

DATE: December 20th, 2023

TO: Dean Robert N. Golden, MD, UW-SMPH – Dr. Jon Audhya, Designated Representative
Kirsten Johnson, Secretary-designee, DHS – Dr. Mark Werner, Designated Representative
Steven Little Deputy Secretary, DNR – Greg Pils, Designated Representative
Randy Romanski, Secretary, DATCP – Gilbert (Gil) Kelley, Designated Representative
Dr. Robert Corliss, Chair
Greg Pils, Vice Chair
Dr. Jon Audhya, Member
Dr. Mark Werner, Member
Dr. Christopher Strang, Member
Jennifer Buchholz, Member
Jessica Blahnik, Member
Gina Green-Harris, Member
Gilbert (Gil) Kelley, Member
Jeffery Kindrai, Member
Steve Geis, DNR Alternate
Zana Sijan, DNR Alternate
Anna Benton, DHS Alternate
Paula Tran, DHS Alternate
Dr. Sheryl Bedno, DHS Alternate
Andrea Poehling, UW-Madison Alternate

FROM: Dr. James Schauer, Secretary
Director, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

RE: Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors Meeting
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
In-Person/Online Meeting
December 20, 2023, 1:00 PM. – 4:00 PM

CC: Dr. Errin Rider
Allen Benson
Kevin Karbowski
Jan Klawitter
Nancy McLean
Steve Strebel
Dr. Al Bateman
Mark Conklin
Camille Danielson
Tip Vandall
Jim Sterk
Dr. Keith Poulsen

WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING NOTICE

for

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

MEETING LOCATION

2601 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718

Notice is hereby given that the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors will convene in person and via teleconference at **1:00 pm on Wednesday, December 20, 2023.**

Notice is further given that matters concerning Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene issues, program responsibilities, or operations specified in the Wisconsin Statutes, which arise after publication of this notice may be added to the agenda and publicly noticed no less than two hours before the scheduled board meeting if the board Chair determines the matter is urgent.

Notice is further given that this meeting may be conducted partly or entirely by teleconference or videoconference.

Notice is further given that questions related to this notice, requests for special accommodations, or requests for a public appearance are addressed by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Administrative Offices by phone at (608) 890-0288 or in writing to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, 2601 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718.

ORDER OF BUSINESS: See agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James J. Schauer', written in a cursive style.

James J. Schauer, PhD, P.E., M.B.A.

Secretary, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors
Director, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
2601 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

AGENDA

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

- Item 1. ROLL CALL
- Item 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- Item 3. REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA
- Item 4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES
- Item 5. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Item 6. FINANCIAL REPORT
 - Kevin Karbowski
- Item 7. DATCP Laboratory Overview
 - Gil Kelley
- Item 8. Genetics Fellowship Programs
 - Dr. Vanessa Horner and Dr. Mei Baker
- Item 9. CONTRACTS REPORT
 - Tip Vandall
- Item 10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
 - Key Public Health Notices
 - Camille Danielson
 - Public Relations Report
 - Jan Klawitter
 - Relocation from Walton Commons to DATCP Building
 - Al Benson

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

December 20, 2023

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 1. ROLL CALL

Description of Item:

Roll call of attendance at Board Meeting led by Board Chair

Suggested Board Action:

Submit roll call

Staff Recommendation and Comments:

Board Secretary will record the roll call

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Description of Item:

The draft minutes of the September 19, 2023, board meeting are submitted for approval

Suggested Board Action:

Motion: Approve the draft minutes of the September 19, 2023, board meeting as submitted

Staff Recommendation and Comments:

Approve draft minutes

Once approved, minutes become part of the public record and are posted on the WSLH website:

<http://www.slh.wisc.edu/about/board/board-meetings-agendas-and-minutes/>

APPROVED MINUTES

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors Meeting

September 19, 2023

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Dr. Robert Corliss, Secretary Dr. James Schauer, Dr. Christopher Strang, Dr. Mark Werner, Mr. Gil Kelley, Mr. Jeffery Kindrai, Ms. Jessica Blahnik, Ms. Andrea Poehling

WSLH STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Errin Rider, Mr. Allen Benson, Ms. Jan Klawitter, Mr. Kevin Karbowski, Ms. Tip Vandall, Mr. Mark Conklin, Mr. Steve Strebel, Ms. Camille Danielson

DNR STAFF PRESENT: Alternate Member: Steve Geis

GUESTS PRESENT: Ms. Meshel Lange (CER) and Ms. Ann Jurkowski (WisCon)

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 1. ROLL CALL

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

At 1:00 PM, Chairman Corliss initiated and conducted the roll call of the Board members. All Board members or their designated representatives were present except for those excused. Members Dr. Jon Audhya, Ms. Gina Green-Harris and Ms. Jennifer Buchholz as well as Alternates Ms. Zana Sijan, Ms. Paula Tran, and Ms. Anna Benton were all excused.

Dr. Schauer provided an introduction and welcome for Andrea Poehling as UW-Madison Alternate. Dr. Schauer also gave the BOD an indication of staffing changes, with Sara Anderson starting as his Executive Assistant on October 2, 2023.

Item 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

At 1:15, PM, Chairman Corliss entertained a motion to approve the July 18, 2023, minutes as submitted. Mr. G. Pils moved for approval and Dr. C. Strang seconded. A voice vote to approve the minutes for the record was unanimous.

Item 3. REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA

There was no request to reorganize the agenda.

Item 4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

None

Item 5. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS

None

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Item 6. Chemical Emergency Response (CER)

- Meshel Lange – CER Manager

Ms. Lange presented an overview of the work undertaken at WSLH Chemical Emergency Response/Preparedness. Their unique role serves as a 24/7/365 first response team to address public threats in the CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program (PHEP). CER is involved with both clinical/human testing as well as analytical work for testing materials of concern. As part of the chemical program for the Laboratory Response Network (LRN) they play a major role as a Level 1 laboratory in responding to emergencies and also in shaping practices adopted by CDC for sampling, testing and analyzing threats. CER has become a well-respected and highly valued partner in these systems.

Ms. Lange provided several case studies with positive outcomes involving dynamics that gave testimony to the important work done by CER to advance PHEP and LRN.

