

Minutes of the Health Information and Analysis Oversight Council

December 6, 2018

Council members present: Ms. Fay Donohue, Vice Chair; Ms. Laura Adams; Ms. Rebecca Butler, designee of Commissioner Gary Anderson, Division of Insurance; Ms. Alicia B. Curran; Mr. Eric Gold, Office of the Attorney General; Ms. Emily Jue, designee of Secretary Michael Heffernan, Executive Office for Administration and Finance; Ms. Lauren Peters, designee of Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; Dr. Meredith Rosenthal; and Executive Director David Seltz, Health Policy Commission.

Noting the presence of a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:36 a.m.

I. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES [VOTE]

Ms. Donohue noted that she would be serving as chair, and welcomed Ms. Emily Jue and Ms. Rebecca Butler who would be representing the Division of Insurance and the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, respectively. Executive Director Seltz made a motion to approve the minutes, which Ms. Peters seconded. The Council unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

II. FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Executive Director Campbell summarized for the Council the discussion at the most recent Administration and Finance (ANF) Committee meeting. He noted that the Fiscal Year 2019 budget was consistent with projections. The Council briefly discussed the cadence of the ANF meetings and what role the Committee should play in CHIA's budget process. The Council additionally discussed the state budget process as well CHIA's long-term budget plan. It was determined that greater discussion on future ANF Committee meetings could occur at a later date.

III. CHIA'S DATA RELEASE POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Mr. Campbell walked the Council through CHIA's data release process. The Council sought to review what CHIA should charge for access to its Case Mix and APCD data assets, as well as what CHIA's overarching goal is related to data release procedures. A discussion ensued on what CHIA charges for each asset and who the charges apply to. It was explained that researchers applying for data typically pay less than commercial customers. Despite these fees, however, CHIA's overall budget does not rely on data sales as the agency essentially charges applicants of the data what it costs to produce. Various Council members noted that CHIA's fee structure is on par with other state APCDs available for sale. The Council discussed the possible merits and risks of loosening data release procedures. The Council reviewed possible ideas for future development, including posting CHIA data online in a cloud-like system for view or download. The benefits and risk of such a plan were briefly debated. The Council members then proceeded to review the implications of losing access to self-insured claims data.

Before proceeding to the Executive Director's Report, Ms. Donohue summarized key points of the prior discussion. She outlined that there is a continued desire to get CHIA's data assets out to stakeholders, the need to manage the risks and carefully steward the data sets, properly manage the fee structure, increase collection of self-insured data, understand the new platform from the APCD procurement as it emerges, and the ability to make changes as necessary.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Campbell then moved to provide updates to the Oversight Council on recent CHIA developments. He was asked to remind the Council on the APCD's role within CHIA's work and how important it is compared to the other data assets. Mr. Campbell explained the APCD's important role in CHIA's work as well as its strategic importance, but also noted that the agency Annual Report does not utilize APCD data. Executive Director Seltz noted that the Health Policy Commission's work heavily relies on the APCD.

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Mr. Campbell explained to the Council that CHIA was in the process of completing its APCD procurement. He also discussed the launch of CHIA's Data Challenge using publicly released transparency data, which encourages people to submit ideas for the data to receive a prize. Mr. Campbell concluded his Executive Director's Report by asking Executive Director Seltz to walk the Council through key themes of the 2018 Cost Trends Hearing.

VI. CLOSING

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.