

Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 8, 2007

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES, 1 W. WILSON ST, ROOM 751, MADISON, WI 53701

Council Members Present: Ayaz Samadani (Chair); Gary Gilmore (Vice-Chair); Catherine Frey (Secretary); Sandy Anderson; Bevan Baker; John Bartkowski (by teleconference); Jayne Bielecki (by teleconference); Bridget Clementi; Steve Kirkhorn; Terri Kramolis (by teleconference); Corazon Loteyro; Douglas Nelson; Richard Perry; Julie Willems Van Dijk

Council Members Absent: Christopher Fischer, Loren Leshan, June Munro, Thai Vue, JoAnn Weidmann, Jeanan Yasiri

Division of Public Health Staff: Sheri Johnson, Division Administrator; Patricia Guhleman; Jane Conner; Kevin Wymore; Donny Neuert; Margaret Schmelzer; Jeff Davis, Patti Herrick, Mary Pesik

Guests: Kristine Freundlich, DHFS Office of Strategic Finance; Karen Zimmerman; Suzanne Oehlke, Matthew Stanford

Call to Order

Dr. Ayaz Samadani called the meeting to order at about 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Julie Willems Van Dijk moved to approve the minutes for the April 13, 2007 meeting. Bevan Baker seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

Evaluation of the Prior Meeting

Patricia Guhleman provided analysis of evaluations from the April 13 meeting. Completed evaluation forms were more numerous than had been returned in recent meetings. She said the perceptions were largely positive, including a comment from one respondent that the meeting was the best the Council has had.

Open Forum

The Council held the "Open Forum" portion of the meeting, in which representatives of the state association of Women, Infants and Children programs spoke against the Governor's proposal to move the state administration of WIC to a new department. Suzanne Oehlke, who heads the Wisconsin WIC Association, said the move would disrupt the public health focus of the nutrition and food voucher program. She said the move would harm children, rather than help them, and

asked the Council for a recommendation to the Governor. DPH WIC Director Patti Herrick, speaking on behalf of DHFS, said the move would streamline programs aimed at vulnerable "welfare" populations. DPH Administrator Sheri Johnson also noted that the Joint Finance Committee of the Legislature had already approved the administrative move of WIC to a new department.

Public Health Finance Ad Hoc Committee

Julie Willems Van Dijk, chair of the committee, offered an overview of the committee approved by the Council in April. The committee will report to the Council by December, 2007. In response to a motion made by Bridget Clementi and seconded by Corazon Loteyro, the Council voted to define this committee's charge as follows:

"Our committee will study the issue of public health financing and bring forth recommendations that will include specific action steps that can be taken to address this issue. We will generate a proposal for increased state funding of state and local public health services for the 2009-2011 state budget. Our focus for this report will be sustaining and improving public health financing for the state and local governmental public health system to assure we have a core infrastructure in place to deliver public health services. This is a first step in understanding the full public health financing system. In the future, there should be further analysis of public health financing within non-governmental systems."

State Health Plan Committee report

Richard Perry reported on the Committee's recent work on the alcohol and other substance use and addiction priority. He offered a PowerPoint presentation. The Council was informed about the recent Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment federal grant received by the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, under the leadership of Dr. Rich Brown. The purpose of the grant is to integrate alcohol and drug abuse treatment interventions into physicians' primary care practices. The Council expressed interest in inviting Dr. Brown to a Council meeting.

The Council also heard a presentation on a recent "obesity roundtable" meeting by the DPH's Mary Pesik. The purpose of the roundtable was to hear from Dr. William Dietz, a national expert on obesity prevention and management, and to engage in a facilitated discussion to identify effective health care and health policy strategies.

Pesik indicated that Dr. Dietz provided a brief overview of the chronic care model and the thought of "medical care" vs. "health care." He also discussed the targets for obesity prevention: physical activity, breastfeeding, fruit and vegetable consumption, television time, sweetened beverages, portion control. However, Council member Bevan Baker said the state's obesity interventions needed to be "laser-like" to get the most for the state's money.

