

CSTE Executive Board Conference Call
December 11, 2009

Members on the call: Mel Kohn (OR), Perry Smith (NY), Steve Ostroff (PA), Laurene Mascola (CA), Bob Rolfs (UT), Sara Huston (NC), Michael Landen (NM) Tom Safranek (NE), Duc Vugia (CA), Pat McConnon (CSTE), LaKesha Robinson (CSTE).

Member Absent: Martha Stanbury (MI)

Agenda

Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to accept the October and November Executive Board conference call minutes. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Draft Agenda/January Board Meeting

Patrick McConnon reviewed the proposed agenda for the 2010 January Executive Board Meeting.

Action Items:

- Additional time should be added to the Committee Reports time slot.
- The Wednesday 2:00 slot should be used as a parking lot for hot topic issues that may develop during the meeting and the Workforce Development discussion.
- The Surveillance agenda item for Thursday at 2:30 will be replaced with Environmental Tracking and Bio Monitoring.

Final Board Priorities

This agenda item has been tabled and will be discussed with the Committee Reports at the 2010 January Executive Board Meeting.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

This agenda item has been tabled and will be discussed during the 2010 January Executive Board Meeting.

Annual Meeting Update

The Annual Planning Committee has a conference call scheduled for Dec. 14, to discuss the process and procedures for the abstract review. Plenary speakers are being recruited. The planning committee agreed to honor Ed Thompson during the Annual Conference.

MMWR AI/AN Mortality Investigation

Michael Landen reported that the CSTE Tribal workgroup did a quick surveillance investigation on Deaths Related to 2009 H1N1 among American Indian/Alaska Native. Twelve states participated in the investigation. The key findings were that 42 deaths

occurred among AI/AN, although AI/AN make up approximately 3% of the total population in the 12 states. When age-adjusted rates per 100,000 population were compared, the H1N1 influenza death rate in AI/AN in these states was 4 times the H1N1 influenza death rate in all other races combined. The AI/AN surveillance investigation received media attention in *The Post*, *USA Today* and *LA Times*, and it was picked up in several local markets. The article is available in the MMWR today.

CDC/State Data Sharing

CSTE has received a written reply from Stephen Thacker, the CDC Acting Director for Surveillance, acknowledging that CDC wants to work with CSTE and acknowledge the importance of data flow. However, CDC has approached Cerner and other corporations as possible alternatives for information technology solutions.

Action Item:

The Policy Committee will discuss how CSTE will respond to surveillance issues in the future.

FERPA

A subcommittee has been resurrected to tackle the FERPA issues. CSTE members to lead the FERPA subcommittee are John Middaugh (NV) and Glen Patrick (WA). The CSTE lead staff contact is Lisa Ferland.

Data Release Workgroup

Perry has approached Stephen Thacker from CDC about setting up a small Data Release Workgroup, but as of today, Stephen has not replied.

NEDSS

CSTE wrote a letter to CDC addressing the proposed 60% cut in the NEDSS funding. Stephen Thacker from CDC responded via e-mail by saying the ultimate decision is pending at the Federal level in terms of budget allocations. Perry has a follow-up call with Stephen Thacker this week and will update the Executive Board on the outcome of the discussion.