Members Present: David Allen, Marc Drezner, Norman Drinkwater (ex officio), Rick Moss (chair), Greg Nycz, Elizabeth Petty, Pat Remington, James Shull

Members Absent: Elizabeth Jacobs, Patricia Keely, Tom Oliver, Richard Page

Staff: Quinton Cotton, Lisa Hildebrand, Tonya Mathison, Ken Mount, Amanda Price, Nathan Watson

1. Call meeting to order

Moss called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm.

2. Decision on draft February 18, 2015 minutes

The draft minutes of February 18, 2015 were unanimously approved following a motion by Nycz which was seconded by Shull.

3. Announcements

   a. Update on Legislative Audit Bureau audit
   Mathison reported that the financial and programmatic audits continue with regular activity.

   b. Updates to 2015 meeting schedule
   A special meeting of the PERC was added August 31, 4-4:30 p.m., at which the committee will make its decision on which Collaborative Health Sciences applicants to invite for interviews. Interviews will take place in September.

   c. New member of Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP) staff
   Mathison introduced Nathan Watson, the WPP’s new administrative assistant, and thanked Amanda Price who was leaving the position to go to medical school.

4. Quarterly financial report on Wisconsin Partnership Program endowment value and cash balances

Mount presented the financial report for the WPP through December 31, 2014. The projected value of the permanent endowment is $342 million; 21 percent over the original value. The total spendable balance, including the spendable and quasi-endowment accounts, is $43 million, $25 million of which is allocated to PERC.

5. Monthly reports

   a. Oversight and Advisory Committee
   Remington reported on the March and April 2015 Oversight and Advisory Committee (OAC) meetings. Every two years, OAC elects officers, and in March, the committee reelected Pat Remington as chair and
elected Ken Taylor as co-chair and Sue Kunferman as secretary. In April, Philip Farrell retired after 13 years on OAC, including many years as inaugural chair. Rob Lemankse, Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, was appointed by the UW System Board of Regents at the recommendation of Dean Golden to complete Farrell’s term.

Twenty nine applicants submitted full proposals for OAC’s new Community Opportunity Grants. These $50,000 grants over two years primarily support implementation and/or evaluation strategies that address community health priorities identified through Community Health Improvement Plans or Community Health Needs Assessments. OAC will make funding decisions in June.

OAC is currently developing a new Community Impact Grants program with awards up to $1 million over five years in support of implementation, evaluation and dissemination of public health initiatives with a compelling evidence base to achieve policy, systems and/or environmental change. The application process will consist of an initial proposal, pitch presentation to OAC, and a final proposal. OAC will release the RfP in May.

b. PERC Executive Committee
Moss reported on the February, March and April 2015 PERC Executive Committee meetings. In February, the Executive Committee finalized the decision by PERC on funding for the renewal grant for the “Survey of the Health of Wisconsin” (SHOW) in alignment with recommendations shared at February 2015 PERC meeting. The Executive Committee also approved a no cost extension for Christine Seroogy’s 2013 Opportunity Grant, “Improved Health Care Delivery to Wisconsin Amish Infants” which is making good progress, but needs additional time to complete the work. The Executive Committee also provided recommendations to PERC which will be shared during the remaining agenda items.

6. Discussion of and decision on recommendation by PERC Executive Committee on invitations to submit full applications for the Collaborative Health Sciences Program

Norman Drinkwater, PERC Review Subcommittee chair, reported on the Executive Committee’s review of the 22 preliminary applications for the Collaborative Health Sciences Program. Executive Committee members and Norman Drinkwater independently reviewed the applications and discussed them at the committee’s April 2015 meeting. Drinkwater shared the Executive Committee’s recommendation that PERC invite 11 applicants to submit full applications which are due June 10.

Moss declared a conflict of interest on the application from Deborah Ehrenthal as she reports to Moss in his role as a senior associate dean at the UWSMPH. Moss did not participate in the discussion or vote on Dr. Ehrenthal’s application.

Allen seconded a motion by Remington to accept the Executive Committee’s recommendation to invite 11 applicants to submit full applications. The motion passed with six affirmative votes. Moss did not participate in the vote.

The full applications will be evaluated by the PERC Review Subcommittee which is made up of faculty content expert reviewers and two community reviewers, Tim Size and Beth Neary.
7. Decision on New Investigator Program 2015 Request for Proposals

Drinkwater presented the revisions to the draft New Investigator Program 2015 Request for Proposals. The major changes focused on the biographical sketch requirements. Biosketches must be in the new format required by the National Institutes for Health and include additional details on active grants and pending applications to help WPP staff review nonsupplanting. In addition, the abstract now specifically requires applicants to address the scope and severity of the health issue being addressed. The budget requirements regarding the Principal Investigator’s salary and fringe were clarified to specify a minimum of five percent effort to be included on the budget. Moss shared the Executive Committee’s recommendation that PERC approve the 2015 RFP as proposed. Petty seconded a motion by Nycz to accept the Executive Committee’s recommendation and approve the 2015 RFP for release on May 13. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

8. Adjournment-Closed Session: Pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1) (c), (e) and (f) to discuss personnel changes regarding Strategic renewal grant for the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin. The meeting is expected to reconvene into open session.

Remington seconded a motion by Nycz to adjourn the meeting to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1) (c), (e) and (f) to discuss personnel changes regarding the Strategic renewal grant for the “Survey of the Health of Wisconsin” (SHOW). The motion passed by unanimous vote.

After Moss reported on details regarding a transition in SHOW leadership, Remington seconded a motion by Nycz to return to open session. The motion passed by unanimous vote. Following a motion by Remington and a second by Nycz, the committee unanimously voted to affirm the following decision made in closed session: Formally accept Paul Peppard’s appointment as the Principal Investigator for SHOW, effective immediately. An appointment letter will be sent to Dr. Peppard, Associate Professor of Population Health Sciences, notifying him of PERC’s decision and requesting that he present his plans for SHOW at a future PERC meeting, including details on the development of SHOW as a shared resource.

9. Consent agenda

Subsequent to the recommendation by the reviewers, the following resolution passed by unanimous vote following a motion by Remington which was seconded by Nycz.

a. Resolution, acceptance of the following interim progress and final reports:
   1) Advancing Evidence-Based Health Policy in Wisconsin, Karen Timberlake (24 month, #2610)
   2) Bisphosphonates and Breast Cancer Prevention: Mechanistic and Clinical Analyses, Michael Gould (24 month, #2356)
   3) Dissecting cross-species transmission of influenza virus, Andrew Mehle (final, #2563)
   4) Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State, Karen Timberlake (24 month, #2551)
   5) Mechanistic insights into the role of Grainyhead proteins in neural tube closure defects, Melissa Harrison (12 month, #2826)
   6) Multiplexed in vivo device to assess optimal breast cancer therapy, Lee Wilke (12 month, #2667)
10. Discussion and decision on interim progress and final reports removed from consent agenda, if necessary

At the recommendation of the reviewers, Joshua Lang’s 24-month progress report for “Circulating Tumor Cells in Renal Cell Carcinoma: Biomarkers for Personalized Medicine” was removed from the consent agenda for further discussion by the PERC. The project is in a no cost extension period which ends July 31, 2015. Since Dr. Lang has identified a number of problems, one of the reviewers recommended that WPP staff request more details from Dr. Lang on his timeline to complete the project and his projections on outcomes, publications and future support to continue the work.

11. Adjourn – Next meeting **June 15, 5:00-7:00PM**

Moss adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Recorder, Tonya Mathison