Item 7. WisCon Public Sector Occupational Safety and Health Program

- Ann Jurkowski, WisCon Consultant

Ms. Jurkowski presented ongoing efforts undertaken in the WisCon Onsite Safety and Health Consultation Program to provide free public sector consultation around the state to reduce or eliminate workplace hazards. Ms. Jurkowski highlighted WisCon successes including on-site consultations and webinars; the proper fit, testing and use of PPE; materials for improving workplace health and safety issues of concern and the distribution of free kits for infectious disease training/testing, education/best practices in the workplace. Currently, as the result of effective outreach, clients have requested 1,114 fit test kits. WisCon recently distributed 720 of these. This fulfills a critical need for public sector organizations and businesses while promoting material distribution reducing WisCon's overhead costs for storage.

An offer for broader collaboration was made by Dr. C. Strang to assess and recommend best practices for improving workplace health and safety through education and training. Many others in the room endorse a wider collaboration.

Item 8. Financial Report and Proposal

- Kevin Karbowski, WSLH Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Karbowski provided a comparative analysis of FY 23 budgeted versus actual. After closing the books, FY23 ended up at about break even for the year. An improvement over the projected budget and the previous year's outcomes.

Mr. Karbowski noted the current numbers accounted for open invoices even though payments were lagging. About \$4M from CDC and DHS pass-through payments were/are still lagging.

Mr. Karbowski further noted, in order to allow for the proposed salary increases for staff to avoid negatively affecting the budget, additional revenue would be needed. Mr. Karbowski recommended an increase in testing fees (4%) to allow for this. He further recommended this increase not be uniformly applied to all services, but consideration would be made to create a 4% net increase without impacting customers already affected by recently-increased fees.

At 1:50 PM, Chairman Corliss entertained a motion to approve the rate increase as recommended by Mr. Karbowski. There was further discussion and at 1:58 PM, Mr. J. Kindrai motioned to approve, Dr. C. Strang seconded and a unanimous voice vote was recorded approving the fee increase as recommended.

Item 9. Contracts Report

- Tip Vandall, WSLH Revenue Manager

Ms. Vandall presented on FY 24 contracts. Currently, WSLH signed contracts will provide \$2.73M in services following a recent contract addition of \$57,500.

Item 10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Dr James Schauer, Director, WSLH

WOHL – Update on EPA's plans to revise lead dust testing

- Steve Strebel
 - Proposed lower standards for lead dust in residences - non-detect as proposed std
 - Clearance (abatement) standards affected as well - 3 mcg as proposed std for floors
 - Discussion on impacts to testing, abatement and regulatory standards
 - Comments on rule due by Oct 2

Key Public Health Notices

- Camille Danielson
 - PFAS in wells - Oneida Cty well testing resulted in 47 private well closures
 - DNR Drought Monitor - website up to monitor conditions and recommend actions
 - Waukesha Drinking Water - now drawn from Lake Michigan under Great Lakes Compact due to high radium concentrations in city's groundwater wells (radium testing of the city's wells has been performed by WSLH)

Public Relations Report

- Jan Klawitter

- WisCon received annual funding and continues their work
- NADP has been busy
 - Intl Acid Rain Conference (Japan) attended by David Gay and Dr. Schauer
 - Spring and Fall NADP conferences held in Madison (in-person and virtual)
 - PFAS monitoring and analysis for rainwater continues development
- Wastewater Surveillance testing receives many inquiries and remains strongly supported
- Forensic Toxicology Director Amy Miles received 2 awards recently for her work
- Global Hepatitis Outbreak and Survey Technology (GHOST) will be advanced
- CDC Director Dr. Mandy Cohen visited WSLH, made rounds to visit CER, CDD and EHD
- Quality and Safety Awards (QAS) were presented recently - 29 new awards were given to current staff and interim fellowship students
- Many new journal articles have been published – see the report for more on these
- Upcoming article of note will look at East Palestine, OH train derailment and fire resulting in a distinct chemical footprint in regional precipitation collected by NADP.

Dr. Schauer mentioned his proposal to shift the timing for upcoming meetings to remove conflicts with his teaching schedule. The new time proposed would shift the BOD's next meeting from December 12 to December 13. This would continue through the BOD's spring meetings. Dr. Schauer was hopeful this change would not create conflicts for others as he seeks to avoid conflicts for his schedule. A survey will be sent to all board members in October.

Adjourned

At 2:12 PM, Chairman Corliss entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn offered by J. Kindrai. All present were in favor. The chair adjourned the meeting at 2:14 PM

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 3. REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA

Description of Item:

Board members may suggest changes in the order in which agenda items are discussed

Suggested Board Action:

None

Staff Recommendation and Comments:

Reorganize the agenda if requested by the Board

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Description of Item:

Under the board's *Policies and Procedures*, non-members are invited to make presentations

Suggested Board Action:

Follow WSLH *Policies and Procedures*:

Staff Recommendation and Comments:

Follow WSLH *Policies and Procedures*

Per Policies and Procedures of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors:

§6.12 *Speaking privileges.* When the board is in session, no persons other than laboratory staff designated by the director shall be permitted to address the board except as hereinafter provided:

- (a) A committee report may be presented by a committee member who is not a member of the board.
- (b) A board or committee member in the course of presenting a matter to the board may request staff to assist in such a presentation.
- (c) If a board member directs a technical question for clarification of a specific issue to a person not authorized in this section, the Chair may permit such a person to respond.
- (d) The board may by majority vote or by decision of the Chair allow persons not otherwise authorized in this section to address the board if the situation warrants or the following criteria is followed:
 - (1) Written requests for public appearances on specific current agenda items shall be made to the Board Secretary no later than two working days prior to the meetings. The request shall outline the reasons for the request including the subject matter to be discussed in as much detail as is feasible prior to the meeting of the board. Those requesting an appearance may, at or prior to the board meeting, provide board members copies of any written materials to be presented or a written statement of a position.
 - (2) Individual presentations will be limited to five minutes, unless otherwise authorized by the Chair.
 - (3) To schedule an appearance before the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors, contact the Board Secretary, c/o Director, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, 465 Henry Mall, Madison, Wisconsin 53706. Telephone (608) 890-0288. The subject or subjects to be discussed must be identified.
 - (4) The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene "Guidelines for Citizen Participation in WSLH Board Meetings" are published on its website: [http:// www.slh.wisc.edu/index.shtml](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/index.shtml), and printed copies are available on request. (See Appendix 5) [Section §6.12 approved 5/27/03 board meeting.]

