

EHEALTH COUNCIL
August 14, 2009 1:30–4:00 p.m. (CT)
Technology Park Auditorium
4701 Innovation Drive, Lincoln, Nebraska
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dennis Berens, Dept. of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health
Dan Griess, Box Butte General Hospital
Donna Hammack, St. Elizabeth Foundation
Steve Henderson, Office of the Chief Information Officer
Alice Henneman, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension
C.J. Johnson, Alt. for Wende Baker
Jeff Kuhr, Three Rivers Public Health Department
Ken Lawonn, NeHII and Alegent Health
David Lawton, Dept. of Health and Human Services, Public Health Assurance
Jennifer Roberts Johnson, Alt. for Vivian Chaumont
Nancy Shank, Public Policy Center
September Stone, Nebraska Health Care Association
Dr. Delane Wycoff, Pathology Services, P.C.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Susan Courtney, Joni Cover, Senator Annette Dubas, Marie Woodhead, Kimberly Galt, Ron Hoffman, Harold Krueger, Keith Mueller, Kay Oestmann, and John Roberts

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

Co-Chair, Dan Greiss called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. There were 13 members at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business. It was stated that the meeting notice posted to the NITC and Public Meeting Website on August 4, 2009 and the agenda was posted August 6, 2009.

APPROVAL OF MAY 29, 2009 MINUTES

Ms. Stone moved to approve the [May 29, 2009 minutes](#) as presented. Mr. Berens seconded. Roll call vote: Berens-Yes, Griess-Yes, Hammack-Yes, Henderson-Yes, Henneman-Yes, Johnson-Abstain, Kuhr-Abstain, Lawonn-Abstain, Lawton-Yes, Roberts Johnson-Abstain, Shank-Yes, Stone-Yes, and Wycoff-Yes. Results: Yes-8, No-0, Abstain-4. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

UPDATES AND REPORTS - HIE GROUPS

Western Nebraska Health Information Exchange (WNHIE), Nancy Shank. Negotiations are underway with a vendor. The first vendor did not meet the RFP requirements and needs of the project.

Nebraska Health Information Initiative (NeHII), Ken Lawonn. The board held elections in July. Mary Lanning Hospital in Hastings has signed on to participate in NeHII. The State of Nebraska is being looked at as a national model and has been receiving national attention.

Southeast Nebraska Behavioral Health Information Network (SNBHIN), C. J. Johnson. An RFP was issued. Vendor presentations are occurring to narrow down the selection. They will be doing presentations on the behavioral health component.

There were no other reports.

UPDATES AND REPORTS - HISPC

David Lawton reported that HISPC III, a 10 state collaborative effort, was completed on July 31st. The program had been extended. The extension required that develop consumer and provider educational materials. A [Brochure](#) and a [Website](#) have been developed. Council members received these documents electronically prior to the meeting. A review of state laws in relation to genetic testing has been conducted.

Ms. Byers will be in contact with the council members regarding the number of printed copies that will be available. Council members were impressed with the brochure and website.

UPDATES AND REPORTS - TELEHEALTH MEETING

On July 21st, a delegation of Telehealth Committee representatives met with eHealth Council representatives. Some of the issues discussed included reimbursement and the Universal Service Fund. Ray Golden from AET Medical and Dr. Lusk from Boys Town representative were also in attendance. Boys Town wants to use telehealth to do adjustment for cochlear implants, but is having problems with reimbursement from Medicare. Joyce Beck invited Dr. Lusk to do a demo when Medicare representatives visit Thayer County Health Services.

UPDATES AND REPORTS - PUBLIC HEALTH WORK GROUP

Jeff Kuhr gave an update on the Public Health Work Group. A written report was distributed to council members. The Work Group explored and reviewed what was currently available and then began to develop a staged approach strategy between public health and electronic medical record systems based on maturity of the public health system, immediate benefit to physical provide practice and the federal priorities related to meaningful use and types of exchange.

