

# Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 9, 2010

**WISCONSIN MEDICAL SOCIETY, 330 E. LAKESIDE STREET, MADISON, WI**

**Council Members Present:** Dr. Julie Willems Van Dijk (Chair); Dr. Gary Gilmore (Chair-Elect); Dr. Mary Jo Baisch; Mr. Bevan Baker; Ms. Amy Bremel; Ms. Bridget Clementi; Ms. Catherine Frey; Ms. Susan Garcia Franz; Ms. Terri Kramolis; Ms. Deborah Miller; Mr. Douglas Nelson; Dr. A. Charles Post; Dr. Ayaz Samadani; Dr. Lynn Sheets; Mr. Mark Villalpando; and Mr. Thai Vue

**Council Members Absent:** Mr. John Bartkowski; Dr. Corazon Loteyro; Dr. John Meurer; and Dr. James Sanders

**Division of Public Health (DPH) Staff:** Ms. Sandra Breitborde; Ms. Jane Conner; Ms. Judith Nugent; Ms. Margaret Schmelzer; and Mr. Kevin Wymore

**Guests:** Ms. Katherine Brusky; Ms. Jennifer DeYoung; Ms. Christine Evans; Ms. Kristine Freundlich; Ms. Vicki Jessup; Ms. Carrie Kahn; and Mr. Ed Rabotski.

### 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 February 12 Council meeting minutes, without correction. Dr. Gary Gilmore moved approval, and Ms. Bridget Clementi seconded.

### Evaluation

The Council heard the meeting evaluation results from the February 12 Council meeting, with a summary from staff. The overall evaluation score of the meeting was 3.9 on a 4.0 scale. All individual subject evaluation scores on the "usefulness" question were 3.8 or higher, except for the "Open Forum." The respondents' open-ended comments were also shared with the Council.

### Open Forum

Dr. Gary Gilmore introduced the topic of an upcoming interdisciplinary visit to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation this summer, to be coordinated by the Gundersen Lutheran Clinic and UW-La Crosse. The visit is being undertaken to assist the reservation's

leaders to conduct a tribal health needs and capacity assessment. The trip is planned for July 18-23, 2010.

### **Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Process and Update**

The Council heard Ms. Margaret Schmelzer review the process and the current status of the Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 plan, which is the state's public health plan for the period 2010 to 2020. Schmelzer called the forthcoming plan, to be made public later this year, "deep, broad, and bold." She shared a new schematic framework with the Council, containing goals, mission, pillar objectives, health objectives, infrastructure objectives, and values. Several Council members discussed ways to make the plan truly transformational.

### **2010 Council Priorities**

The Chair, Dr. Willems Van Dijk, conducted a thorough discussion of what the Council's priorities should be for the current year. Discussion sheet focused on two questions: 1) "What must the Public Health Council do to promote and assure effective implementation of the Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 State Health Plan?" and 2) "What is the Council's role in monitoring progress on the plan?"

Options identified by Council members included: the Council taking a more active role in testifying on issues before the Legislature; fostering a higher profile with the news media; strengthening the Council's role from "advisory" to "advocacy," especially for funding and for policy change (it was noted that the Council is "set up to fail without a major infusion of funds."); incorporating the State Health Plan Committee's recommendations to the Council into the Council's efforts to further the new plan. Willems Van Dijk complimented the group on its input, and said she would summarize and share her notes for future discussion.

### **State Health Plan Committee Priority Report: Environmental/Occupational Health**

Graduate student researcher Kate Brusky presented the report on the Environmental/Occupational Health priority from the 2010 State Health Plan. After discussion, the Council approved Ms. Brusky's report. The State Health Plan Committee will author one more report on the 2010 State Health Plan priorities, which will focus on communicable disease. The last report will be presented at the June Council meeting.

### **State Legislative Update**

Carrie Kahn, the Department's new legislative liaison, briefed the Council on current legislative issues. She noted the large number of bills introduced prior to conclusion of the last legislative session. Among the issues addressed were the BadgerCare Plus "basic plan" proposal to address the overflow from the BadgerCare Core Plan for Childless Adults, and an oral health care study report. The Council discussed the controversy over passage of the comprehensive sex education law, and requested follow-up with on the sex education law and the oral health study.

### **BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Childless Adults**

Vicki Jessup, staff from the state Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, reported on the current status of the BadgerCarePlus program for childless adults, which is no longer taking new applications because of strict budget neutrality provisions. She indicated that the new "basic plan" may serve as a bridge to the more comprehensive coverage offered by the national health systems reform legislation. The \$130 monthly premium for the coverage was noted as a potential obstacle by one Council member.

**Medicaid "CACHET" Planning Exercise**

Jennifer DeYoung, also from the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, delivered a summary of the Wisconsin Medicaid planning effort known as CACHET, which is the Clinical Advisory Committee on Health and Emerging Technology. CACHET will advise the Department Secretary on the inclusion and priority of services in the Core Plan for Adults without Dependent Children and the coverage of new and emerging technologies for all Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus benefit plans. CCHET will meet next in August.

**National Health Systems Reform Enactment: Implications for Public Health**

Christine Evans of ASTHO (Association of State and Territorial Health Officers) summarized public health implications of enacted national health reform legislation. Evans praised the Council's prior letter to the Wisconsin Congressional delegation that supported public health provisions. Staff said they would send ASTHO legislative summaries to the Council.

**H1N1 Surveillance "Wrap-Up" Report**

Council staff, Kevin Wymore, provided a DPH "wrap-up" report on H1N1 surveillance and immunization activities for the epidemic's "second wave." Since early January, there have been no deaths and significantly fewer H1N1 cases in the state.

**Announcements**

The Council received notice and brochures about a "Safe Sleep Summit" in Milwaukee May 3 from 7:30 to noon.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at about 2 p.m.

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**Mary Jo Baisch, Secretary**

**Date**