

eHEALTH COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m. CT
Nebraska Hospital Association, Board Room
and Via Videoconferencing
3255 Salt Creek Circle
Lincoln, NE 68504
MINUTES

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

Mr. Fattig called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. There were eleven voting members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business. Meeting notices were posted on the State of Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar and NITC websites on March 26, 2021. The meeting agenda was posted on April 27, 2021. A copy of the Nebraska public meeting law was available on the table.

Members Present: Kevin Borchert, Gary Cochran, Kathy Cook, Marty Fattig, Cindy Kadavy, Jan Evans, Dave Palm, Ashley Newmyer, Todd Searls, Brian Sterud, Alison Wisco, and Francie McNeil (joined late).

Members Absent: Dr. Jim McClay, Jina Ragland, Anna Turman. and Linda Wittmuss.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 6, 2020 MINUTES*

There were no corrections to the minutes. Dave Palm moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Gary Cochran seconded.

Roll call vote: Borchert-Yes; Cochran-Yes; Cook-Yes; Fattig-Yes; Kadavy-Yes; Evans-Yes; Newmyer-Yes; Palm-Yes; Searls-Yes; Sterud-Yes; and Wisco-Yes. Results: Yes-11, No-0, and Abstained-0. Motion carried.

NOMINATION OF NEW MEMBER

Paul Hakenkamp was nominated by Jaime Bland to represent Cynchealth.

Todd Searls moved to approve Paul Hakenkamp's nomination. Dave Palm seconded.

Roll call vote: Borchert-Yes; Cochran-Yes; Cook-Yes; Fattig-Yes; Kadavy-Yes; Evans-Yes; Newmyer-Yes; Palm-Yes; Searls-Yes; Sterud-Yes; and Wisco-Yes. Results: Yes-11, No-0, and Abstained-0. Motion carried.

USE OF HEALTH IT AND DATA FOR COVID RESPONSE

Ashley Newmyer started the presentation and was later joined by Lori Snyder who is the new CIO for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

In order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services needed information on inpatient admissions, ICU patients, ventilator counts, hospital capacity and PPE needs. The Department partnered with CynHealth for information for the scorecard and dashboard.

The Department integrated lab reports with the contact tracing tool. In November 2020, the Department worked with Salesforce to create a more robust contact tracing tool which is available to local health departments. Possible future use cases include lead poisoning, STDs, and tuberculosis.

In January, 2021, contact tracers began sending pre-contact tracing texts prior to calling contacts. The text increased the number of people answering calls. In March/April of this year, contact tracers also send out a link to a survey. The response to the survey has been good.

The Department also developed a Vaccine Registration and Administration System (VRAS) to sign up and schedule appointments. In the future the system could be used for booster shots or other vaccines.

Vaccines administered by public health departments and pharmacies are reported to the immunization registry. The Veterans Administration, Department of Defense and Indian Health Services do not report to the state immunization registry. They report to the CDC. States get aggregate information on vaccines administered from the CDC.

CYNCEALTH UPDATE

Paul Hakenkamp gave an update on CyncHealth. Jaime Bland also joined the discussion. CyncHealth is an HIE with services and expertise in:

- Interoperability, Infrastructure and Integration (HIE, PMP/PDMP, Social/Community, FHIR APIs, Data Standards)
- Insights and Intelligence (Value-Based Care, Population Health Solutions, Data Aggregation)
- Government Products (QCDR, Measurement Development, QE, QPP Reporting, Public Health Support including ELR/SS, Immunization, Contact Tracing, Case Reporting)
- Advisory and Technical Assistance (Consulting Services, Interoperability, Master Data Management)

CyncHealth's Products, Service and Assistance include:

- Interoperability Infrastructure: USCDI/ HL7
- Image Exchange
- Vendor Agnostic Approach
 - Preferred Applications
- Community Data
- Data Standards
 - Measure Development
 - Disparate, Bifurcation Rapidly Growing
- Rural Health Approach
 - Applications at scale
- Reporting
 - Qualified Entity
 - Qualified Clinical Data Registry
 - Qualified Registry
 - Public Health Infrastructure
- APIs-Workflow Integration
- Health Data Utility
- Interoperability
- Insights, Integration, Infrastructure
- Value Based Care
- Applications at Scale
- FHIR API Development
- Neutral Convener

Paul Hakenkamp also discussed legislation. LB 411 would require an ambulatory surgical center, a critical access hospital, a general acute hospital, a health clinic, a hospital, an intermediate care facility, a long-term care hospital, a mental health substance use treatment center, a PACE center, a pharmacy, a

psychiatric or mental hospital, a public health clinic a rehabilitation hospital, a diagnostic, laboratory, or imaging center to participate in the state's designated health information exchange. This does not apply to a state-owned or state-operated facility or an assisted-living facility, a nursing facility, or a skilled nursing facility. Additionally, on or before January 1, 2022, each health insurance plan would be required to participate in the designated health information exchange through sharing of information. As of May 11, 2021, LB 411 is on final reading.

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT COVID-19 RESPONSE

Kathy Cook shared information on how the Lancaster County Health Department responded to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Lancaster County Health Department hired nurses as contact tracers. In May of last year, a dashboard was created. In June, the Department developed a risk dial. Lancaster County Health Department fine tuned processes to reduce the time to check in people for vaccinations at mass vaccination sites. On average, the vaccination process took 30 minutes from car to car. Setting up Wi-Fi at each vaccination site was critical. Approximately 24,000 vaccinations were administered during the peak period of the vaccination effort.

BROADBAND AND TELEHEALTH

Carey Potter shared information on how Healthy Blue/Heritage Health is working to increase access to broadband and telehealth services for members. Healthy Blue was purchased by Anthem. A survey of members showed that many are hesitant to engage in telehealth and that many cannot afford broadband or do not have broadband available. Anthem had a 400% increase in telehealth during the pandemic. Anthem is entering into a partnership with Verizon. Anthem is also partnering with 4-H. Anthem is putting in welcome rooms with digital resources in Scottsbluff, Kearney, Norfolk, South Omaha and Lincoln.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.