

Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 10, 2011

STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 1 WEST WILSON STREET, MADISON

Council Members Present: Dr. Julie Willems Van Dijk (Chair); Dr. Gary Gilmore (Chair-Elect); Dr. Mary Jo Baisch; Mr. Bevan Baker; Mr. John Bartkowski; Ms. Amy Bremel; Ms. Bridget Clementi; Ms. Faye Dodge; Ms. Susan Garcia Franz; Ms. Catherine Frey; Ms. Terri Kramolis; Dr. Corazon Loteyro; Ms. Deborah Miller; Dr. A. Charles Post; Dr. Ayaz Samadani; Ms. Gretchen Sampson; Dr. James Sanders and Mr. Thai Vue.

Council Members Absent: Dr. John Meurer; Mr. Douglas Nelson; Dr. Lynn Sheets; and Mr. Mark Villalpando.

Division of Public Health (DPH) Staff: State Health Officer Dr. Henry Anderson; Ms. Patricia Guhleman; Ms. Margaret Schmelzer; and Mr. Kevin Wymore.

Guests: Mr. John Easterday; Ms. Kris Freundlich; Ms. Donna Moore; Ms. Kitty Rhoades, and Mr. Kelly Scott.

Call to Order

The Council meeting was convened via Live Meeting technology shortly after 10 a.m. by the Chair, Dr. Julie Willems Van Dijk. The meeting originated from Room 372 of the State Office Building, 1 West Wilson Street, Madison.

Minutes

The Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the April meeting, with this sentence added as amended. "Several members, Mary Jo Baisch, Susan Garcia Franz, and Gretchen Sampson, spoke to the importance of maintaining funding for the family planning waiver as an important source of primary care for young families." Mr. Bevan Baker moved approval, and Mr. Thai Vue seconded.

Evaluation

The Council reviewed the meeting evaluation results from the April 8, 2011 meeting. The overall evaluation score averaged 4.0 on a 4.0 scale. There were 12 total respondents, and five offered additional comments. Qualitative comments were generally

positive, especially in the area of retaining on the agenda a legislative update report similar to that of Mr. Kevin Moore at the previous meeting. However, Mr. Kevin Wymore also noted that some members felt that meeting materials were being sent too near the meeting date. Recommendations for future meeting agenda topics included: "Continued budget impacts to our communities" and "emergency preparedness funding."

Council Membership Issues

The Council heard an update about Council membership issues. The advisory body heard the Chair announce those members who have decided not to seek further appointments with the Council. Ms. Cathy Frey and Dr. Julie Willems Van Dijk will not seek further terms, and Dr. Lynn Sheets has resigned. Members offered positive remarks to the departing members. As a result of the changes, the Council has 19 of 23 seats created by statute filled; the DHS Secretary's office has asked for a broader representation spectrum of new members for the Council.

Ms. Patricia Guhleman stated that DHS legal counsel reviewed the status of members whose three-year appointments come due in July 2011. She reported that legal counsel noted the re-appointment letters of current members do not include a specific expiration date and that the statutes are silent on the issue. She reported that legal counsel indicated it would be possible to make the case that either appointee terms could continue until another action took place, or terms could be ended; "it's really an open issue."

Of the six members whose three-year appointment terms come due in 2011, those who have indicated interest in continuation include: Dr. Ayaz Samadani; Dr. Charles Post; Ms. Deb Miller; Dr. Mary Jo Baisch; and Dr. Gary Gilmore. On the issue of whether or not those members with expired terms of service may continue to serve beyond their stated terms, Ms. Guhleman said a case can be made either way. "It's really an open issue." The statutes are silent regarding the issue.

The Council agreed that members of the Executive Committee as it is currently constituted (excluding those with formal resignations) will meet in July.

State Budget Update

The Council heard DHS Office of Policy Initiatives and Budget staff Mr. John Easterday and Ms. Donna Moore deliver a two-part presentation on state biennial budget issues affecting public health. Mr. Easterday spoke of larger systemic changes affecting public health, and Ms. Moore explained more specific changes made in the Joint Finance Committee to the Governor's budget bill affecting public health, such as a 10 percent base reduction to GPR funds for family planning. Deputy Secretary Kitty Rhoades added that the process remains fluid until the Legislature finally approves the bill, and the Governor exercises any vetoes.

Partnership Fund Update

Chair-Elect Dr. Gary Gilmore provided an update of the Council's continuing deliberations related to the Blue Cross/Blue Shield asset conversion programs for public health. He said he expects an ad hoc committee of the Council's Executive Committee to present recommendations to the August Council meeting.

Recusing themselves due to conflict of interest issues were: Dr. Willems Van Dijk; Ms. Cathy Frey; Mr. Bevan Baker; and Dr. James Sanders.

Open Forum

No one addressed the Council in the Open Forum.

Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 (HW2020) Update

Ms. Margaret Schmelzer proposed, and the Council approved, establishing an ad hoc committee to recommend by November (1) what reporting related to HW2020 and the Wisconsin Quality Improvement Initiative will be provided to the Council, and (2) whether a State Health Plan Committee should be revived, and what that committee should look like.

Ms. Guhleman indicated that while specific quantitative measures exist for many of the HW2020 objectives, it will be awhile before summary quantitative reports are available since the tracking systems and reporting formats still need development. Ms. Schmelzer noted that there is no formal mechanism in place for reporting on the non-quantitative objectives for HW2020, nor is there a formal structure outside of the existing Council meetings that would provide input and recommendations related to HW2020.

Ms. Guhleman indicated a need to clearly identify the Council's role relative to the Wisconsin Quality Improvement Initiative, which directly addresses three HW2020 focus areas: accreditation, quality improvement in public health in Wisconsin, and evidence-based practices.

The Council members volunteering to serve on the ad hoc group are: Ms. Clementi, Dr. Loteyro, Dr. Baisch, Ms. Sampson, Dr. Post and Ms. Kramolis.

Emergency Preparedness Committee Report

Mr. Bevan Baker provided a short update to the Council on that Committee.

"Live Meeting" Presentation

The Council took several minutes at the end of the meeting to "de-brief" about the use of the new "Live Meeting" technology. Several members said they thought the meeting went well, and they appreciated the considerable time saved from travel. Another person noted that communication was a "bit interrupted."

Adjournment

Dr. Willems Van Dijk noted that this would be her final meeting of the Council and that at the close of the meeting, Dr. Gilmore would assume the position of Chair. Dr. Gilmore and others offered commentary acknowledging gratitude to Dr. Willems Van Dijk for her

dedicated Council leadership during the past two years. The meeting adjourned at about noon.

Mary Jo Baisch, Secretary

Date