

Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2005

Council Members Present: Ayaz Samadani (Chair); Sandy Anderson and John Bartkowski (Vice-Chairs); José Avila (Secretary); Bevan Baker; Jayne Bielecki (by teleconference); Catherine Frey; Gary Gilmore; Stephen Hargarten; Terri Kramolis (through webcast); Charles LaRoque; Corazon Loteyro; Douglas Nelson; Kurt Reed; Thai Vue; JoAnn Weidmann; Jeanan Yasiri

Council Members Absent: Christopher Fischer; Loren LeShan; June Munro; Richard Perry; Elizabeth Raduege; Julie Willems Van Dijk

Division of Public Health Staff: Herb Bostrom; Susan Wood; Pat Guhleman; Margaret Schmelzer; Dennis Tomczyk; Steve Marshall; Stacia Jankowski

Guest Presenters: Sarah Lewis, Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association

Others Present: Matthew Stanford, Wisconsin Hospital Association

Call to Order

At 10:05 a.m., Dr. Ayaz Samadani called the meeting to order. A quorum was deemed present (16 members were present).

Minutes of the December 10, 2004 meeting

A motion to approve the minutes was made, and was seconded. The motion passed, and the minutes were approved.

Evaluation summary from first two meetings and discussion of the evaluation for this meeting

Dr. Samadani expressed concern about the low participation in completing the evaluation forms for the first two meetings. Since the last meeting the evaluation form has been reworked to collect information. The evaluations are a way to direct the council in its activities and ensure complete participation by all members. Dr. Samadani asked the members to make any suggestions or comments on the evaluation form when they complete it. His goal is to have 100% completion of the evaluation forms for each meeting. He thanked Dr. Gilmore for providing a template used by the Board of the American Cancer Society.

Presentation by the Joint Preparedness Advisory Committee

Sarah Lewis, Director of the Primary Health Care Association, presented the history and function of the Joint Preparedness Advisory Committee. This Committee has been in operation for approximately three years and was established following the 9/11 events to focus on preparing the state for emergencies. The Committee has served as an advisory council for DHFS on emergency preparedness (bioterrorism and other) and to provide guidance and oversight in the planning and implementation of grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Dennis Tomczyk explained that DHFS prepares monthly reports to show recent accomplishments and upcoming events, quarterly reports to the Joint Preparedness Advisory Committee, and a semi-annual report for the CDC and HRSA granters on the status of the project based on the activities. Dr. Gary Gilmore asked that the Public Health Council (PHC) be included on the distribution list for these reports.

Ms. Lewis explained that the Joint Preparedness Advisory Committee has proposed that a number of members from this committee be added to the PHC Preparedness Committee in order to streamline and coordinate the efforts of these two groups. She said that in order to meet CDC and HRSA grant requirements, certain representatives would need to be included in the new committee for a total of 23 members. A handout describing this proposal was distributed to the Council, and included a list of

representative types that need to be included to meet the grant requirements. Ms. Lewis also urged the Council to acknowledge the gap between rural and urban health and the changing face of the residents of Wisconsin.

Dr. Stephen Hargarten made a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Joint Preparedness Advisory Committee; Dr. Gilmore seconded the motion. The motion carried. The Council discussed that the first action of the Preparedness Committee should be to explore options for working effectively within such a large group.

A discussion ensued on the funding resources from Homeland Security. These funds are managed through the Office of Justice Assistance and distributed mainly through the Wisconsin Emergency Management to local first responders. Oversight of these funds falls to the Homeland Security Council. Steve Marshall and Dennis Tomczyk are being added to these councils, to ensure coordination with DHFS on meeting grant requirements.

Dr. Charles LaRoche asked how to coordinate first responders and physicians in light of the funding decreases. Herb Bostrom, Division of Public Health Interim Administrator, responded that this is a complex funding situation. The funding for both the CDC and HRSA grants are decreasing a little, but the state is trying to identify administrative funding (at the state and local level) to free up some of the resources. Discussion on funding for preparedness is in the early stages and based on the national proposed budget; nothing has been finalized.

In discussing the HRSA funding, Dr. LaRoche requested that Mr. Tomczyk direct a letter to him stating that tribal governments can be included in the HRSA funding.

Thai Vue questioned the awareness of underserved populations about bioterrorism and the mechanism for local providers to reach these underserved populations. A discussion ensued about HRSA requirements that encourage participation by organizations that are more likely to reach the underserved, and also about the Health Alert Network (HAN) as a means of distributing information. A link to the HAN is available from the Public Health Council Web site at <http://publichealthcouncil.dhfs.wi.gov/links>. (Note: A link to the Wisconsin State Health Plan is also provided on this site.)

