

APPROVED MINUTES  
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene  
Board of Directors Meeting  
March 21, 2023  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Greg Pils, Vice Chair Dr. Robert Corliss, Secretary Dr. James Schauer, Dr. Christopher Strang, Dr. Jon Audhya, Dr. Mark Werner, Mr. Gil Kelley, Mr. Jeffery Kindrai, Ms. Jennifer Buchholz, Ms. Jessica Blahnik

WSLH STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Errin Rider, Dr. Al Bateman, Ms. Jan Klawitter, Mr. Kevin Karbowski, Mr. Mark Conklin, Ms. Tip Vandall, Mr. Jim Sterk, Mr. Steve Strebel, Ms. Amy Miles, Ms. Camille Danielson, Nancy McLean, Noel Stanton, Jim Sterk, Kaitlin Sundling, Al Bateman,

DNR STAFF PRESENT: Alternate Members Zana Sijan

GUESTS PRESENT: Nathan Kloczko and Sean Strom, Presenters

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 1. ROLL CALL

Chairman Pils called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

At 1:00 PM, Chairman Pils initiated and conducted the roll call of the Board members. All Board member seats or their designated representatives were present except for excused members Gina Green-Harris and alternates Steven Geis, Paula Tran, and Anna Benton.

Mark Werner was initially absent, so his introduction would be made later in the meeting.

Item 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

At 1:03 PM, Jeff Kindrai motioned to approve the December 13, 2022, minutes as submitted. The voice vote to approve the minutes was unanimous, and the motion carried.

Item 3. REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA

There was no request to reorganize the agenda.

Item 4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

None

Item 5. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS

A week ago, confirmation hearings began for Adam Payne, who is poised to become the new DNR Secretary; interestingly, the hearing was heavy with questions on PFAS.

Secretary Payne will visit WSLH on June 6, 2023.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Item 6. PFAS AND FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

- Nathan Kloczko, Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Sean Strom, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

PFAS is a large family of persistent contaminants that bioaccumulate through the food chain. PFOS, in particular, accumulates in fish. As such, PFAS is now included in regular fish contaminant monitoring alongside PCBs and Mercury. DNR and DHS work together to issue new advisories as needed. DNR has expanded routine sampling into areas with known PFAS contamination, such as along the Wisconsin River. The science on PFAS is still emerging, and Wisconsin remains in conversation with the Great Lakes Consortium to interpret the human health impacts of PFAS accumulation in fish.

Item 7. FINANCIAL REPORT

- Kevin Karbowski, WSLH Chief Financial Officer

Income statement for seven months ending January 31, 2023 – Actual performance lost \$1.5M – The biggest issue is the continued underpricing of newborn screening activities. Inflation continues to raise costs. For example, NBS courier service expenses have doubled. WDHS sets the newborn screening price and has not increased the price in more than ten years.

To keep the board updated on the FY24 budget, Mr. Karbowski presented a preliminary FY24 Budget Income Statement. If WSLH received 75% of the WSLH biennium budget requests, the budget would be positive at \$660,000 with a break-even cash flow. There is additional work to do on the FY24 Budget.

Item 8. CONTRACTS REPORT

- Tip Vandall, WSLH Revenue Manager

Ms. Vandall presented the contracts that WSLH has signed since the December 2022 Board Meeting. Since that time, WSLH has signed contracts to provide \$9,600,000 in services.

Item 9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Dr James Schauer, Director, WSLH
  - ❖ Newborn Screening Blood Spot Usage
  - ❖ Water Boil Notice Report
  - ❖ Public Relations Report

Newborn Screening Blood Spot Usage

- Errin Rider

The WSLH is collaborating with DHS. This is a clinical program, and WSLH is in contact with UW Legal. They will inform the board of any further developments.

Water Boil Notice Report

➤ Camille Danielson

Ms. Danielson advised that one county received a boil water notice from December 1, 2022, to March 1, 2023. Two of the 16 systems tested were unsafe, and 3 Boil Water notices were issued.

COUNTY_NAME	PWS_TYPE	NUMBER_OF_SYSTEMS	NUMBER_OF_UNSAFE	NUMBER_OF_BWO	DATE_RANGE_START	DATE_RANGE_END
Dane	OC	16	2	3	12/1/2022	3/1/2023

Public Relations Report

➤ Jan Klawitter

Ms. Klawitter updated Board Members on some of the highlights and referred them to the packet, which provides details and further information about WSLH employee activities and accomplishments, including:

- EPA Radiological Exercise
- WI Virology Network meeting
- WSLH Quality & Safety Awards
- Assorted journal publications – CDD, EHD, Forensic Toxicology
- ICTR Award
- Cytotechnology Certificate Program Graduation

Item 10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2023

Description of the Item:

Since Dr. Robert Corliss (a Non-Government Member) will become Board Chair at the March 2021 meeting, the Government Board members will need to select a Vice Chair who will then become Chair in 2024.

*§2.07 “Government Board Members” are defined as: the Secretary of Health Services, the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, or their designees, the medical examiner or coroner representative and the local health department representative.*

*§2.08 “Non-Government Board Members” are defined as a physician representing clinical laboratories, a member representing private environmental testing laboratories, and a member representing occupational health laboratories and two additional members.*

*§5.05 Intent.*

- (a) *It is declared to be the intent of the Board that the position of Chairperson be rotated annually among the voting members of the Board and that each successive Vice Chairperson is also, in effect, the Chairperson-elect.*
- (b) *It is the declared intent of the Board that the positions of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson be elected, in alternate years, from the "government" and the "non-government" members of the board as defined in 2.07 and 2.08 such that in any given year one position is held by a government member and the other is held by a non-government member.*
- (c) *The Secretary shall prepare a ballot for the offices of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary in accord with these policies and procedures.*

*(d) The Director shall advise the board members of the historical rotation of the offices of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary prior to the annual meeting.*

Suggested Board Action:

The Board will nominate a member to serve as Vice-Chair/Chair Elect for the 2023 term (March 2023 – March 2024).

Draft Motion: To be considered March 21, 2023

Move the nomination of the following for officers of the WSLH Board of Directors: Dr. Rob Corliss for the position of Chair, Greg Pils for the position of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and James Schauer for the position of Secretary for the year 2023 term.

At 2:13 pm, Jeff Kindrai moved for Greg Pils for vice president, and Chris Strang seconded. With a unanimous “aye” voice vote, the motion passed.

Mark Werner was also welcomed as the new representative from DHS, replacing Jon Meiman.

CONCLUSION

At 2:15 PM, Jeff Kindrai moved to adjourn. All agreed, and the meeting was concluded.