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Appendix 5

Guidelines for Citizen Participation at WSLH Board Meetings

The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene board provides opportunities for citizens to appear before the board to provide information to the board on items listed on the agenda. Such appearances shall be brief and concise. In order to accommodate this participation in the allotted time, the guidelines are as follows:

- A. Items to be brought before the board:
 - 1. The board Secretary and Chair will assign a specific time on the agenda to hear public comment when a request to speak has been received from a member of the public.
 - 2. Individuals or organizations will be limited to a total of five (5) minutes to make a presentation to the board. Following the presentation board members may ask clarifying questions.
 - 3. An organization is limited to one (1) spokesperson on an issue.
 - 4. On complex issues, individuals wishing to appear before the board are encouraged to submit written materials to the Board Secretary in advance of the meeting so the board may be better informed on the subject in question. Such information should be submitted to the board Secretary for distribution to all board members no later than seven (7) working days before the board meeting.
 - 5. No matters that are in current litigation may be brought before the board.
- B. The board encourages individuals to confine their remarks to broad general policy issues rather than the day-to-day operations of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene.
- C. Citizens who have questions for board members should ask these questions prior to the board meeting, during any recess during the board proceedings, or after board adjournment.
- D. Written requests to appear before the WSLH Board of Directors should be submitted no later than two (2) working days prior to a scheduled board meeting.
- E. Submit written requests to:
Secretary, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors

C/O WSLH Director
465 Henry Mall
Madison, WI 53706
Telephone: (608) 890-0288
Email: susan.buechner@slh.wisc.edu

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 5. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS

Description of the Item:

Board Members' Matters will present board members with the opportunity to ask questions and/or discuss issues related to the Wisconsin Laboratory of Hygiene

Suggested Board Action:

Receive for information

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 6. FINANCIAL REPORT

Description of the Item:

Kevin Karbowski, WSLH Chief Financial Officer, will provide an update on the Financial Report to the Board.

Suggested Board Action:

Review and provide input.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE

Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2024

October 31, 2023

Contents

Financial Statements

Statement of income

Comparative income statement

Comparative balance sheet

Statement of cash flows

Notes to the financial statements


**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

**Statement of Income
For the period July 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023**

	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Variance Over/(Under)	Variance % of Budget	Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Budget
SUPPORT AND REVENUE					
Clinical	\$6,109,564	\$6,336,379	(\$226,815)	-3.6%	\$18,166,016
Newborn Screening	2,479,925	2,127,333	352,592	16.6%	6,671,895
Driver Improvement Surcharge	898,655	812,250	86,405	10.6%	2,494,200
Environmental	3,128,953	3,149,042	(20,089)	-0.6%	9,568,054
Proficiency	1,610,790	1,534,908	75,882	4.9%	4,398,055
Occupational Health	608,888	675,447	(66,559)	-9.9%	2,014,342
Laboratory Services	14,836,776	14,635,360	201,417	1.4%	43,312,562
Grants Indirect Reimbursement	285,000	285,000	0	0.0%	855,000
WI DHS Employee Contracts	288,948	287,589	1,359	0.5%	862,767
Cytotechnology Program	0	0	0		250,000
Earnings - Investment Income	6,486	30,000	(23,514)	-78.4%	98,000
Other Revenue	580,434	602,589	(22,155)	-3.7%	2,065,767
Grants	1,902,422	1,899,491	2,931	0.2%	5,598,880
Program Revenue	17,319,632	17,137,440	182,192	1.1%	50,977,209
State General Program Revenue (GPR)	4,379,433	4,471,138	(91,705)	-2.1%	12,720,000
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	21,699,065	21,608,577	90,488	0.4%	63,697,209
EXPENSES					
Salaries	8,661,105	9,173,578	(512,473)	-5.6%	26,643,458
Fringe Benefits	3,533,188	3,680,559	(147,371)	-4.0%	9,857,670
Supplies & Services	7,320,324	6,640,161	680,163	10.2%	20,848,310
Building Rent	1,089,106	1,039,085	50,021	4.8%	3,295,060
Grants Indirect	322,761	316,118	6,643	2.1%	943,805
Depreciation	854,191	854,191	0	0.0%	2,598,463
Bad Debt Expense	49	1,200	(1,151)	-95.9%	3,600
Interest Expense	5,125	0	5,125		0
TOTAL EXPENSES	21,785,849	21,704,892	80,957	0.4%	64,190,366
NET OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(\$86,784)	(\$96,314)	\$9,531	-9.9%	(\$493,157)

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Comparative Income Statement
For the 4 months ended October 31, 2023 and October 31, 2022

	Year to Date Actual	Prior Year Actual	Variance Over/(Under)	Variance % of Prior Year
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Clinical	\$6,109,564	\$5,493,885	\$615,679	11.2%
Newborn Screening	2,479,925	1,666,817	813,109	48.8%
Driver Improvement Surcharge	898,655	518,608	380,047	73.3%
Environmental	3,128,953	3,261,250	(132,297)	-4.1%
Proficiency	1,610,790	1,130,981	479,809	42.4%
Occupational Health	608,888	732,557	(123,668)	-16.9%
Laboratory Services	14,836,776	12,804,097	2,032,680	15.9%
Grants Indirect Reimbursement	285,000	284,000	1,000	0.4%
WI DHS Employee Contracts	288,948	168,946	120,002	71.0%
Other	0	79,435	(79,435)	
Earnings - Investment Income	6,486	23,875	(17,389)	-72.8%
Other Revenue	580,434	556,256	24,178	4.3%
Grants	1,902,422	1,967,079	(64,657)	-3.3%
Program Revenue	17,319,632	15,327,431	1,992,201	13.0%
State General Program Revenue (GPR)	4,379,433	3,669,121	710,312	19.4%
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	21,699,065	18,996,552	2,702,513	14.2%
EXPENSES				
Salaries	8,661,105	7,979,272	681,833	8.5%
Fringe Benefits	3,533,188	3,182,502	350,686	11.0%
Supplies & Services	7,320,324	6,781,142	539,182	8.0%
Building Rent	1,089,106	1,038,803	50,303	4.8%
Grants Indirect	322,761	240,586	82,175	34.2%
Depreciation	854,191	836,356	17,836	2.1%
Bad Debt Expense	49	113	(64)	-56.4%
Interest Expense	5,125	5,247	(122)	-2.3%
TOTAL EXPENSES	21,785,849 	20,064,020	1,721,828	8.6%
NET OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(\$86,784)	(\$1,067,469)	\$980,685	-91.87%

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Comparative Balance Sheet
As of October 31, 2023 and June 30, 2023