Discussion on roles and responsibilities of the Council in relation of both the Joint Preparedness Committee and Public Health Advisory Committee

Susan Wood provided a short recap of the issues presented at the December 2004 Council meeting about the Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC). PHAC requests the Council expand the State Health Plan Committee to include members from the State Health Plan Oversight Workgroup, a subcommittee of PHAC. JoAnn Wiedmann moved to have Mary Jo Baisch, Carol Graham, and Mark Huber identify several additional members from the PHAC, with the objective of maintaining a committee size of about 10 members. Doug Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed with no objections.

Report on Governor's budget as it relates to the mission of the Council

Herb Bostrom noted that budget information is provided in great detail on the Web. He distributed a handout that summarized some of the budget initiatives that the Council should be aware of. Susan Wood described the changes proposed around health information, including the creation of a new Board on Health Care Quality and Patient Safety.

Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary

According to state statute, a chair, vice chair, and secretary must be elected at the first meeting every year. Ms. Wood explained the duties of each as they exist in other boards and councils.

Dr. Gilmore made a motion to close the nominations for chair with Dr. Samadani as the only nominee. The motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.

Dr. Steve Hargarten nominated Sandy Anderson for Vice Chair, seconded by Dr. Kurt Reed. Doug Nelson nominated John Bartkowski, seconded by José Avila. The Council decided to vote by secret ballot. The vote was tied at eight (8) votes for Mr. Bartkowski and eight (8) votes for Sandy Anderson. Both nominees

will serve as vice-chairs for 2005.

Mr. Avila volunteered to be Secretary. There were no other nominations. Dr. Gilmore seconded. All members of the Council unanimously agreed to Mr. Avila as Secretary.

All members elected will become part of the Executive Committee.

Report from Executive Committee on proposed vision, mission, and strategies

The first Executive Committee meeting was January 19, 2005. The committee discussed organizational issues; the role of the committees; goals for the year; and a draft vision, mission, and strategies. The minutes from the Executive Committee meeting were provided to the Council members.

The Executive Committee decided to hold the discussion on the bylaws for the next meeting. Council members were directed to send comments on the bylaws to Susan Wood or Dr. Samadani by e-mail or bring them to the next meeting.

Dr. Samadani walked through the Council's vision, mission, and strategies that were drafted by the Executive Committee. The vision was discussed and no changes were made. The vision is: "Wisconsin will become the healthiest state."

Cathy Frey suggested that more of an emphasis be placed on policy in both the mission and strategies.

The mission statement and strategies were then revised to the following:

Mission: "Assure safe and healthy people through evidence-based and cost-effective policy and practice recommendations."

The strategies are as follows:

1. Study what exists now in terms of evidence-based practices and policies about public health and emergency preparedness.
2. Catalyze new efforts to develop evidence/science-based practices and policies.
3. Develop and advocate the evidence-based practices and policy recommendations.
4. Promote sustainability of evidence-based practices and policies.
5. Prioritize 2010 State Health Plan objectives for the Council's review and decision making.
6. Communicate the Council's progress to all stakeholders in an open and effective manner.

Status Tracking Document

Department staff created a State Health Plan tracking document to help inform the Council of progress and identify gaps that exist for the health and infrastructure priorities of the *Healthiest Wisconsin 2010*. Ms. Wood explained each column in the document and identified areas for which no "owner" has been identified. She reminded the group that this document is in draft form, and not all of the information is complete at this point. Ms. Wood identified the following as having gaps: 1) Equitable, adequate, and stable financing (a systems priority); 2) Social and economic factors that influence health (a health priority); 3) Eliminating disparities (an overarching goal); and 4) Transformation of the public health system (an overarching goal).

Jeanan Yasiri suggested that this document be revised to include: 1) The three overarching goals identified in the state health plan, 2) A visual means of identifying items where the objective has been met or nearly been met, and 3) A statement to indicate current data for those items where data is available. Ms. Wood indicated that this could be done for the next meeting.

A discussion ensued about crosscutting issues for the three overarching goals (promote and protect health for all, eliminate health disparities, and transform Wisconsin's public health systems). Two crosscutting issues that were identified were disparities and funding.

Establish goals for years one, two, and three

Ms. Wood recommended that staff draft a charter for each committee, list its members, and identify issues that have been discussed at the full Council meeting that fall within the purview of that committee. Susan

will draft these and bring them to the next Executive Committee meeting.

Dr. Gilmore suggested that a general committee be formed to discuss disparities since this is an overarching issue. The group agreed to consider establishing such a committee. No further actions were identified.

Richard Perry will chair the State Health Plan Committee, and Dr. Reed will chair the Preparedness Committee.

Next Public Health Council meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2005, at the Marshfield Clinic. More information will be sent to members prior to the meeting. Topics suggested for the next meeting include:

- Funding for WIC – WIC Director and/or WIC Advisory Council Chair,
- Tobacco control and the user fee – Smoke-Free Wisconsin representative and possibly a local coalition
- Methamphetamine – DHFS representative and a representative from the Department of Justice
- Homeland Security Council

Adjournment

Dr. Samadani adjourned the meeting at 1:46 p.m.