

Public Health Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2013

LOCATION: ADOBE CONNECT ELECTRONIC MEETING ORIGINATING FROM ROOM 250, STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 1 WEST WILSON STREET, MADISON, WISCONSIN

Council Members Present: Dr. Gary Gilmore (Chair); Mr. Bevan Baker; Ms. Bridget Clementi; Ms. Faye Dodge; Ms. Susan Garcia Franz; Mr. William Keeton; Ms. Terri Kramolis; Dr. Ayaz Samadani; Ms. Gretchen Sampson; Dr. James Sanders; Mr. Thai Vue and Mr. Michael Wallace.

Council Members Absent: Dr. Mary Jo Baisch; Ms. Susan Garcia Franz; Ms. Deborah Miller; and Mr. Mark Villalpando

Division of Public Health (DPH) Staff: Division Administrator Karen McKeown; Dr. Henry Anderson, State Health Officer; Ms. Patricia Guhleman; Ms. Carly Hood, UW Population Health Fellow; Ms. Jenny Ullsvik, DPH Section Chief for Emergency Health Care and Preparedness, and Mr. Kevin Wymore.

Guests: Mr. Alex Ignatowski, Department Secretary's Office; Ms. Kristine Freundlich, DHS Facilitator; and Mr. Gary Roth, Bureau of Information Technology Services.

Call to Order

The Council meeting was convened, shortly after 9 a.m., by the Chair, Dr. Gary Gilmore. The Adobe Connect electronic meeting originated from Room 250, State Office Building, 1 West Wilson Street, in Madison.

Minutes

The Council reviewed and approved the June 14, 2013 Council minutes draft. With the amendment of a sentence on the policy framework, Ms. Gretchen Sampson moved approval of the document and Mr. Michael Wallace seconded; the Council approved.

Evaluation

The Council heard the meeting evaluation results from the June 14, 2013 meeting. Mr. Kevin Wymore presented the overall average meeting evaluation score of 4.0 on a 4.0 scale, as well as qualitative comments. Feedback from Council members was generally positive. Mr. Wymore noted that one evaluation respondent commented that Council members are “spending too much time on their technology devices” during the meeting, which the respondent said may detract from the proceedings.

Open Forum

Council member Dr. Ayaz Samadani said there had been a bird found in Dodge County that was infected with the West Nile virus. (Statewide, as of September 3, Wisconsin surveillance identified: West Nile in 48 Wisconsin counties; 19 positive mosquito pools; and 5 probably human cases.

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/ArboviralDiseases/WestNileVirus/wicount2013.htm>)

Division Administrator’s Update

The Council heard Division Administrator Karen McKeown describe details of a \$4 million sum of graduate medical education funding that will be contracted by the Department. Ms. McKeown said DHS staff had been reaching out to affected stakeholders to expand the number of “slots” for medical residents and potentially create new residency programs.

Legislative Update

The Council heard Ms. McKeown and Mr. Alex Ignatowski, DHS legislative adviser, provide the legislative update. They fielded several questions and comments on the upcoming implementation of the national Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. According to the program’s law, national enrollment for the expanded health insurance program is scheduled to begin October 1. Ms. McKeown said there were two particular outreach categories of interest for DHS: current Medicaid recipients who will be transitioning into seeking health insurance in the “exchange” marketplaces; and persons not previously on Medicaid (up to 100 percent of federal poverty guidelines) who will be allowed to enroll in Medicaid.

In discussing the pending implementation of the landmark legislation, Mr. Wallace added his perspective on the Affordable Care Act as a hospital administrator. Mr. Wallace said many affected stakeholders are “anxious” about what’s going to happen on October 1, when enrollment is scheduled to commence. Ms. Gretchen Sampson, Polk County Health Officer, said her office has a number of concerns, because health benefits outreach is something her department does on an ongoing basis. Mr. Ignatowski said further questions about the program’s “rollout” should be directed to the regional enrollment networks for the program. There will be 13 such regional enrollment networks. (Here is the DHS web address for the DHS enrollment networks:

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health-care/en/index.htm>)

According to Ms. McKeown, here are some key dates in the Affordable Care Act launch:

- **October 1** – Health insurance enrollment is scheduled to commence in Wisconsin and nationally.
- **November 18** – First day that newly-eligible Medicaid recipients will be eligible to apply.
- **December 15** – New enrollees must pay premiums for service beginning by January 1.
- **January 1** – Health insurance marketplace coverage begins.

Council Decision-Making Guidelines

The Council approved “decision-making guidelines” for taking up issues for potential Council deliberation and action, with Ms. Terri Kramolis moving approval and Dr. Ayaz Samadani seconding the motion. The action covers a six-month trial period. The guidelines, sent to the Council in advance of the meeting, include these criteria:

1. Does the issue meet the Council’s obligation to monitor the state health plan or respond to public health emergencies?
2. Does the issue relate to the annual Strategic Priorities identified by the Council?
3. Does the topic reflect the priorities of the governor, the Department, and/or the Division of Public Health?
4. Has information from key perspectives and stakeholder interests been included?
5. Does the Council have the staffing, membership, and other resources to address the issue?
6. If the issue does not fall within Council issue guidelines, where is the issue best considered?

State Health Plan Quality Improvement Committee

The Council heard Ms. Terri Kramolis, Ms. Patricia Guhleman and Ms. Carly Hood brief the Council about the State Health Plan Quality Improvement Committee update. Ms. Guhleman informed the Council about plans for conducting a Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 “mid-course review” roughly halfway to the end of the decade in 2020. The review is tentatively scheduled to be finished by December 2014. The effort, which will assess progress toward the State Health Plan’s focus areas and set more focused priorities, will focus on three areas. They are: health equity and health disparities; public health infrastructure; and health focus areas. Commenting on behalf of the State Health Plan Committee, Ms. Kramolis noted her concerns that the scope of the project may mean a great deal of work for staff.

Ms. Hood, a Population Health fellow, briefed the Council on the “logic model” document sent to the Council before the meeting.

Emergency Preparedness Report

The Council heard Jenny Ullsvik, DPH Section Chief for Emergency Health Care and Preparedness, and State Health Officer Dr. Henry Anderson brief the Council on current issues, including the pending site visit to the emergency preparedness staff by a funder, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Announcements/Completion of Evaluation Forms

Mr. Wymore stated that, because of the electronic nature of the meeting, Council members would receive their meeting evaluation forms to complete right after the meeting.

Adjournment

The Council meeting adjourned shortly after 11 a.m.