ASSETS

	October 31, 2023	June 30, 2023
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash-unrestricted	\$0	\$0
Cash-restricted (Note 2)	0	1,466,313
Net accounts receivables (Note 3)	10,080,026	8,240,004
Other receivables	1,207,600	922,600
Inventories	18,412	23,827
Prepaid expenses	0	0
Total current assets	11,306,037	10,652,743
EQUIPMENT AND BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS		
Equipment	39,709,782	38,621,264
Building improvements	6,878,228	6,878,228
	46,588,010	45,499,492
Less accumulated depreciation	(33,657,761)	(32,803,570)
Total net fixed assets	12,930,249	12,695,922
Total Assets	\$24,236,286	\$23,348,665

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	977,484	\$659,602
Negative cash balance	261,057	0
Obligations under capital leases	67,851	0
WI DHS neonatal surcharge payable	882,709	235,743
Proficiency testing deferred revenue	870,549	1,349,482
Newborn screening deferred revenue	1,345,932	1,345,932
Compensated absences (Note 4)	1,013,249	1,093,215
Total current liabilities	5,418,831	4,683,973

LONG TERM DEBT

Obligations under capital leases	298,224	0
Compensated Absences (Note 4)	1,768,334	1,827,012
Total long term debt	2,066,558	1,827,012
Total Liabilities	\$7,485,389	\$6,510,985

EQUITY

Net Operating Income (Loss)	(86,784)	(162,239)
Retained earnings	11,203,165	11,365,404
Contributed capital	5,634,516	5,634,516
Total retained earnings	16,750,897	16,837,681
Total Equity	16,750,897	16,837,681
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$24,236,286	\$23,348,666

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Statement of Cash Flow		
For the 4 months ended October 31, 2023 and the 12 months ended June 30, 2023		
	Year to Date	Prior Year
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income	(\$86,784)	(\$162,239)
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	854,191	2,435,811
Changes in working capital components:		
Decrease/(Increase) in net accounts receivables	(1,840,022)	(1,955,933)
Decrease/(Increase) in other receivables	(285,000)	(67,600)
Decrease/(Increase) in inventories	5,416	44,160
Decrease/(Increase) in prepaid expenses	0	258,864
(Decrease)/Increase in salaries payable	0	0
(Decrease)/Increase in accounts payable	317,882	(446,729)
(Decrease)/Increase in negative cash balance	261,057	0
(Decrease)/Increase in accrued expenses	0	0
(Decrease)/Increase in deferred revenue	0	0
(Decrease)/Increase in neonatal surcharge payable	646,966	(263,753)
(Decrease)/Increase in proficiency testing deferred revenue	(478,933)	394,899
(Decrease)/Increase in newborn screen deferred revenue	0	(996,340)
(Decrease)/Increase in obligation on capital lease	366,075	0
(Decrease)/Increase in compensated absences	(138,644)	46,451
Net cash provided (used) in operating activities	(377,795)	(712,408)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
	(1,054,591)	(2,718,703)
Purchase of equipment and physical plant improvements		
	(1,054,591)	(2,718,703)
Net cash provided (used) in investing activities		
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Principal payment on Capital Lease	(33,926)	-
Net cash provided (used) in financing activities	(33,926)	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash	(1,466,312)	(3,431,110)
Cash:		
Beginning	1,466,313	4,897,423
Ending	\$0	\$1,466,313

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the period July 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023

Note 1 - Nature of Business and Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Business:

- The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) is a governmental institution which provides medical, industrial and environmental laboratory testing and related services to individuals, private and public agencies, including the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Health Services (DHS). Approximately 80% of the WSLH operating revenues are program revenues, including contracts, grants, and fee-for-service billing. The remainder are general purpose revenues (GPR), which are Wisconsin state general fund dollars.

Budgetary Data:

- Fiscal Year 2023-2024 operating budget amounts were approved by the WSLH Board on July 18, 2023.

Basis of Presentation:

- The financial statements have been prepared on a modified accrual basis following Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

Basis of Accounting:

- Revenues are recognized at the completion of the revenue generating processes. Fee-for-service revenues are generally recognized in the period services are completed.
- Revenues from GPR, OWI, Grants, and expense reimbursement contracts for salaries, fringe benefits, capital, and supplies are recognized as expended.
- Expenses are recognized and accrued when the liability is incurred.

Estimates and assumptions:

- The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying footnotes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Assets

- Accounts receivable are reported at net realizable value. Net realizable value is equal to the gross amount of receivables less an estimated allowance for uncollectible amounts.
- Inventory is stated at cost (first in, first-out method).
- Equipment and building improvements are carried at cost. Expenditures for assets in excess of \$5,000 are capitalized. Depreciation is computed by the straight-line method.

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Liabilities

- A liability for unearned revenue is recognized for the proficiency testing programs and for the newborn screening program.

Note 2 –Cash Restricted

- As of October 31, 2023 cash is restricted to the WI DHS neonatal surcharge payable and to the proficiency testing deferred revenue.

Note 3 – Net Accounts Receivable

- Accounts receivable and allowance for uncollectible account balances as of June 30, 2022 and October 31, 2023 are as follows:

	<u>October 31, 2023</u>	<u>June 30, 2023</u>
Accounts Receivable Total	\$10,172,367	\$8,326,345
Allowance for bad debt	<u>(86,341)</u>	<u>(86,341)</u>
Net Receivables	\$10,080,026	\$8,240,004

Note 4 – Compensated Absences

- GASB Statement No. 16, "Accounting for Compensated Absences," establishes standards of accounting and reporting for compensated absences by state and local governmental entities for which employees will be paid such as vacation, sick leave, and sabbatical leave. Using the criteria in Statement 16, a liability for compensated absences that is attributable to services already rendered and that is not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the State and its employees has been accrued. The table below details the liability by benefit category:

	Total	Vacation	Personal Holiday	Legal Holiday	Sabbatical
Current	\$1,013,249	\$848,901	\$38,894	\$24,066	\$101,388
Long					
Term	1,768,334				1,768,334
	<u>\$2,781,583</u>	<u>\$848,901</u>	<u>\$38,894</u>	<u>\$24,066</u>	<u>\$1,975,968</u>

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BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 7. DATCP Laboratory Overview

Description of the Item:

DATCP Laboratory Director Gil Kelley will present an overview of the DATCP Laboratory and their activities

Suggested Board Action:

Review and provide input.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

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Item 8. Genetics Fellowship Programs

Description of the Item:

Dr. Vanessa Horner and Dr. Mei Baker will present on the Laboratory Genetics and Genomics Fellowship and the Clinical Biochemical Genetics Fellowship programs

- ❖ **Dr. Vanessa Horner**
Laboratory Genetics and Genomics Fellowship Program in Wisconsin and Beyond
- ❖ **Dr. Mei Baker**
Clinical Biochemical Genetics Fellowship Director

Suggested Board Action:

Review and provide input.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

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BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 9. CONTRACTS REPORT

Description of the Item:

Tip Vandall, WSLH Accounts Receivable Financial Manager, will provide a brief update on Contracts to the Board.

