

Minutes of the Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness, March 11, 2008

| <p>Mission Statement: The Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness will provide guidance and oversight to the planning and implementation of the public health, hospital and pre-hospital emergency preparedness programs. Members will work to ensure the engagement of local health departments and hospitals, EMS and their key partners in the program and will facilitate the integration of public health and hospital preparedness programs with other emergency preparedness efforts statewide.</p> | |
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| <p>Members can access the minutes of the Public Health Council and its committees at http://publichealthcouncil.dhfs.wi.gov ⇒ indicates a follow-up action that needs to be taken</p> | |
| Agenda Item | Discussion |
| Review of Minutes of 12/11/07 | <p>Minutes were approved as written.</p> <p>⇒ Sheri Johnson will attend the 3/12/08 meeting of the Homeland Security Council meeting to share the subcommittee's recommendations</p> |
| PHC Update | No members present attended the last PHC meeting; thus no update was given |
| Recommendation for Role of Committee | <p>In reference to Recommendation #1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The consensus of those present was to create a linkage between Recommendation #1 and #2 to explicitly list that recommendations go through Sheri Johnson to the Homeland Security Council (include this statement in Recommendation #2, second bullet) <p>In reference to Recommendation #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There was discussion of the need for an established quorum and rescinding of membership if absent for a certain number of meetings. A quorum will then be able to perform the work of the group. ➤ It was agreed to eliminate "Pandemic Flu" bullet after the contract ceases, then broaden the statement to reflect all-hazard response plans. <p>In reference to Recommendation #3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Committee requests more formal response and feedback from the Public Health Council. "Response" should be used in replacement of "timeline." ➤ A draft idea for an appropriate amount of time allotted before an expected response would be before the following subcommittee meeting, which would be after the next <i>two</i> council meetings. <p>In reference to Recommendation #4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The subcommittee agreed to meet 3 times per year (February, June, and October) on the first Tuesday of those months. |

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| <p>Pandemic Influenza Update</p> | <p>As Lisa Pentony could not attend, Sara Strell briefed the group on the Pandemic Preparedness Update that was distributed in February 2008.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">⇒ The subcommittee appreciated the quality of this document and requested that when the next update is sent out, they be included on the distribution list as well.</p> |
| <p>ASPR and CDC Update</p> | <p>The Wisconsin Hospital Emergency Preparedness Update for February 2008 was reviewed. There was discussion about the value of the electronic reporting system (WI Trac).</p> <p>Diane Christen provided the following updates from the CDC Cooperative Agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FY 2008 Guidance is not out yet; it is not clear when it can be expected ➤ The program is expecting an 11-12% cut in base funding over the next two years ➤ Guidance will likely be a continuation of this year's projects and objectives ➤ In grant year 2009-2010, Wisconsin DPH will be expected to provide a 5% match in funding ➤ Carryover funds are no longer allowed, per that money being deducted from the following year's award ➤ A revised more efficient Public Health Emergency Plan is currently being rolled out to local health departments |
| <p>Special Populations</p> | <p>Sara Strell, Regional Coordinator, updated the committee on the work being done by public health for special populations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A State Expert Panel to address this issue has been formed and has met 3 times. ➤ The charge of this Panel is to establish standardization of communications to special populations at the local level. This will be based on the CDC Special Populations Workbook. ➤ The goal is to meet monthly through April 2008 with a recommendation ready for review in May 2008. ➤ The group has developed a "Parking Lot Issues" document for those issues related to Special Populations that fall outside the charge and scope of this group. Included in this document is the issue of special populations sheltering, a designee for special populations on the Homeland Security Council to coordinate statewide activities, recommendation for the Governor to declare a lead agency in dealing with special populations with the understanding that there are many support agencies involved. ➤ The subcommittee agreed with these recommendations and offered to either endorse those of the Special Populations Expert Panel and/or submit their own recommendations based on the work of the panel. |

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| Identification of Universal Indicators | The group desires to identify roughly 3 universal indicators. There is the potential to use some of the Action Directives as the universal indicators (i.e. #4 Training). Indicators should be those objectives that should still be maintained even in the absence of funding. Indicators could also be used to get funding awards, for legislative actions by being brought before the PHC and the Homeland Security Council. Of the four examples of Universal Indicators listed, “Training and Competencies” should be added as an additional primary category. | |
| Items for next meeting agenda and Action Items | The Committee should discuss ⇒ Commitment for participation ⇒ Change in meeting location – is the transition between Stevens Point and Wisconsin Dells necessary? ⇒ Draft language for one Universal Indicator to be used as a model. ⇒ Dennis to send the most updated membership list to group. | |
| Next Meeting | Meetings in CY 2008 are: ➤ June 3, 2008 (Wisconsin Dells) ➤ October 7, 2008 (Stevens Point) ➤ February 3, 2009 (Wisconsin Dells) | |
| Committee Members In Attendance (BOLD) | Bevan Baker John Bartkowski Bill Bazan Christopher Fischer Gregg Gibbons Oren Hammes Stephanie Harrison/ Amanda Wilkins Terri Kramolis Loren Leshan Marge McFarlane | Doug Mormann Lawrence Reed Glen Safford Peggy Sivesind Ernest Stremski JoAnn Weidmann Thai Vue (Vacant – State Trauma Coordinator) (Vacant – Hospital Representative) (Vacant – PHC member) |
| Resource Staff | Thomas Anderson Lisa Pentony Sara Strell | Dennis Tomczyk Paul Wittkamp Diane Christen |

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Recommendation of the Wisconsin Division of Public Health Regarding the Public Health and Hospital Preparedness Senior Advisory Committee

Recommendation #1: The Wisconsin Division of Public Health endorses the Homeland Security Council as the Senior Advisory Committee (SAC), which is required by both the CDC Public Health and ASPR¹ Hospital Preparedness Cooperative Agreements. The Homeland Security Council is the body that facilitates the integration of plans and response by all emergency responders in the State of Wisconsin and thus will allow for better integration of the Public Health and Hospital Preparedness Programs with those of other emergency response organizations.

Recommendation #2: The Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness shall continue to serve as

- the oversight body for the Pandemic Influenza Response Plan of the State of Wisconsin as per the agreement between the Department of Health and Human Services and the Wisconsin Division of Public Health.
- the entity that provides policy and strategy recommendations for both the CDC Public Health and ASPR Hospital Preparedness Cooperative Agreements. The Administrator of the Division of Public Health sits on the Homeland Security Council and shall bring recommendations from the CDC Public Health and ASPR Hospital Preparedness Cooperative Agreements to this Council as appropriate.

The Committee shall establish the number of members needed for a quorum.

Recommendation #3: All recommendations from the Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness shall continue to be brought forth for review to the Public Health Council. However, the Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness recommends that a procedure and response for the Public Health Council to review and act upon the Committee's recommendations be enacted, along with a procedure to follow up on the implementation of any recommendations of the Committee that are approved by the Public Health Council.

- It is recommended that the Public Health Council provide a response to the Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness at the next scheduled meeting of the Committee (this allows the Public Health Council to have two meetings for deliberation).

¹ ASPR is the acronym for the DHHS Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response – the federal funding source for the Hospital Preparedness Program.

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Recommendation of the Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness

Recommendation #4: The Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness, in order to better sequence its meetings with the full Public Health Council, recommends that this Committee meet three times annually on the first Tuesday of the following months: February, June and October.