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**Meeting Minutes of:**  
**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**PERINATAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING (PAC)**

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019  
 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

<b>George W. Dunne Building</b> <b>69 West Washington, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor</b> <b>Chicago, IL</b>	<b>IDPH Offices</b> <b>535 West Jefferson, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor</b> <b>Springfield, IL</b>
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**Attendees**

Members in Attendance	Guests and IDPH
Beau Batton (Chair) Jenny Brandenburg Katherine Collins Raye-Ann de Regnier Lori Filock Janet Hoffman (Phone) Robin L. Jones Phyllis Lawlor-Klean Stephen Locher Sharon Madrigal (Phone) Molly Merriman Cindy Mitchell Nicole Niwa (Phone) Phil Schaefer Howard Strassner Traci Wolfe Yesenia Yopez Maripat Zeschke	Amanda Bennett, IDPH Alisa Corrado, IDPH Intern Abigail Holicky, IDPH Heather Kimmons, IDPH Shannon Lightner, IDPH Miranda Scott, IDPH Alexander Smith, IDPH  Daniell Ashford Peggy Cowling Andrea Cross Robyn Gude Jodi Hoskins Lance Kovacs Rich Parsons Shirley Scott Debbie Schy Elaine Shafer Christina Stupek
	Members Not In Attendance
	Bree Andrews (excused) Richard Besinger (excused) William Grobman Omar LaBlanc Mark Loafman

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## **Motions**

1. **Motion to approve minutes from June 2019.**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Howard Strassner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Raye-Ann de Regnier, Unanimous Approval.
2. **Motion to adjourn.**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Howard Strassner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maripat Zeschke, Unanimous Yes.

## **Introductions**

Beau Batton called the meeting to order about 1:00 P.M. and went around the room asking everyone introduce themselves.

## **Minutes**

The minutes from June 2019 were voted on and approved.

## **Agenda Items**

### **1. IDPH Update**

- The Illinois Department of Public Health's (IDPH) update was grant updates.
  - University of Illinois Chicago received a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration on Maternal Health Innovation. Plan to collaborate with the perinatal networks and the Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative on spending.
  - Discussed the Merk for Mothers grant to the Alliance and Everthrive to address maternal mortality in Chicago

### **2. Old Business**

- Discussed updates on the Levels of Care rules rewrite.
  - IDPH just met with a couple of the committees for some final questions and clarifications.
- Discussed legislative acts housebills: 1, 2, 3, 5, 2433, 2438, and 2895.

### **3. New Business**

- Discussed regionalized perinatal care
  - Downstate discussion on lack of OB care.

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- Need help with ideas on supporting prenatal clinics.
- Money continues to be an issue in OB closures.
  - Low volumes and paying high insurance for malpractice.
  - Low volumes are also hard to keep up trainings.
- Illinois Hospital Association (IHA) gathering data on trying to get an answer as to why there is OB closures in the southern part of the state.
- Discussed possibly having the hospitals closing to come to PAC but thought that better answers/summaries would come from IHA.
- Home Births
  - Committee discussed concerns regarding home births and lay midwives.
  - Discussed perhaps asking lay midwives to a PAC meeting to ask for input.
  - Suggested to include birthing centers in Illinois on the discussion.
    - Question: With the new rule for IDPH to create maternal levels of care does that include and regulate birthing centers? Answer: The language is very vague on how/what to create.
  - IHA says that there is a task force currently convening on this topic.

#### **4. Committee Updates**

- Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC)
  - Completed case reviews for 2016 and began 2017. Goal is to review cases within 2 years of death.
  - 28 cases to review for case year 2017, 7 of the cases have already been reviewed.
  - The committee plans to cancel their December meeting and extend the time of their February meeting. Committee leadership cannot attend the December meeting for a CDC Maternal Mortality Conference.
  - Discussion on the joint meeting to vote on recommendations for the maternal mortality review annual report.
    - Had 45 members across both MMR committees.
    - Leading causes were: aggravation of pre-existing condition, cardio myopathy, pulmonary embolism, and mental health issues.
    - Started with 200 recommendations and narrowed them down.
    - Kept the same buckets/categories as last year, but also add Community Based Organizations.
    - More specific this time with substance abuse issues.
    - Discussed the power of repeating recommendations
    - Will vote on the recommendations at the next meeting.
- Maternal Mortality Review Committee-Violent Deaths (MMRC-V)
  - Maripat Zeschke, the chair of the MMRC-V, stated they had met twice since last PAC meeting.
  - The group is seeing an increase in deaths in the 2017 case year.
  - The group plans to start meeting once every other month.

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- Statewide Quality Council (SQC)
  - Stephen Locher, the chair of the SQC, discussed the Severe Maternal Morbidity (SMM) Committee's meeting.
    - The group is seeking an educator for SMM.
    - Discussed creating a checklist to help staff abstract with the form. The group is trying to find a balance between asking too much of the abstractors, but also getting the full details.
  - SQC discussed the CoIIN-Risk Appropriate Care work.
    - Federal goal is that 90% of births should be done at the appropriate level of care.
  - The Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative gave an update on their projects and upcoming annual conference in November.
- Hospital Facilities Designation (HFDSC)
  - Discussed their work plan.
    - Discussed Touchette and their drop to level I. Continue to have them reviewed every 6 months as there is a lot of walk in's to the hospital.
    - Discussion on hospital closures.

### **6. Public Comment**

- Request from the public to have IDPH hold a vaccine safety meeting.
- Request that the committee review the departments failure to fulfill obligations of vaccine safety.
- Public Commenter noted that there has been no discussion of forced vaccines in the maternal mortality report and requested that IDPH be advocates for vaccine safety.
- Public Commenter had concerns that the PAC would make policies, or promote them, that would force families to turn to home births.

### **6. Next Steps**

- Plan to have a meeting sometime prior than that to vote on maternal mortality recommendations.
- Next Meeting is December 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **Adjournment**

Howard Strassner motioned to adjourn and seconded by Maripat Zeschke and passed with unanimous approval.