Suggested Board Action:

Review and provide input.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

Receive for information.

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BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. James Schauer, Director, WSLH

- ❖ **Key Public Health and Environmental Notices**
 - Camille Danielson, Environmental Chemistry Director
- ❖ **Public Relations Report**
 - Jan Klawitter, Communications Manager
- ❖ **Move from Walton Commons to DATCP Building**
 - Al Benson, IT Director

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Key Public Health and Environmental Notices

Notices may be abbreviated from original announcements

10/2/23 DNR Releases 2023 Air Quality Trends Report

On October 2, 2023, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources announced the release of its 2023 Air Quality Trends Report. The annual report includes state monitoring data through 2022 for air pollutants regulated under the federal Clean Air Act, including ground-level ozone, particle pollution, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide. While concentrations of these pollutants have decreased over the last two decades, in recent years the report shows two of the most harmful pollutants – ozone and fine particulates – have decreased only modestly in recent years.

The 2023 report shows that since the early 2000s, statewide ozone concentrations have decreased 21%. With these reductions, the entire state is meeting the federal 2008 ozone standard. However, with only modest improvements, and even slight concentration increases along the Lake Michigan shoreline in recent years, the Milwaukee area and parts of Sheboygan and Kenosha counties are not meeting the more stringent 2015 ozone standard.

The 2023 Air Quality Trends Report, StoryMap, and other historical reports are available on the DNR's Air Quality webpage (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/AirQuality/Trends.html>).

10/10/23 DHS warns about rising syphilis cases in Wisconsin affecting babies, teens and adults

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has issued a [memo to health care providers](#) in the state calling for increased awareness and testing for the sexually transmitted infection (STI) syphilis. Recently released 2022 surveillance data show a continued rise in cases in the state. Cases of syphilis increased 19% (1,608 to 1,916) from 2021 to 2022. Among those cases, congenital syphilis increased 81% (16 to 29) during this same time period. By comparison, Wisconsin had an average 0-2 congenital syphilis cases per year in the 2010's. Congenital syphilis occurs when a pregnant person with syphilis passes the infection to their unborn child, which can have serious impacts on an unborn baby.

10/12/2023 UW Madison Extension published a test result interpretation

resource created by former DHS staff (now at UW Extension) in coordination with WSLH staff that is now linked on the WSLH webpage: <https://naturalresources.extension.wisc.edu/files/2023/10/what-to-do-with-your-well-results.pdf> – great resource for the public to understand their test results better.

10/13/23 Department of Health Services informed public that the revised

[Private Well Water resources](#) **were published**. This includes webpages and fact sheets for arsenic, atrazine, bacteria, fluoride, lead, nitrate, manganese, PFAS, strontium, and TCE. WSLH staff can

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now direct clients to these resources when sharing results that are elevated and the public can access these pages to learn more about these substances and wells in general.

11/6/23 DNR Seeks Public Comment on Updated Water Condition List

The Wisconsin DNR is seeking public comment on revised water condition lists included in the draft 2024 Impaired Waters List. Every two years, the Clean Water Act requires states to publish a list of all waters not meeting water quality standards and an overall report on surface water quality status of all waters in the state. More than 80% of Wisconsin's lakes and rivers recently assessed are attaining water quality standards, continuing a trend of improved surface water quality across the state. Although the majority of waterbodies are in good condition and have been placed on the list of Waters Attaining Standards, 52 new waterbodies or segments are now classified as impaired. Placing waters on the Impaired Waters List means those waters require a restoration plan to improve aquatic habitat, recreation opportunities or fish consumption. A total of 81 new pollutant listings are proposed; a waterbody can have multiple pollutant listings. Some of the new listings are on waters already identified as impaired. The majority of new pollutant listings are for phosphorus and aquatic plants. This is the first assessment cycle to use the new assessment thresholds for aquatic plants recently approved by the Wisconsin legislature.

Of the 81 new listings, 17 will be placed directly on the list of waters in restoration because they are covered by an existing restoration plan called a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) analysis. The listings are being added to the Milwaukee River Basin TMDL (8 listings), Upper Fox-Wolf Basins TMDL (5 listings), the Northeast Lakeshore TMDL (3 listings) and the Wisconsin River Basin TMDL (1 listing). The department is also seeking public comment on these TMDL additions.

Simultaneously, 37 impairment listings will be removed, with over half being for phosphorus. Overall, the 2024 draft Impaired Waters List contains 1,481 listings. The draft list of Waters In Restoration contains 670 listings. [The 2024 lists and other materials can be found on the DNR's website.](#)

11/3/23 DNR Announced Results of Statewide PFAS Sampling in Private Wells Now Available

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced the [results of a study](#) conducted to understand the extent of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in shallow groundwater throughout Wisconsin. During the summer and fall of 2022, the DNR used funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to collect water samples from across the state and analyzed them for PFAS. In total, 450 samples were collected voluntarily from private wells distributed throughout Wisconsin. Most private wells

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that were sampled had PFAS concentrations below current Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services' (DHS) health recommendations, and overall, the number of areas in Wisconsin with significant PFAS contamination were limited. The DNR's groundwater study shows roughly 7 in 10 private wells contain one or more PFAS, but only 1 in 100 contain PFAS above DHS' current health guidelines. [The results of the DNR's groundwater study were released in the Journal of Environmental Science & Technology \(ES&T\).](#) **[The WSLH Organic Chemistry section performed the PFAS testing for this study]**

"The information gained through this groundwater study, combined with compliance sampling in public water systems and surface water monitoring efforts, will help us in developing an understanding of where PFAS are found in Wisconsin's water," said Steve Elmore, DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater Director. "This knowledge will allow us to use our limited resources to address PFAS most efficiently."

New drinking water regulations that went into effect in Wisconsin in 2022 require ongoing sampling of public drinking water systems. By the end of 2023, Wisconsin will have PFAS data for nearly all public water systems in the state due to these regulations.

