

# Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2010

STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 1 WEST WILSON STREET, MADISON, WISCONSIN

**Council Members Present:** Dr. Julie Willems Van Dijk (Chair); Dr. Gary Gilmore (Vice Chair); Dr. Mary Jo Baisch; Mr. Bevan Baker; Mr. John Bartkowski; Ms. Amy Bremel; Ms. Susan Garcia Franz; Ms. Terri Kramolis; Dr. Corazon Loteyro; Ms. Deborah Miller; Dr. John Meurer; Mr. Douglas Nelson; Dr. A. Charles Post; Dr. Ayaz Samadani; Dr. James Sanders; Dr. Lynn Sheets; Mr. Mark Villalpando; and Mr. Thai Vue.

**Council Members Absent:** Ms. Bridget Clementi; Ms. Catherine Frey; Dr. Corazon Loteyro.

**Division of Public Health (DPH) Staff:** Administrator Dr. Seth Foldy; Ms. Jane Conner; Ms. Kathy Jones; Ms. Jennifer Yara; and Mr. Kevin Wymore.

**Guests:** Mr. Matt Duffy; Mr. Andrew Forsaith; Ms. Kristine Freundlich; Ms. Kathleen Krchnavek, Mr. Ed Rabotski; and Ms. Marisa Stanley, DHS.

### Call to Order

The meeting was convened shortly after 10 a.m. by the Chair, Dr. Julie Willems Van Dijk.

### Minutes

The Council approved the December 11 Council meeting minutes, without correction. Dr. Gary Gilmore moved approval, and Dr. Lynn Sheets seconded.

### Evaluation

The Council heard the meeting evaluation results from the December 11 Council meeting, with a summary from staff. The overall evaluation score of the meeting was 4.0 on a 4.0 scale. All individual topic evaluation scores were 3.9 or higher. Dr. Willems Van Dijk noted that the evaluation form contained an expanded section asking for open-ended comments. These comments will be shared with the Executive Committee.

### Open Forum

Dr. Gary Gilmore briefed the group on the upcoming Wisconsin Health Education Network meeting, at which Margaret Schmelzer will present.

### **Annual Meeting Elections Process**

The Council elected its slate of officer nominees to two-year terms: Dr. Julie Willems Van Dijk, as Chair; Dr. Gary Gilmore, as Chair-Elect; and Dr. Mary Jo Baisch as Secretary. Nominating Committee Chair Doug Nelson presided over the elections process, which the Council had revised in 2009. He said the new process had been followed "precisely." With no other candidates being nominated from the floor, the Council voted by acclamation to seat the three officer nominees. As a result, Dr. Gilmore will ascend to the Chair position in February, 2012. In a related development, the Council asked staff to research what impact the election of a new Governor will have on their appointments, since Council members are appointed by the Governor. Certain related organizational questions will also be researched.

### **Annual Report Discussion and Approval**

The Council approved the 2009 Council Annual Report unanimously, without revision. As Governor Doyle will not seek another term, the Council asked Division Administrator Foldy and the Chair to seek a Council meeting with the Governor to discuss the report and to thank him.

### **Council Priorities for 2010**

Dr. Willems Van Dijk declared that she would like to devote most of the April Council meeting discussing Council priorities and monitoring of the state health plan. To that end, the Council had expressed its priorities previously in a non-binding poll indicating: equitable, adequate and stable financing; access to quality health services; chronic disease prevention and management; unhealthy alcohol and drug use; and supporting public health workforce development.

### **Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Update**

Members engaged in a wide-ranging discussion on the current 2020 State Health Plan process. A report for the new decade's public health agenda is expected to be released early in 2010. Dr. Foldy outlined successes of the planning process, including that "everyone can see themselves" in the plan's 23 focus areas. However, Dr. Foldy said the need to distill four "crosscutting areas" produced a short list of four priorities from the Strategic Leadership Team: 1) financial support for public health; 2) built environments that foster an active lifestyle; 3) "better protecting human capital" -- making the schoolhouse the nominal headquarters of fostering child health; and 4) access to health care services.

### **State Health Plan Committee**

State Health Plan Committee Chair Dr. Mary Jo Baisch updated the Council on its activities and plans. The Committee will author two more reports on 2010 State Health plan priorities this year. A new committee will need to be named after April.

### **State Legislative Update**

DHS Budget Director Andrew Forsaith delivered a brief summary of current legislative issues. He first outlined the "basic plan" being proposed in the Legislature for those

waiting to access the BadgerCare Plus program for childless adults. In all, Forsaith mentioned four bills of importance to public health. Amid discussion of those four bills, a question was raised if the Governor supported a nursing bill, AB 616. Staff will follow up with research on the nursing bill.

### **High-Risk Sexual Behavior Resolutions**

DPH staff provided presentations on two separate legislative resolutions having to do with high-risk sexual behavior. The Council then unanimously adopted the two Council resolutions supporting two separate bills. The first resolution supports a bill eliminating the requirement for written informed consent for HIV testing. The second resolution supports a bill to allow expedited partner therapy, which is a treatment option for partners of a patient diagnosed with sexually transmitted diseases without a medical evaluation of the partner. It allows the patient to deliver oral medication or prescriptions to his or her sexual partner. In addition to sending the resolutions to the Legislature, the Council directed the Expedited Partner Therapy resolution to be sent the Wisconsin Medical Society, the Wisconsin Pharmacy Society, the state Medical Examining Board, and the state Pharmacy Examining Board.

### **National Health Systems Reform Legislation**

Dr. Foldy summarized the current state of stalled national health reform efforts in Washington. He said failure of Congress to adopt health systems reform could hurt the Department financially. The Council was provided with written responses from the Wisconsin Congressional delegation to the Council letter supporting public health implications of the reform bills. Dr. Foldy told the Council their letters had had an impact.

### **H1N1 Influenza Update**

Jennifer Yara, of the DPH staff, gave the Council an update of the influenza situation in the state, now that the focus has shifted to immunization, rather than surveillance of new cases.

### **Announcements**

The Chair informed the group that she would send them information about the release of the national County Health Rankings, which were to be announced Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. This marks the first time that all of the nation's counties have been so ranked.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at about 2 p.m.

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**Mary Jo Baisch, Secretary**

**Date**