

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
Board of Directors Meeting
December 17, 2025
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

APPROVED MINUTES

(with two edits – Dr. Christopher Strang is Chair and Dr. Mark Werner is Vice-Chair)

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

<1:00 PM – 4:00 PM>

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Pils (DNR) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gil Kelley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair Dr. Christopher Strang | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hasmik Mkrtchyan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary Dr. James Schauer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zana Sijan (WDNR alternate) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Robert Corliss | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becca Fahney (WDNR alternate) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jon Audhya (SMPH) | <input type="checkbox"/> Paula Tran (DHS alternate) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair Dr. Mark Werner (DHS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Anna Benton (DHS alternate) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Blahnik | <input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Poehling (SMPH alternate) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gina Green-Harris | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Rowland | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Larson | |

WSLH STAFF PRESENT:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Errin Rider | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Conklin |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allen Benson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tip Vandall |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Karbowski | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Sterk |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan Klawitter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sara Anderson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy McLean | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kayla Neuman |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Strebel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Adélaïde Roguet |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Al Bateman | |

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GUESTS PRESENT: David Case from EPIC Systems was present as a listener for this WSLH Board Meeting.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 1. ROLL CALL

WSLH Board Chair Dr. Chris Strang called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

At, 1:03 PM WSLH Board Chair Dr. Chris Strang asked Sara Anderson to call the roll of Board Members and alternates. All Board members or their designated representatives were present except for those excused.

Item 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

At 1:06 PM, WSLH Board Chair Dr. Chris Strang entertained a motion to approve the July 30, 2025 WSLH Board Meeting Minutes as submitted. Greg Pils moved for approval and Hasmik Mkrtchyan seconded. A voice vote to approve the minutes for the record was passed.

Item 3. REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA

No request to reorganize the agenda was made during the board meeting

Item 4. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

No public appearances occurred for this board meeting

Item 5. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS

No business from the board members was mentioned

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BUSINESS ITEMS:

Item 6. CDD Response to H5N1, Measles, and other Infectious Diseases – Al Bateman

Dr. Al Bateman, WSLH Communicable Disease Division Director, provided a presentation on CDD's response to H5N1 Avian Influenza, Measles, and other Infectious Diseases. This presentation covered CDD's state-funded, fee-for-service, and federally-funded testing, as well as CDD's preparedness and response actions to infectious diseases. Continued situational awareness, communication at both an internal and external level, response procedures in-lab, and national involvement all contribute to CDD's preparedness and response action plans. A background and response towards H5N1 Avian Influenza and Measles wrapped up Dr. Bateman's presentation.

Wastewater Dashboards: Monitoring Respiratory Diseases in Wisconsin – Dr. Adélaïde Roguet

Dr. Adélaïde Roguet, Scientist III for the Environmental Health Division's Wastewater Surveillance program, provided a presentation on Wastewater Surveillance Dashboards and monitoring for diseases in Wisconsin. Wisconsin's Wastewater Surveillance Program helps cover respiratory pathogens (such as COVID, the seasonal flu and bird flu), gastrointestinal pathogens (such as norovirus), and vaccine preventable diseases (such as Mpox and measles). An overview of the various wastewater surveillance public-facing dashboards – including the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – were discussed alongside the summary of information obtainable via internal dashboards, weekly reports, and the upcoming DHS dashboard.

Item 7. Financial Report – Kevin Karbowski

Kevin Karbowski, the WSLH Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the budget and statement of income from the prior WSLH Board Meeting on July 30th. Mr. Karbowski informed the board that the finance team will be monitoring the budget as the months progress and will provide the board members with more information surrounding what is needed for a potential price increase next year. This monitoring will be ongoing and Mr. Karbowski will provide an update the next WSLH Board Meeting scheduled for December 17, 2025.

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Item 8. Contracts Report – Tip Vandall

Tip Vandall, the WSLH Accounts Receivable and Contracts Manager, provided the WSLH Board Members with a summary of contracts executed since the July 2025 board meeting. The number of contracts executed amounts to a grand total of \$7,498,151.00; including 3 annual renewals, 17 renewals, and 6 new contracts. Some of the new contracts include newborn screening programs from Maryland and Ohio.

Item 9. Directors Report

Workday Update Kevin Karbowski, the WSLH Chief Financial Officer, shared an update with the WSLH Board of Directors regarding Workday. As a whole, Mr. Karbowski said that solutions seem to be picking up and problems seem to be holding steady. WSLH staff are getting paid and making their needed purchases, which is an essential component of the platform. WSLH Director Dr. Jamie Schauer added that Workday touches on Purchasing, Human Resources, and Finance; with ATP possibly being brought back into the equation for further support regarding financial reporting. **Public Relations Report** WSLH Communications Manager Jan Klawitter shared select items from the full Public Relations Report included in the September 17, 2025 Board agenda packet.

Adjourning

At 2:19 PM, WSLH Board Chair Dr. Chris Strang entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn offered by Greg Pils and seconded by Hasmik Mkrtchyan. There was a unanimous vote to adjourn, and Dr. Chris Strang ended the meeting at 2:19 PM.