APA staff will schedule a new member orientation for January 2026.

- **2026 Workplan**

The 2026 CRH workplan has been submitted and can be found in the CRH Dropbox folder.

- **APA COR Rural Health Caucus Resolution – Next Steps**

CRH has incorporated all legal edits from APA's Office of General Counsel, except for one point of clarification. APA staff will notify the Board of Professional Affairs for their awareness of this proposed resolution. CRH is now awaiting final approval from APA's Office of General Counsel to post for public comment.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

- Subcommittees/Liaison Updates
 - [Healthcare Financing Advisory Group](#) (Christianne)

Christianne provided an update on the Healthcare Financing Advisory Committee, noting that the group is preparing letters for the State, Provincial, and Territorial Psychological Associations. CRH briefly discussed the need to identify key rural health needs to communicate to the advisory group. With Christianne elected to serve as the 2026 CRH Chair, the committee determined that a new liaison to the Healthcare Financing Advisory Group was needed. Dr. Reed Maxwell has agreed to serve in this liaison role moving forward.

- Rural Health Toolkit Subcommittee (Ashley, Christianne, Reed, Christine, Royleen, Calista, Emily)

Rather than scheduling a separate subcommittee meeting, CRH will dedicate the majority of the December meeting to discussing next steps for the Rural Health Toolkit.

Next CRH Full Committee Meeting: 12/16/2025 at 11:00 AM EST

- Festive Attire!
- Welcome Dr. Wallen to CRH
- Discuss Rural Health Toolkit