

Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS, 750 WRIGHT STREET, MADISON, WI

Council Members Present: Ayaz Samadani (Chair); Gary Gilmore (Vice-Chair); Catherine Frey (Secretary); Bevan Baker; John Bartkowski; Bridget Clementi; Susan Garcia Franz; Steve Kirkhorn; Corazon Loteyro; Douglas Nelson; Lynn Sheets; Thai Vue; Julie Willems Van Dijk.

Council Members Absent: Christopher Fischer; Terri Kramolis; John Meurer; Loren Leshan; June Munro; Jeanan Yasiri.

Division of Public Health Staff: Sheri Johnson, Division Administrator; Judith Nugent; Kevin Wymore; Jane Conner; and Margaret Schmelzer

Guests: Kristine Freundlich, DHFS; Matthew Stanford, Wisconsin Hospital Association; Jan Klawitter, WPHA; Katie Plona, DHFS; Donald Dunbar, Department of Military Affairs; Eric Ostermann, WPHA; Sharon Fleischfresser, DHFS; Andrea Gavin; Lowell Keppel.

Call to Order

Council Chair, Ayaz Samadani, convened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the February 8, 2008 meeting were approved as written.

General's Role and the Work of the Homeland Security Council

Adjutant General Donald Dunbar, head of the state's Department of Military Affairs, addressed the Council about its role on the Homeland Security Council. Both the Department of Military Affairs and the Division of Public Health are represented on the Homeland Security Council. Dunbar noted that the Governor retains the right to call out the National Guard in the event of an emergency. He said the Council supports four emergency preparedness guidelines: 1) a federal system; 2) consistent communication among stakeholders; 3) sustainable national efforts for disaster response; and 4) enhancing national resilience.

Division of Public Health Preparedness Overview

Division Administrator Sheri Johnson reviewed the DPH role on preparedness issues. She said the Office of Justice Assistance controls the dissemination of federal emergency preparedness grants in Wisconsin, of which DPH gets a small amount. Moreover, the DPH will see an 11 percent reduction in emergency preparedness funding, to \$9 million in federal fiscal 2009. In future years, states will be asked to provide financial match to draw down the federal funding.

Emergency Preparedness Committee

Committee Chair Bevan Baker provided the Committee's report. He said he would soon report the Committee's nine recommendations to the Homeland Security Council. He also said the Committee had experienced "member fatigue," caused by a lack of urgency as the preparedness mentality linked to the 9/11 terrorist attacks fades. Baker said the group had 33 members at its high point, but now is considerably less. He said public health needs to draw attention to the "peacetime killers" that are less dramatic, but still worthy of public health interventions. He also said the Committee would begin meeting prior to Public Health Council meetings in the future, to facilitate ease of policy recommendation flow to the Public Health Council.

Finance Committee

Julie Willems Van Dijk presented an update on the Ad Hoc Finance Committee's activities. Since the report is final, the Committee is considering ways to move the report forward. She would like to enlist the support of numerous public health partners to get the report's recommendations into Governor Doyle's next biennial state budget. She wishes that a letter be drafted with PHC Chair Dr. Samadani, to send to local health department officers and others, to enlist their support for the report's recommendations. The Committee would like to brief Secretary Timberlake. Willems Van Dijk noted that the report has drawn interest from the Wisconsin Grocers Association.

2007 Annual Report

Presentation of the Council's 2007 Annual Report, approved with specified modifications at the February meeting, will be made to Governor Doyle when the Council's meeting date with the Governor is finalized.

State Health Plan Committee

Margaret Schmelzer presented the Committee report to the Council, and gave a short update on the pending plans to produce the State Health Plan for the period 2010 to 2020. The "Healthiest Wisconsin 2020" plan is expected to be published by the end of 2009.

Patient-Centered Medical Home

Two Aurora family practice physicians, Lowell Keppel and Andrea Gavin, delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the "medical home" concept. They stated that studies have shown patients enjoy better outcomes with family physicians providing a coordinating role for the patient. They said the concept will not work, however, without financial incentives for doctors to provide the service. Their presentation follows questions about whether public health practitioners are the best providers for the Medicaid prenatal care coordination program for certain pregnant Medicaid recipients.

Council Administration

Regarding the regular meeting evaluations, Kevin Wymore reported that the Council's evaluation results for the last meeting were satisfactory (between good and outstanding). A revised evaluation form was introduced and distributed. Kris Freundlich updated the Council on a second evaluation instrument, the one-year quality improvement questionnaire. In the time set aside for evaluating the April 11 meeting, the Council members provided open-ended responses on how to make the body more effective.

Legislative Update

Katie Plona provided a short update on public health issues in the recent legislative session.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned shortly after 2 p.m.

Catherine Frey, Secretary

DATE