

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
151 CAPITOL STREET, AUGUSTA, MAINE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2013

The meeting of the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) Board of Directors began at 9:05 a.m. with the following Board members present: Katherine Pelletreau (Chair), Anne Head (Vice-Chair), Poppy Arford, Mike DeLorenzo, Maryagnes Gillman, Peter Gore, Lisa Harvey-McPherson, Anita Knopp, and Dave Winslow. Absent members were: Andy Ellis, Tom Hopkins, Neil Korsen and Jim Leonard. Also in attendance were Karynlee Harrington, Acting Executive Director and Deanna White, Agency Assistant Attorney General.

Chair Report

Vote to approve Board minutes - A motion was made and seconded to accept the October 3, 2013 MHDO Board minutes as written. Motion carried.

Update on PHI Proposal - The Chair informed the Board that the draft legislation, which has support from the Administration, is currently in the Revisor's Office and will need a sponsor. She also mentioned three essential talking points: 1. the proposed legislation pertains only to claims data that the MHDO currently collects; 2. it is more stringent than HIPAA; and 3. other organizations are already releasing PHI ie: SIM with MaineCare data and CMS with Medicare data. There was some discussion regarding the encryption process and Karynlee confirmed that the payers are required to encrypt the entire file and not just specific fields as done in the past. She also confirmed that the hashing process has been eliminated. It was decided that talking points summarizing the provisions of the PHI proposal would be helpful.

A draft 2014 Board Meeting Schedule was distributed and it was stated that the January 2nd and July 3rd meetings will be rescheduled.

Katherine Pelletreau announced that she is stepping down from the Chair position. She will remain on the Board and would like to continue to lead the governance work. She welcomed offers for a new chair, which will be voted on at the January 2014 Board meeting.

Acting Executive Director Report

Compliance Report - There are no outstanding compliance issues to report.

Project Management Report

General Agency Operations - Karynlee Harrington reviewed the status of the critical projects defined by the Board. Refer to MHDO Key Project Status handout.

Status of access to Medicare data - Documents have been submitted to CMS to receive CY 2012 and the first two quarters of CY 2013 data by the end of December; and then quarterly thereafter with a 5-6 month lag.

Transformation/Grant Activity - Karynlee provided a revised, more detailed project status report, which she reviewed with the Board. Refer to MHDO Transformation and Transparency Grant handout. The Board was provided with a handout listing the 200+ procedures proposed to be included on the MHDO HealthCost website for the initial phase of the project-January 2014. Work is underway to determine the feasibility of including the listed procedures.

There was a discussion on providing notification to a large group of payers licensed by the Bureau of Insurance of their requirement to register with the MHDO, even if they do not meet the threshold for data submissions. A suggestion was made to revise Chapter 243: Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Claims Data Sets to eliminate this requirement. Karynlee will research the rule and MHDO statute and report to the Board at the December meeting with a recommendation as to how to proceed.

Karynlee stated that, with support from the Executive Committee, she contacted Maine Quality Counts (she also reminded the board that she is on the board of directors for the organization) about leveraging the consumer advisory group that the organization has convened. The Board was provided with the current charge of the advisory group and a list of existing members. The details need to be worked through. A discussion ensued with regard to the group being an advisory group not a decision-making group. Board member Arford who is a member of the consumer advisory group raised some concerns regarding the current charge of the advisory group; the recent changes in the staffing and the frequency of meetings. Karynlee will work through the concerns raised with the Executive Director of Quality Counts and report back to the Board.

Vote to adopt Chapter 241: Uniform Reporting System for Hospital Inpatient and Outpatient Data Sets –Karynlee reported that there were no comments received regarding the proposed changes. She reminded the board of the process that the Agency initiated with the MHA and the hospitals in advance of the drafting the final proposed rule. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed rule. The motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Commission to Study Transparency - Karynlee reminded the Board that the MHDO was invited to participate in all of the panel discussions that the Commission held. There will be a final meeting later in November to review the Commission's final report. She provided a high-level overview of the meetings, many of which MHDO Board members attended. Discussions surrounded the core competencies of the Maine Health Data Organization, HealthInfo Net, and the Maine Health Management, and the Commission was very interested in collaboration between the three agencies. The Commission plans to change the statute to include in the MHDO's annual report a section for a report out on the status of stakeholder collaboration with HIN and MHMC.

SIM and the Data Infrastructure Subcommittee - Karynlee gave the Board an overview of two meetings she attended and provided the following handouts from those meetings: Maine State Innovation Model (SIM) Initiative and SIM- Data Infrastructure Subcommittee. SIM will be a standing item on future agendas.

Overview of Data Requests – Karynlee reviewed with the Board a handout showing MHDO data sets, pricing for each set of data and the data request process. This is baseline information that will help inform the movement from the current fee per data file structure to a subscription model. She stated that the goal is not to charge more in aggregate but rather to improve the value proposition and increase the number of data users. She also disseminated handouts showing the recurring data requestors and the ad hoc requests that the MHDO receives. As part of the modeling process the Agency will need to determine the right price point for the subscription model in addition revise the pricing structure for ad hoc requests/reports. All of this will be part of a proposal that will be presented to the Board for their consideration next year.

MQF Advisory Council Update

No report was given.

Public Comment

No public comment provided.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.