

EHEALTH COUNCIL

Nebraska Information Technology Commission
August 6, 2007, 1:30 p.m.
Governor's Residence-Lower Level Meeting Room
1425 H Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dennis Berens, HHSS, Office of Rural Health
Dr. Harris A. Frankel (alternate)
Dr. Kimberly Galt, Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions
Steve Grandfield, Blue Cross Blue Shield
Daniel Griess, Box Butte General Hospital, Alliance
Donna Hammack, Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network and St. Elizabeth Foundation
Steve Henderson, Office of the CIO
Alice Henneman, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County
Ron Hoffman, Jr., Mutual of Omaha
C.J. Johnson, Southeast Nebraska Behavioral Health Information Network and Region V Systems
Jim Krieger, Gallup
Harold Krueger, Western Nebraska Health Information Exchange and Chadron Community Hospital
David Lawton, HHSS, Public Health Assurance
Dr. Keith Mueller, UNMC College of Public Health
Mary Steiner, HHSS Finance and Support, Medicaid
September Stone, Nebraska Health Care Association
Dr. Delane Wycoff, Pathology Services, PC
Henry Zach, HDC 4Point Dynamics

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joni Cover, Nebraska Pharmacists Association
Jeff Kuhr, Three Rivers Public Health Department, Fremont
Ken Lawonn, NeHII and Alegent Health
Senator Mick Mines, Nebraska Legislature
Kay Oestmann, Southeast District Health Department
Rita Parris, Public Health Association of Nebraska, alternate
John Roberts, Nebraska Rural Health Association
Nancy Shank, Public Policy Center
Shirleen Smith, West Central District Health Department, North Platte, alternate
Marie Woodhead (Congressman Jeff Fortenberry, representative)

ROLL CALL, NOTICE OF POSTING OF AGENDA, NOTICE OF NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT POSTING

Dr. Kimberly Galt, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Roll call was taken. There were 18 members present. A quorum existed to conduct official business. Dr. Galt stated that the meeting announcement was posted on the NITC Web site and on the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on June 7, 2007 and that the agenda was posted on the NITC Web site on August 1, 2007. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was located on the meeting table.

APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES

Steve Henderson moved to approve the [May 21, 2007 minutes](#) as presented. Mr. Berens seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

UPDATE ON OPERATIONAL PLAN DEVELOPMENT FOR THE EHEALTH COUNCIL

Kimberly Galt

The co-chairs met with Lieutenant Governor Sheehy and the Office of the CIO staff to discuss an operational plan for the council. Future meetings will focus on gathering information to assist in moving forward systematically.

- The state needs both a systematic plan and an opportunistic approach to electronic health care advancement.
- The plans and opportunities will require both facilitation and / or action to achieve the primary mission of the council.
- In this early stage of infrastructure formation and development, there are important roles for the e-Health Council:
 - Monitor for important opportunities and determine actions needed. The actions are likely to be practice/implementation, education, or research oriented.
 - Catalog and describe the best practices that emerge and the contexts that they emerge from for the interests of all.
 - Educate consumers, health care professionals, and key government persons and groups about both the systematic plans and opportunities available.
 - Development of workgroups, networks and advisors based upon need.

Recommended Action

• Work of the Nebraska Health Information Security and Privacy Committee (HISPC) has resulted in a set of recommendations that need to move to action. This set of recommendations comes in the form of the HISPC Final Report and the action items summarized in a document distributed by Denny Berens at the June 2007 e-Health Council meeting. The HISPC is an ad hoc group appointed by the Lieutenant Governor to study and implement solutions to security and privacy issues in the state of Nebraska related to health information exchange. This set of recommendations will require ongoing support. We propose to the e-Health Council:

1. The present HISPC be appointed as a workgroup within the e-Health Council.
2. The recommendations be approved for action as a part of the e-Health Council's work.

Guests were encouraged to give their contact information to the Office of the CIO if they were interested in being informed on council's progress.

EHEALTH COUNCIL AND NITC OVERVIEW

Anne Byers, Community I.T. Manager

Council members were provided a historical and informational overview of the NITC and the establishment of the eHealth Council. The current Statewide Technology Plan was distributed to members. The NITC relies on the advisory councils to develop recommendations and action plans to support the NITC strategic initiatives. The eHealth Council will be asked to develop recommendations and action plans regarding eHealth when the NITC begins the process of updating the Statewide Technology Plan early next year.

NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION EHEALTH SURVEY

Ms. Byers asked members to look over draft responses to an eHealth Survey being conducted for the National Governors Association. Its purpose is (1) to identify what states are doing now in eHealth; (2) to highlight the best practices, important activities, and accomplishments of states; (3) to identify the

challenges and issues states have faced in pursuit of these activities; and (4) to ask about current directions and goals for the future. Several members have provided assistance in completing the survey.

