

Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 14, 2005

Council Members Present: Ayaz Samadani (Chair); Sandy Anderson (Vice-Chair); John Bartkowski (Vice-Chair); Gary Gilmore (Secretary); Bevan Baker; Jayne Bielecki (teleconference) ; Catherine Frey; Stephen Hargarten; Terri Kramolis (webcast); Corazon Loteyro; Douglas Nelson; Richard Perry; Elizabeth Raduege; Thai Vue (teleconference); JoAnn Weidmann; Julie Willems Van Dijk; Jeanan Yasiri

Council Members Absent: Christopher Fischer; Charles LaRoque; Loren Leshan; June Munro; Kurt Reed

Division of Public Health Staff: Herb Bostrom, Deputy Administrator; Patricia Guhleman; Patti Herrick; Stacia Jankowski; Kathryn Jones; Moira Lafayette; Steve Marshall; Marianne Peck; Mary Pesik

Call to Order

At 10:10 a.m., Dr. Ayaz Samadani called the meeting to order.

Administration

Housekeeping/Announcements

Susan Wood provided an overview of the following items:

- Located on the table near the entrance of each meeting is a box that contains a folder for each member of the Council and staff. In each folder, there is a table tent name plate, name tag, and materials for any meetings at which the member was not present. Meeting material will only be mailed if you specifically request it, otherwise it will be placed in your folder.

At the front of the box is a folder with travel reimbursement forms. These will be present at every meeting. If you complete these forms, please give the completed forms to Stacia Jankowski.

- All of the Public Health Council meetings, including the committee meetings, are bound by the open meeting law and can be attended by anyone. A schedule and all agendas are posted on the Public Health Council Web site as they become available. If you are interested in being copied on the announcements for any of the committee meetings, please contact Stacia Jankowski.
- We value the feedback that is received by the Council. If you need to leave early or are attending by telephone or webcast, an electronic version of the evaluation form will be sent to you. Please complete the evaluation and return it to Stacia Jankowski by e-mail, mail, or fax.

Review of minutes from June 10, 2005, meeting

JoAnn Weidmann made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Doug Nelson seconded the motion. The motion carried unopposed.

Evaluation report

Dr. Samadani reviewed.

Open Forum

Ms. Weidmann reported on the status of the Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC). At the end of 2005, PHAC will no longer be financially supported by the Department. Ms. Weidmann reported that PHAC plans to continue operating, and has received funding from the Wisconsin Public Health Association

(WPHA) for strategic planning.

Mr. Thai Vue reported that he has submitted a letter of support for the efforts of DHFS and Drs. Remington and Moberg on the project entitled *What Works: Reducing Health Disparities in Wisconsin Communities*. He will distribute a copy of the letter to the Council.

Executive Committee Report

Dr. Samadani reviewed the items that the Executive Committee discussed at its meeting, including:

- Rules of Order and Procedure changes;
- Draft semi-annual report;
- Letterhead;
- Communication with other councils; and
- Invitation from WPHA/WALHDAB to participate in its annual conference planning committee.

During his report, Dr. Samadani announced that Doug Nelson, Dr. Corazon Loteyro, and Catherine Frey have been appointed to the Nominating Committee.

Dr. Gary Gilmore volunteered to participate in the WPHA/WALHDAB annual planning. A letter will be sent to WPHA/WALHDAB informing them of this.

Dr. Samadani announced that Jose Avila has resigned from his position on the Council. Ms. Wood reported that Mr. Avila was appointed to represent professional health educators in his appointment, so that should be taken into account in considering names for his replacement.

A proposed meeting schedule for 2006 was distributed for the Council and the Executive Committee. The Council agreed to continue meeting on the second Friday of the month every other month. The Executive Committee will meet three weeks before the Council meeting, as reflected in the schedule that was distributed. The Council also discussed holding one meeting outside of Madison and one at the Emergency Command Center, as offered by General Wilkening. Ms. Wood said that staff will explore holding these meetings in April and August. Ms. Weidmann suggested that a carpool location be designated for when the meeting is held in Marshfield.

State Health Plan Committee Report

Richard Perry asked Ms. Weidmann to report on the activities of the State Health Plan Committee.

Ms. Weidmann reported that the following occurred:

- The Committee has requested that another racial/ethnic minority member be added to the Committee. No Council members volunteered, and Dr. Samadani suggested that the Committee check with the PHAC for any recommendations.
- Drs. Kindig and Remington reported on the work that is occurring related to the two overarching goals of improving health for all and eliminating disparities. Patricia Guhleman has agreed to meet with core staff from the University on this effort and provide any information to the Committee.
- The Framework Subcommittee reported on their efforts to report the state's progress on the state health plan. The Subcommittee recommended that the Department's established reporting method be used for reporting on each of the priorities.
- Pat Guhleman said that the Transformation Evaluation is in process. Work is being done under contract by the University of Wisconsin-Madison with Dr. Paul Moberg as principal investigator. Key transformation themes have been identified on the basis of about 20 in-depth interviews with public health leaders. A Web-based survey will follow to capture broad-based input. Findings, to be completed in December, will provide the baseline for comparison at the end of the decade.

