

Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2012

LOCATION: STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 1 W. WILSON STREET, MADISON, WISCONSIN

Council Members Present: Dr. Gary Gilmore (Chair); Mr. Bevan Baker; Ms. Faye Dodge; Susan Garcia-Franz; Dr. A. Charles Post; Ms. Gretchen Sampson; Dr. Ayaz Samadani; and Mr. Mark Villalpando.

Council Members Absent: Dr. Mary Jo Baisch; Ms. Bridget Clementi; Ms. Terri Kramolis; Ms. Deborah Miller; Dr. James Sanders; and Mr. Thai Vue.

Division of Public Health (DPH) Staff: Ms. Patricia Guhleman; Division Administrator Ms. Karen McKeown; Ms. Lisa Pentony; Ms. Margaret Schmelzer; Ms. Jenny Ullsvik; Mr. Kevin Wernet; and Mr. Kevin Wymore.

Guests: Ms. Kris Freundlich; Mr. Gary Roth; and Mr. Andy Forsaith.

Call to Order

The Council meeting was convened, via Live Meeting technology, shortly after 10 a.m., by the Chair, Dr. Gary Gilmore.

Minutes

The Council approved the Council meeting minutes of the February 3, 2012 meeting, without corrections. However, Dr. Gilmore asked that an amendment in the form of an added sentence be approved in regard to Doug Nelson's resignation from the Council: "He was recognized for his conscientious service to the Council since its inception in 2004."

Executive Committee Change in the Rules of Order

The Council approved a change in the Rules of Order regarding Executive Committee composition, to include the following language: "The Executive Committee will be comprised of the elected officers, chairs of standing committees, and the previous chair of the Council, who will serve for one year. The Chair will have the ability to replace members of the Executive Committee when the positions become vacant."

Evaluation

The Council reviewed the meeting evaluation results from the February 3, 2012 meeting. Mr. Kevin Wymore presented the overall meeting evaluation score of 4.0 on a 4.0 scale, as well as qualitative comments. Dr. Gilmore emphasized the importance of people completing the evaluations in order to have a robust response rate.

Division of Public Health Administrator's Update

Ms. Karen McKeown, who became the Division of Public Health Administrator in January 2012, gave this update to the Council. She reported visiting four of five DPH regions since her appointment in January; she has been actively working to further the "Strong Start" grant, funded by the federal Medicaid program administrator, that focuses on improved birth outcomes. In addition, she noted that the state's obesity prevention plan will be the first such plan to solicit public comment. Ms. McKeown also said she is working with Secretary Smith's office toward naming new Council members.

Legislative Update

The Council heard a detailed legislative update from Andy Forsaith of the DHS Office of Policy Initiatives and Budget. After the recent session adjournment, the Legislature will not convene again this year. Among the more than a dozen public health-oriented acts enacted in the legislative session concluded last month are: removal of the Family Care enrollment cap set in the biennial budget law; allowance for electronic prescriptions for some controlled substances in all situations, not just emergencies; direction to DPI and the WIAA to develop guidelines about the risk of concussion for young athletes; changes in state law regarding informed consent for abortions, and to restrict new health insurance exchanges from covering abortions except for certain exceptions. Forsaith also said the repeal of the "Healthy Youth Act," dealing with contraceptives in the public schools, did pass.

2011 Annual Report

The Council approved the 2011 Council Annual Report, with provision for minor edits. Ordinarily, the Annual Report was presented for approval during the Annual Meeting in February, but the report was delayed this year. Dr. Ayaz Samadani moved approval, and Ms. Gretchen Sampson seconded.

Emergency Preparedness Update

The Council heard Ms. Jenny Ullsvik and Ms. Lisa Pentony, plus new hospital preparedness staff person Mr. Kevin Wernet, brief the Council on the new public health emergency preparedness funding agreement. The funding agreement, currently being applied for, will add about 5 percent overall to the base emergency preparedness allocation in Wisconsin. The federal funding is taking a combined approach, blending hospital and overall preparedness.

State Health Plan/Quality Improvement Committee

The Council heard Ms. Patricia Guhleman and Ms. Gretchen Sampson brief the group on the immediate past Committee meeting, and immediate future plans for furthering the chosen focus area.

Adjournment

The Council adjourned at noon.