

Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2010 MEETING

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

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. Susan Garcia Franz; Ms. Terri Kramolis; Dr. Corazon Loteyro; Dr. John Meurer; Dr. Ayaz Samadani; Dr. James Sanders; Dr. Lynn Sheets; Mr. Mark Villalpando; and Mr. Thai Vue

Council Members Absent: Mr. John Bartkowski; Ms. Catherine Frey; Ms. Deborah Miller; Mr. Douglas Nelson; and Dr. A. Charles Post.

Division of Public Health (DPH) Staff: Dr. Henry Anderson, Administrator; Sandra Breitborde, Deputy Administrator; Ms. Patricia Guhleman, Director Office of Policy and Practice Alignment; Ms. Kitty Klement; Ms. Kim Voss; Ms. Margaret Schmelzer; and Mr. Kevin Wymore

Guests: Ms. Elizabeth Giese; Ms. Kristine Freundlich; Ms. Janice Harrell; Ms. Carrie Kahn; Dr. Cheryl Maurana; Mr. Ed Rabotski; Ms. Jan Klawitter; Ms. Eileen Smith; and Dr. Patrick Remington.

Call to Order

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

Minutes

The Council tabled the October, 2010, Council meeting minutes.

Evaluation

The Council reviewed the meeting evaluation results from the August meeting. The overall evaluation score averaged 3.9 on a 4.0 scale. Scores were fairly uniform for the individual topics and presentations.

Membership Issues

The Council heard an update about Council membership issues. Re-appointment of members whose terms expired in July is pending with the Governor's Office.

Open Forum

Members noted various updates. The Council heard short reports about the following grants and new initiatives: in La Crosse, \$2.2 million is being spent from federal stimulus funds to improve bike paths on streets; Ms. Bridget Clementi reported that Children's Health Education Center in Milwaukee is serving about 50 school districts with a new anti-bullying program; the state was recently awarded a federal Health Resources and Services Administration grant; a brief update of the Wisconsin Public Health Practice-based Research Network was provided.

Presentations on Legislative Audit Bureau

The Council heard presentations from the state's two medical school programs that administer endowments worth more than \$600 million resulting from the Blue Cross Blue Shield conversion funds and directed at programs for public health initiatives. The two programs are the Wisconsin Partnership Fund for a Healthy Future (University of Wisconsin [UW] School of Medicine and Public Health) and Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin (Medical College of Wisconsin [MCW]). The presentations focused on responses from the medical schools to the Legislative Audit Bureau's recent program evaluations on the two initiatives.

Ms. Eileen Smith, Director, University of Wisconsin Partnership Fund, noted that findings from the non-partisan Audit Bureau related to UW included:

- The program is “in compliance with requirements for awarding and monitoring (its) grant funding.”
- Most of the 40 grant programs reviewed met all or most of their objectives.
- Virtually all spending reviewed deemed allowable under terms of Insurance Commissioner’s Order.

Dr. Remington provided detail on the use of funds focused on public health education and how the program has influenced medical education curriculum. He also pointed to close correspondence between the objectives of the state health plans, Healthiest Wisconsin 2010 and 2020, with the uses of the funding.

Dr. Cheryl Maurana (MCW) indicated that in response to the audit related to MCW’s “Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin” endowment the MCW program has:

- Revised its RFP process and introduced a new evaluation model as part of the 6th Funding Cycle; and
- Implemented improvements to strengthen proposal objectives.

Maurana indicated MCW is in the process of:

- Revising the progress reporting process, including date stamping progress reports;
- Strengthening communication and education to grantees regarding policies for reporting project modifications;
- Reviewing pre- and post-award monitoring processes for research and education.

Council members followed the two presentations with numerous comments and questions, which included the challenges of community based projects to identify additional funding for

leveraging and sustainability, and to find time for grant writing; establishment of objectives that are both challenging and achievable; finding funding that supports public health systems research; and the allocation of funding between the community partnerships, public health education, and research.

The Council agreed by concurrence that Chair Dr. Julie Willems Van Dijk would draft a statement reflecting comments and recommendations from the Council related to the LAB report and the responses from the two schools. The statement will be discussed at the next Council meeting; Council members are urged to review the Webcast prior to the next meeting.

Legislative Update

The Council heard Ms. Carrie Kahn, the DHS legislative liaison, provide an overview of various Legislative Council study committees addressing public health. The committees included those on access, infant mortality, and health care reform implementation. The Council discussed further strategy related to these study committees.

Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Implementation Update/Messaging and Marketing

The Council heard a short update on the "messaging/marketing" workgroup in connection with the State Health Plan's implementation. Dr. Gary Gilmore offered an overview of the "messaging and marketing" portion of the planning. He said the group's purpose was to address engagement of public health partners, assurance and evaluation. While implementation of these areas is not the responsibility of the team, they need to be considered with the messaging.

Emergency Preparedness Committee Update

Mr. Baker presented an Emergency Preparedness Committee update. He said the DPH has completed a report on its H1N1 surveillance and vaccination efforts. Mr. Baker also reviewed a legal memo on the issue of patient tracking, specifically, the WITrac Patient Tracking Database, within the context of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA.) The memo indicates that a change in statute may be required to address HIPAA-related issues. Mr. Baker said that, in a mass casualty event, the state would not want to be hindered by lack of legal compliance with its patient tracking database. A formal resolution addressing this issue will be presented for action at the next Council meeting.

NALBOH

After prior discussion of this summer's meeting of the National Association of Local Boards of Health, it was suggested that the Council investigate membership in the national organization.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at about 2:00 p.m.

Mary Jo Baisch, Secretary

Date