Stage one includes the Nebraska Immunization Registry, Reportable Diseases and Syndromic Surveillance.

Stage two includes the Birth Registry, Death Registry, Cancer Registry, Trauma Registry, Nebraska Ambulance Rescue Service Information System, and Smaller disease specific registries: Parkinson's; Head, Brain and Spinal Injury Registry; Human Immunodeficiency Virus Registry. The second phase would include the various other well-established public health registries that are mature and are capable or potentially capable of receiving information electronically for example hospitals. This group of registries target specific types of providers or specific populations. They are less likely to be applicable to the majority of ambulatory care physical providers.

The third stage would be the development of a chronic disease registry through the collaboration of public and provide health care entities. The registry will provide information critical to community chronic diseases prevention initiatives focused.

UPDATES (IF ANY) FROM THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR

There was no report.

EHEALTH PLAN

Anne Byers, I.T. Community Manager

Ms. Byers commended the Work Group for all the work it has accomplished in such a short timeframe. Phase I of the plan is a great starting point that covers the mission and goals. If approved by the Council today, it will be posted for public comment. After which time, it will go to the NITC for final approval. The term "patient" versus "consumer" was discussed. Council members were asked to send their input and recommendation to Ms. Byers.

Since there are a lot of issues to discuss and address, some member felt the word "Draft" should remain on the document. Rather than keeping "Draft" on the document, Ms. Byers suggested including wording such as Version 2, Version 2, etc. It was recommended that a comment be included about this document being a living document, and to include a chart of the historical changes since it is inception or possibly use updated dates. After discussion, the group agreed to the following:

- To include wording in the Executive Summary that the plan is a living document, as well as in first inside page, and
- To include a historical update of the changes

State Designated Entity. Ms. Byers stated that Governor Heineman announced his intent for NeHII to be the state designate entity. If the state were to receive funding, NeHII would be the grantee. Henderson stated that that a Memorandum of Understanding between the parties regarding responsibilities will need to be developed.

Some council members had concerns regarding the designation of NeHII as the state's designated entity. Ms. Shank stated that the Work Group met with the Lt. Governor. After this meeting, the members felt that their issues were heard.

Mr. Lawonn moved to approve the [eHealth Plan](#) with the recommended changes. Dr. Wycoff seconded. Roll call vote: Berens-Yes, Griess-Yes, Hammack-Yes, Henderson-Yes, Henneman-Yes, Johnson- Yes, Kuhr-Yes, Lawonn-Yes, Lawton-Yes, Roberts Johnson-Yes, Shank-Yes, Stone-Yes, and Wycoff-Yes. Results: Yes-13, No-0, Abstain-4. Motion carried.

The Work Group will be meeting on Wednesday to finalize the wording.

Next Steps: Developing Phase II of the Plan and Application for Funding
Nancy Shanks, Public Policy Center

The Office of the National Coordinator has not release the federal road map regarding what components or requirements need to be included in the state eHealth plan. The guidelines should be out this summer. The Work Group has decided to forge forward in hopes the State of Nebraska's eHealth Plan meets federal guidelines.

The Work Group is focusing on:

- Prioritization of Goals
- Eligibility requirements for end recipients of state health IT funds
- Timeline
- Application form
- Review process

These are very broad guidelines per the stimulus monies information received so far. The work group conducted a group activity where each member got to spend \$100 on what they would like prioritize and

focus. To assist with the development of state's eHealth plan and to get council members input, the Work Group would the whole Council to do this activity. An e-mail will be sent to Council members asking them to prioritize goals.

The Work Group has been meeting weekly. If council members are interested in learning more about what the Work Group has done, the minutes from the [August 6](#) and [July 31](#) meetings were included in the meeting materials.

MEMBERSHIP

The Council has several vacant positions. Jim Krieger from Gallup has resigned. Kimberly Galt has resigned as co-chair but still wants to be on the Council. Members were asked to send Ms. Byers names of interested persons.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. Griess adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

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