Private well owners who find their well is impacted by PFAS at levels above DHS' health recommendations may be eligible for grants through the [Well Compensation Grant Program](#) to install a new well or water treatment system. Funding from the federal [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) is available to both municipal water systems and wastewater systems that have been impacted by PFAS.

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**Report to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board
Representative Public or Environmental Health Incidents of Educational Interest
September 7 – December 4, 2023**

Approx. Date	Agent or Event Name	Description	Current Status
OUTBREAKS and INCIDENTS			
October 2023	Measles	In collaboration with the WI Department of Health Services and local health departments in SE Wisconsin, the WSLH Communicable Disease Division (CDD) coordinated testing with the Milwaukee public health lab and a national commercial lab. WSLH CDD also performed PCR, IgM, and IgG testing as part of a measles outbreak investigation in SE Wisconsin. https://city.milwaukee.gov/Health/News/2023-News-Releases/October-2023/Measles-Case-is-Confirmed-in-Milwaukee . Thankfully, only one positive case was reported.	Complete
November 21, 2023	Cantaloupes Linked to Salmonella Infections Sold in Wisconsin	The WSLH Communicable Disease Division, in collaboration with WI DHS and WI DATCP, are performing testing as part of this outbreak investigation. The WSLH is a member of CDC's national PulseNet laboratory network that connects foodborne, waterborne, and One Health-related illness cases to detect outbreaks.	Ongoing
RECENT EVENTS and FINDINGS			
June 2023	<i>Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses</i> journal article	Communicable Disease Division Director Dr. Al Bateman was a co-author on – Changing pattern of respiratory virus detections among school-aged children in a small community – Dane County, Wisconsin, September to December 2022	Complete

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		<p><i>Influenza Other Respir Viruses</i>. 2023 Jun; 17(6): e13171.</p> <p>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10303684/</p>	
August 9, 2023	<i>Aerobiologia</i> journal article	<p>Dr. David Gay, Eric Uram and Terri Williams, along with National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) collaborators, published the article –</p> <p>Initial comparison of pollen counting methods using precipitation and ambient air samples and automated artificial intelligence to support national monitoring objectives</p> <p><i>Aerobiologia</i> volume 39, pages303–325 (2023), https://doi.org/10.1007/s10453-023-09794-7</p>	Complete
September - November 2023	Wastewater surveillance scientific presentations	<p>WSLH Wastewater Surveillance/Wastewater-Based Epidemiology scientists gave multiple presentations since September 2023 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Dagmara Antkiewicz co-chaired the session Advancing Wastewater Surveillance to Complement Community & Environmental Health Measures at the Society of Environmental Toxicology & Chemistry (SETAC) conference in Louisville, KY. • Rebecca Fahney presented Moving Beyond COVID-19: Monitoring Wastewater for Influenza & Respiratory Syncytial Virus, a Pilot Study at SETAC Louisville. • Dr. Adélaïde Roguet presented Genomic Surveillance to Monitor COVID-19 Variants in Wastewater 	Complete
September 2023	Forensic Toxicology leadership change	<p>After nine years as Forensic Toxicology Director and 24 years in the section, Amy Miles is staying part of the WSLH but in a new State Toxicologist grant-funded role from the Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS), as well as continuing her management of the Regional Toxicology Liaison program.</p>	Complete

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		<p>Stepping into the Forensic Toxicology Director position is Kayla Neuman, who joined the section nearly 11 years ago and has been a supervisor since March 2021.</p> <p>Amy did an interview about her new position on WI Public Radio's The Morning Show. WPR then wrote a follow-up article based on her interview.</p>	
September 2, 2023	UW Pharmacy School story about Dr. Heather Barkholtz	<p>The UW Pharmacy School published a profile of Dr. Heather Barkholtz - Playing Forensic Toxicology 'Whack-a-Mole'</p> <p>Assistant Professor Heather Barkholtz holds a unique joint appointment with the UW School of Pharmacy and the WSLH Forensic Toxicology section. This article details her efforts "... to expand the limited research on drug impairment and develop better tools of detection for illegal substances. That would help both law enforcement and her colleagues at WSLH, the state's public health laboratory that processes nearly 90 percent of samples from impaired drivers statewide."</p> <p>https://pharmacy.wisc.edu/2023/09/02/playing-forensic-toxicology-whack-a-mole/</p>	Complete
September 13, 14, 19, 2023	WI Clinical Laboratory Network (WCLN) Regional Meetings	<p>CDD hosted 3 WCLN 2023 Regional Meetings for a total of 145 laboratory professionals, infection preventionists and local and state public health employees. The meetings were in Appleton, Eau Claire and Madison. Topics covered included CDD surveillance updates, the rapid adoption of sequencing in public health laboratories, emerging pathogens and pathogens to watch, hepatitis elimination plans, <i>Ochrobactrum</i> spp. name change to <i>Brucella</i> spp. and information on how to implement antibiotic breakpoint changes. These meetings provide free continuing education credits to our important clinical lab colleagues, foster communication, and build relationships that contribute to ongoing surveillance and outbreak response.</p>	Complete

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September 15, 2023	CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)	<p>Rebecca Fahney, Martin Shafer, Dagmara Antkiewicz & Adélaïde Roguet were co-authors on –</p> <p>Wastewater Surveillance Data as a Complement to Emergency Department Visit Data for Tracking Incidence of Influenza A and Respiratory Syncytial Virus — Wisconsin, August 2022–March 2023</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/wr/mm7237a2.htm</p>	Complete
September 21, 2023	WCLN Webinar	<p>CDD Director Dr. Al Bateman, and Virology Team Lead Erika Hanson presented the webinar 2023-2024 Respiratory Virus Season Update to highlight CDD's surveillance strategies for the coming 2023-2024 respiratory virus season with the WI clinical laboratories. They also discussed the effectiveness of vaccines and provided a preview of what the season may bring to help laboratories prepare for the coming season. Outreach Coordinator Erin Bowles moderated the webinar that was attended by approximately 76 individuals.</p>	Completed
October 1, 2023	CDC, OD2A funding	<p>A research team consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caitlin Murphy of Wisconsin DHS - Dr. Heather Barkholtz with WSLH Forensic Toxicology - Meshel Lange with WSLH Chemical Emergency Response <p>were awarded a competitive supplement to CDC's OverDose to (2) Action (OD2A) funding. This work seeks to collect residual urine samples from non-fatal overdose patients presenting to emergency departments in Wisconsin and screen these biological samples for the presence of a variety of drugs and their metabolites. Results will be shared with CDC to contribute to a national non-fatal overdose biosurveillance program. This work seeks to understand if there are risk/protective factors associated with non-fatal versus fatal overdoses to</p>	Ongoing