Emergency Preparedness Issues

Emergency Preparedness Committee report

Steve Marshall reported that the Emergency Preparedness Committee had developed a list of issues that Committee members have been asked to prioritize through a survey that has been sent out. Once these issues have been prioritized, this information will be used to develop a work plan for the Committee.

Dr. Samadani asked that the survey addressing the prioritization of strategic issues be sent to all Council members.

Emergency preparedness discussion

Mr. Marshall reported that Adjutant General Wilkening submitted to the Governor a review of all the preparedness plans in Wisconsin in response to the tragedy associated with Hurricane Katrina. This report addresses such issues as identifying special needs populations and coordination between state and local governments, and is available on the Web at <http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/docview.asp?docid=5082>.

In discussing avian flu, Mr. Nelson said that vaccine development is very slow and very difficult and he has heard that this is due to drug companies not finding it profitable. He reported that Senator Clinton has a bill in the Senate to make it profitable for drug companies. Mr. Nelson proposed that the Council review the bill being proposed by Senator Clinton and consider recommendations for the Wisconsin Congressional delegation. Mr. Marshall said that the Council may want to review the position posed by the Council about a year ago. Mr. Nelson made a motion to ask Dr. Jeff Davis to address the Council in writing about how prepared Wisconsin is in preventing and informing the public, including disparate populations, about avian flu. The motion was seconded by Sandy Anderson. Further items attached to the motion are that the information be prepared and communicated to the members prior to the December meeting as requested by Dr. Samadani, and that the issue of systems management be addressed in the report as requested by Dr. Gilmore. All members in attendance were in favor.

Emergency preparedness legislative report

Mr. Marshall reported that the legislative report that had been distributed through e-mail is required by statute. He asked that any comments be provided to him following this discussion.

Mr. Marshall said there are a number of reports that address some of the same issues, and suggested that the Council may want to address how these reports can be coordinated, either by statute or internal coordination, so they do not appear so fragmented.

Emergency preparedness funding report

Mr. Marshall distributed a report released by the Wisconsin Homeland Security Council, which addressed the main activities that have gone on in the state related to preparedness. This report addressed some of the concerns about how preparedness funds are coordinated.

Public Health Workforce/Discussion on School of Public Health Proposals

Bevan Baker said he thought it was critical for the Council to look at the resolution passed by the Board of Regents since a stay had been imposed for changing the name of the UW-Medical School to include public health. He asked the members to consider the impact of the choice of location of such a school, including its impact on developing the public health workforce. The Council discussed options for getting additional information about the impact of this change.

Dr. Samadani said that he would like to consider a motion that conveys the opinion of the Council that Wisconsin needs a school of public health where the population in need is located. Dr. Samadani said that the Council is viewed as the protector of the safety of public health. He would like the Council to communicate to the Board of Regents on this issue, which may be in the form of a resolution or not. Mr. Nelson said he is not convinced that UW-Madison is the best "laboratory" for public health, and that the

school should be located where there is the greatest need, through the UW-Milwaukee, which could serve as the "laboratory" for good public policy.

Dr. Gilmore called for strong consideration by the Council to support greater collaboration among public and private institutions and organizations in Wisconsin that could address health-related workforce development, especially among the academic programs that address public health. He stated that Wisconsin could become a leader in partnership efforts for public health training.

Dr. Gilmore made the following motion: "That the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin Public Health Council convene (and that could be electronically) to review the important comments that have come before the Council today on this matter and some of the recommendations that have been made in order to craft a draft communication that could go out to the full Council for review and comment." Julie Willems Van Dijk seconded the motion and clarified the time frame to indicate that this would occur prior to November 8. A vote on the motion was incomplete but it was determined that a majority approved the motion.

Obesity, Nutrition, and Physical Activity

Patti Herrick and Mary Pesik of the Department of Health and Family Services provided a presentation that addressed state health plan objectives related to obesity, nutrition, and physical activity. The presentation included key activities occurring at the state level; new issues since the state plan was written; impact on disparities; accomplishments; key demographic variations; and local area activities and progress. No time was available for questions, so any questions can be directed to Ms. Herrick or Ms. Pesik.

Announcements

Mr. Herb Bostrom announced that the Minority Health Officer position has been filled by Kelli Jones. At a future meeting, Ms. Jones will be present to talk to the Council.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Avian influenza ("bird flu")
- Inviting Dean Farrell, UW-Medical School, and Chancellor Santiago, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, to address the issue of a School of Public Health in Wisconsin
- Public health workforce

Adjournment

Dr. Samadani adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.