After discussion, the Council approved a resolution to support the "Right to Breastfeed" bill. Doug Nelson made the motion, with Gary Gilmore seconding. Council staff, via Dr. Samadani, will convey the resolution to the Legislature. The group agreed to discuss two other bills at the August Council meeting.

Special Presentation

The Council heard a presentation from Council member Sandy Anderson, which was not on the agenda but was allowed by Dr. Samadani as Chair. The presentation, which described the Health Care Quality Fund in the state budget and its impacts on the State Health Plan, was critical of the Doyle administration's budget initiatives to transfer \$175 million from the Injured Patients and Families Compensation Fund and other moves. In total, Anderson contended that \$873 million was being "pulled out of Medicaid to pay for other state spending. Bevan Baker also noted that the Legislature may complete its deliberations on the biennial budget by the time the Council holds its special meeting. Thus, he said, the "return on investment" for the time and effort of the meeting may be limited.

Because of the complexity of the issue and because it was not on the agenda, the Council voted to approve convening a special meeting to discuss the WIC administrative reorganization, the Medicaid fiscal changes, and tobacco tax issues in the current state budget. Anderson made the motion, and Van Dijk seconded.

Prior to the motion, an amendment was forwarded by Cathy Frey, and seconded by Dr. Steve Kirkhorn, to discuss the "full spectrum of public health issues that impact the budget" during the special meeting. After discussion, that amendment was not approved.

Legislative Update

Kevin Wymore explained that Katie Plona, the DHFS legislative liaison, had been invited to the Council meeting, but could not attend because she was representing DHFS interests in a Joint Finance Committee meeting. He read a short statement from Plona providing the legislative summary. She hopes to attend the August Council meeting.

Emergency Preparedness Committee report

Bevan Baker gave an update on the activities of the Emergency Preparedness Committee. He noted that the April emergency preparedness resolution had been circulated to the DHFS Secretary's Office.

The resolution stems from the 2007 federal Pandemic and All Hazards Preparedness Act. It will require each state to provide non-federal monetary contributions in order to claim federal funds for preparedness. The change takes effect in federal fiscal year 2009. In the first year of the change, states will need to provide a 5 percent match. In the second year, states will need to furnish a 10 percent contribution.

Mr. Baker said the resolution for the state to provide the matching funds, and subsequent enactment of an equivalent measure by the Legislature, was needed now to secure about \$11 million in matching dollars in the upcoming state biennium (2007-2009).

Public Health Overview of "Future of Farming and Rural Life in Wisconsin"

Dr. Steve Kirkhorn gave a PowerPoint presentation of recommendations related to the "Future of

Farming and Rural Life in Wisconsin." The Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters compiled the report, beginning with a conference in Racine in 2005. The academy will release a final set of recommendations later this summer.

The Council voted, with Julie Willems Van Dijk making the motion and Corazon Loteyro seconding, to support the health and food-related recommendations contained in the "Community Life Recommendations" segment of the report. Dr. Kirkhorn said the next step will be inclusion of the Council in the forthcoming stakeholder conference.

HPV Vaccination Update

Dr. Jeff Davis of DPH provided an update on the genital human papillomavirus (HPV) issue.

Evaluation of Current Meeting

Forms to evaluate the meeting were distributed to members, who completed and returned them.

Announcements and Other Items

Dr. Samadani reported to the Council on the Council's break-out session at the Wisconsin Public Health Association in May. Margaret Schmelzer of the Division of Public Health discussed the Council's role in the upcoming deliberations to produce the state health plan for the year 2020. Cathy Frey introduced and distributed fliers for the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute's "community teams" applications.

Next Meeting: August 10, 2007

Suggestions for the next agenda included these items:

- A special meeting of the Council, date to be determined
- Inviting the Legislative Liaison to speak on emerging issues or outcomes in the Legislature.

Adjournment

Dr. Samadani adjourned the meeting about 2:15 p.m.

Prepared by Kevin Wymore and Jane Conner
Bureau of Health Information and Policy

Catherine Frey, Secretary

Date