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		inform public health initiatives combatting the overdose crisis.	
October 3, 2023	4 th Annual Crime Lab Symposium	Forensic Toxicology Director Kayla Neuman co-presented with members of the DOJ Crime Lab on the differences between WSLH and the Crime Labs toxicology departments and best practices for sample submission. This Symposium has an occupationally diverse audience, including attorneys, law enforcement, judges, and scientists.	Complete
October 4, 2023	WCLN Webinar	CDD Outreach Coordinator Erin Bowles moderated the October WCLN webinar Featuring <i>Candida Auris</i>: Coming Soon to A Healthcare Facility Near You! Dr. Shawn Lockhart, Senior Clinical Laboratory and Advisor for the Mycotic Diseases Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was the guest speaker. Dr. Lockhart detailed why <i>C. auris</i> is considered a public health threat and what sets it apart from other <i>Candida</i> spp. About 56 Clinical laboratory professionals attended the webinar.	Complete
October 5, 2023	UW Department of Pediatrics story about Newborn Screening Director Dr. Mei Baker	The UW Department of Pediatrics published a profile story about WSLH Newborn Screening Director and UW Professor of Pediatrics Mei Baker. In recounting Dr. Baker's career at UW, the article also traces the advancements of the Wisconsin Newborn Screening Laboratory. https://www.pediatrics.wisc.edu/after-20-years-of-service-mei-wang-baker-continues-as-a-prolific-genetic-researcher-and-director-of-newborn-screening-in-the-wisconsin-state-laboratory-of-hygiene/	Complete
October 6 & 13, 2023	DRE Recertification & School	Forensic Toxicologist Kimberle Glowacki presented at a Drug Recognition Expert Recertification and School on various drug trends in Forensic Toxicology.	Complete

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October 11, 2023	WSLH Employee Recognition awards	<p>The WSLH celebrated the 2023 winners of the Employee Recognition Awards –</p> <p>Staff Distinguished Service Award - Sue Hill (Environmental Health Division)</p> <p>Research Paper Award (tie) – Dr. Heather Barkholtz (Forensic Toxicology) - Pharmacology of R-(-)-Methamphetamine in Humans: A Systematic Review of the Literature</p> <p>Meshel Lange, Erin Meinholz and Brandon Shelton (Chemical Emergency Response) - Biomonitoring of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW) 2014–2016 and comparison with the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).</p> <p>Collaboration Award – Hannah Gander (Communicable Disease Division) and Royce Riessen (Environmental Health Division)</p> <p>Education-Outreach Award – Meshel Lange (Chemical emergency Response)</p> <p>Service to the Community Award - Charlotte Rodgers (Newborn Screening)</p>	Complete
October 15, 2023	American Biological Safety Association (ABSA) Annual Conference Workshop	<p>CDD Outreach Coordinator Erin Bowles was one of four instructors who provided a pre-conference workshop for about 25 biosafety professionals at the annual ABSA Biosafety and Biosecurity Conference entitled Using the Past to Prevent Future LAIs.</p> <p>The workshop covered how we can use published articles on laboratory associated infections (LAIs) to predict and avoid future LAIs.</p>	Complete
October 17, 2023	UW-Platteville	Lindsey Vosters with WSLH Forensic Toxicology presented to Criminal Justice and Forensic Science Students at UW Platteville on the Forensic Toxicology profession.	Complete
October 18, 2023	RTI International: QToF	Ryan Pieters with WSLH Forensic Toxicology presented in a workshop sponsored by RTI International titled Implementation Workshop:	Complete

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	Implementation Virtual Workshop	TOF/QTOF Mass Spectrometry for Identification, Screening, and Confirmation in Forensic Toxicology and Chemistry.	
October 19, 2023	Channel 3 Madison <i>news story</i>	Signal in the sewer: How wastewater helps scientists detect early increases in COVID-19, the flu and more	Complete
October 23-27, 2023	NADP Fall Meeting and Scientific Symposium, Madison, WI	National Atmospheric Deposition Program's Fall Meeting and Scientific Symposium was held at UW's Fluno Center. The meeting showcases the current research on depositional sciences using NADP's measured data. 150 international scientists, policy professionals and students attended.	Complete
October 27, 2023	UW-Oshkosh	Dr. Heather Barkholtz with WSLH Forensic Toxicology presented to junior and senior chemistry students at UW-Oshkosh on the forensic toxicology profession and research activities.	Complete
October 27, 2023	WI Prosecutor's Seminar	Kayla Neuman and Amy Miles with WSLH Forensic Toxicology presented at the Annual OWI Prosecutor's Seminar in Elkhart Lake, WI. Kayla co-presented with Leah Macans (DOJ) and Melissa Kimball (ChemTest) on the differences between the labs and the toxicology testing process. Amy co-presented with the DRE State Coordinator on the Law Enforcement Phlebotomy Program that will be starting in 2024.	Complete
October 31, - November 2, 2023	Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) annual conference	<p>Several WSLH Forensic Toxicology scientists presented at the SOFT annual conference –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kayla Neuman presented at a workshop on Career Paths and Advancement for the Emerging Toxicologist • Traci Reese presented a platform presentation on research conducted on Increasing THC concentration in a specimen from a driver arrested for OWI • Dr. Heather Barkholtz presented a platform presentation on research conducted by her graduate students titled Performance of an Untargeted LC-HRMS Screening Method for Tier I Substances • Dr. Heather Barkholtz presented a poster presentation on research What is the 	Complete

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		preferred educational background of forensic scientists?	
November 2, 2023	SOFT Award	<p>Amy Miles with the WSLH Forensic Toxicology section received the Teaching and Mentoring Award at the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) annual conference in Denver in early November.</p> <p>The annual award recognizes a member of SOFT who is actively teaching and/or mentoring students and other persons in the field of forensic toxicology.</p>	Complete
November 2-3, 2023	Midwest Impaired Driving Conference	Forensic Toxicology Alcohol Program Coordinator Aaron Zane Presented at the Midwest Impaired Driving Conference in Itasca, IL. He discussed Recent Drug Trends with the Drug Recognition Experts.	Complete
November 3, 2023	PFAS Sampling in Private Wells study results released	<p>The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced the results of a study conducted to understand the extent of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in shallow groundwater throughout Wisconsin. https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Groundwater/PFASStudy.html</p> <p>The WSLH Organic Chemistry section performed the PFAS testing for this study, which was published in <i>Environmental Science & Technology</i>.</p>	Complete
November 6, 2023	Center for Special Children (WSLH collaborator) receives WHA Award	<p>The Center for Special Children in La Farge received the Wisconsin Hospital Association's Global Vision Award.</p> <p>The Center for Special Children (CSC), a program of Vernon Memorial Hospital La Farge Medical Clinic, provides low-cost genetic testing and care. Most of the children served by the clinic are from regional Plain (Amish and Mennonite) communities. The CSC collaborates with the WSLH newborn screening and genetics labs for testing.</p>	Complete