The yellow highlighted sections of the report indicate where data is still being collecting. Lieutenant Governor Sheehy will review the survey responses before the completed survey is submitted. Dr. Galt encouraged members to complete the survey and to include additional comments regarding the survey. Mr. Berens asked members to pay attention to the definitions.

E-NARSIS PRE-HOSPITAL DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM

(Nebraska Ambulance Rescue Service Information System)

Doug Fuller, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Emergency Medical Services Program

Purpose of e-NARSIS is to provide an accurate, complete, timely and legible medical record that would include:

- Preservation of Patient Information
- Tracks the history of the incident and care provided
- Justification of why you did what you did
- Continuity of Care - From one link to the next
- Legal Record
- Billing, QA, Trending

EXPECTED OUTCOME – Transition from paper reporting to electronic reporting.

- Approx 440 potential reporters to NARSIS
- E-NARSIS started 1/1/2005
- Import from third party software
- More timely reporting - proposed change in regulations

Actual:

- Trained 290
- Using 190
- Trained and Not Using 100
- To be trained 150

EXPECTED OUTCOME – Establish a Data Dictionary

Actual: Updated EMS Statute, Rules and Regulation, and adopted NEMSIS.

- 450 defined NHTSA elements
- 75 required by NHTSA
- 32 already established in Nebraska
- Working with EMS Board to adopt more

Challenges include:

- Accurate, complete and timely documentation
- Public Health vs. Public Safety
- Number of Services trained and not using
- Funding

Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and/or make comments.

STATEWIDE TRAUMA DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM/NATIONAL TRAUMA REGISTRY AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM

Lei Zhang, Department of Health and Human Services

The purpose of NTBS is to gather trauma information more timely and accurately to improve performance of state trauma system and reduce morbidity and mortality.

- Evaluate overall program effectiveness;

- Be a source of information for injury prevention programs;
- Be a source of information for epidemiological programs.

Actual Outcomes include:

- Completeness: region 2 all regions
- Timeliness of submission: monthly near “ real time”
- Integration: prehospital, acute care, burn and rehab hospitals.
- Accessibility: hospital, region and state

Challenges include:

- Adoption of ENARSIS
- Adoption of NTBS
- Timeliness of data entry
- Integration with NTRACS

Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and/or make comments.

NEBRASKA STATEWIDE TELEHEALTH NETWORK

Donna Hammack, St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation

The vision of the Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network is to create a statewide secure communications network, which links all eligible users and is capable of supporting real time video conferencing and communications, data transmission, and telehealth services. It connects Nebraska hospitals, public health departments and health care services necessary to fulfill health care mission. Transmission funding comes from a variety of sources including the Universal Services Administrative Company (USAC), Nebraska Public Services Commission and rural hospitals. Challenges include:

- Regulatory & market policies
- Adoption of technology
- Reimbursement gaps

Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and/or make comments.

HISPC FINAL REPORT & HISPC CONTINUATION AS AN EHEALTH COUNCIL WORK GROUP

Dennis Berens and Kimberly Galt

Council members were sent a copy of the HISPC Final Report. Several of the committee’s recommendations mention the NITC’s eHealth Council. Discussion occurred regarding the creation of an eHealth Council HISPC Work Group. Members agreed that issues pertaining health information security and privacy still need to be addressed.

Mr. Berens moved the eHealth Council accept the HISPC report and to establish a HISPC Continuation Work Group. Mr. Krieger seconded and offered a friendly amendment that current HISPC members be asked if they would be interested in serving on the work group, as well as to involve consumers. Mr. Berens accepted the friendly amendment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Due to the time factor, the following presenters offered to provide their information at the next eHealth Council meeting so that Dr. Frankel could provide his presentation.

[Western Nebraska Health Information Exchange](#)--Daniel Griess and Harold Krueger
[Southeast Nebraska Behavioral Health Information Network \(SNBHIN\)](#)--C. J. Johnson

NEBRASKA HEALTH INFORMATION INITIATIVE (NEHII)

Dr. Harris Frankel, M.D.

NEHII’s mission is to provide Nebraska a system for the secure exchange and use of health information. The goals of NEHII include:

- Sharing timely and accurate patient healthcare information in a secure environment to improve patient care.
- A seamless electronic system by which patients give physicians or other providers access to their health information.

Principles of the NEHII effort:

- Economically self sustaining
- Inclusive of those with less resources
- Incremental implementation with early victories
- Support quality improvement
- Ensure interoperability
- Statewide approach
- Patient/consumer-centric
- Collaboration and consensus
- Open and transparent
- Neutrality
- Shared resources, shared burden, shared planning
- Investments should reflect benefit flow

A pilot project in the Omaha area is being planned.

Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and/or make comments.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

Council members were reminded that presentations and meeting materials are posted on the NITC eHealth Council Web site.

Ms. Byers will check on council members' availability for an October meeting.

With no further business, Dr. Galt adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Anne Byers, Office of the CIO/NITC, and the eHealth co-chairs.