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		<p>From the article –</p> <p>Each year, with the support of their collaborators, the team identifies new disease-causing genetic variants and provides answers for families. Collaborations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UW-Madison specialties for genetics, heart, eye, nervous system. • A team of research scientists identifying unknown conditions in Exeter, England. • Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene for newborn screening and targeted disease testing. • Seven similar clinics across the country, who collaborate on research, cases, testing, education, and an annual conference. • Twelve-member Advisory Committee of local community members. <p><i>La Crosse Tribune</i> story about the award - https://lacrossetribune.com/news/community/vernonbroadcaster/center-for-special-children-in-la-farge-receives-wisconsin-hospital-association-global-vision-award/article_7e2614ec-7f3b-11ee-8e44-8f8ec7a56a9f.html</p>	
November 6, 2023	DHS/DPH Radiation Protection Unit	Several members of the DHS/DPH Radiation Protection Unit toured the WSLH radiochemistry unit, as well as the other environmental and occupational health labs. This was an opportunity for DHS and WSLH staff to network and gain a better understanding of each other's work needs.	Complete
November 7, 2023	WI Clinical Laboratory Network (WCLN) Laboratory Technical Advisory Group annual meeting	WSLH CDD hosted members of the WCLN Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (LabTAG) in Madison to review the previous year's WCLN educational offerings and plan next year's offerings. CDD Microbiologist Ben Hickey also attended, for background information for an MPH thesis project he is conducting on WCLN and	Complete

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		LabTAG, to be able to share the successful approaches that the WSLH has taken in building this clinical lab network that is the model for the country.	
November 8, 2023	Wisconsin Mycobacteriology Laboratory Network (WMLN) annual meeting	WSLH CDD's Nate Simon, the TB Team lead, hosted and coordinated the annual in-person WMLN. Three WSLH employees gave presentations, many outside speakers also presented, and it was a very good networking opportunity.	Complete
November 9, 2023	APHL Respiratory Update webinar	WSLH CDD Director Dr. Al Bateman was one of three speakers at this national webinar. Dr. Bateman presented WSLH's robust statewide respiratory virus surveillance approach.	Complete
November 10, 2023	Impaired Driving Work Group Meeting	Director of Forensic Toxicology Kayla Neuman attended the Impaired Driving Work Group Quarterly meeting to discuss ongoing efforts to decrease impaired driving in Wisconsin. She volunteered to help review and update the Statewide Impaired Driving Plan, which describes the cost of impaired driving, trends in impaired driving, and potential solutions to impaired driving issues. The update is expected to be completed at the end of 2024.	Ongoing
November 15, 2023	RTL Testimony Training	The entire Forensic Toxicology staff attended a statewide training on testifying in alcohol and drug cases sponsored by the Regional Toxicology Liaison program. The training was also attended by toxicologists from the three DOJ Crime Labs and the Milwaukee Medical Examiner's office.	Complete
November 6, 2023	Sun Prairie High School Forensic Science Program	Lindsey Vosters with WSLH Forensic Toxicology gave a Forensic Toxicology Career presentation to Sun Prairie East & West High School Students enrolled in Forensic Science class. She discussed what Forensic Toxicology is and what it's like to be a Forensic Toxicologist.	Complete

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November 13, 2023	Society of Environmental Toxicology & Chemistry, Louisville, KY	Environmental Toxicology Supervisor Dawn Perkins co-chaired a session on harmful algal blooms titled One Health of Planktonic, Pelagic and Benthic Harmful Algal Blooms: The Detection, Fate, Effects, Monitoring and Management of Blooms.	Complete
November 16, 2023	<i>Journal of Clinical Microbiology</i> article	WSLH CDD (Al Bateman, Ann Valley, and Logan Patterson) were co-authors on this multisite study to evaluate a new drug susceptibility test for use in AR Lab Network laboratories - Antimicrobial Resistance Laboratory Network's multisite evaluation of the ThermoFisher Sensititre GN7F broth microdilution panel for antimicrobial susceptibility testing <i>Journal of Clinical Microbiology</i> , e00799-23 https://journals.asm.org/doi/full/10.1128/jcm.00799-23?af=R	Complete
November 21, 2023	<i>Aerosol and Air Quality Research Journal</i> article	Drs. Ross Edwards, David Gay and Jamie Schauer, were co-authors on – Investigation of Black Carbon Wet Deposition to the United States from National Atmospheric Deposition Network Samples <i>Aerosol Air Qual. Res.</i> 2024 https://doi.org/10.4209/aaqr.230089	Complete
December 1, 2023	<i>MMWR</i> article about wastewater surveillance	Drs. Dagmara Antkiewicz, Martin Shafer, Kayley Janssen, Adélaïde Roguet and Jocelyn Hemming were co-authors on – Notes from the Field: The National Wastewater Surveillance System's Centers of Excellence Contributions to Public Health Action During the Respiratory Virus Season — Four U.S. Jurisdictions, 2022–23 <i>Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)</i> December 1, 2023 / 72(48);1309–1312 http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7248a4	Complete

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December 20, 2023
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

December 1, 2023	ICTR and MCRI grant - yeast-based clinical diagnostic testing methods for Blastomyces	<p>Communicable Disease Division Associate Director Dr. Alana Sterkel’s research lab was awarded a grant to support developing yeast-based clinical diagnostic testing methods for Blastomyces. The UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) and the Marshfield Clinic Research Institute (MCRI) support collaborative grants between the institutions and awarded a \$50,000 grant to Dr. Sterkel at the WSLH/UW and Dr. Linz at Marshfield to support this work. The grant period is for 2024 with the possibility to extend for another 1.5 years and some additional funding.</p> <p>This work will support the recently funded project in Dr. Sterkel’s research lab that involves developing a yeast –based AST protocol and Wisconsin Blastomyces antibiogram, another collaborative project with the Marshfield lab.</p>	Ongoing
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