

# Minutes of the Health Information and Analysis Oversight Council

## June 26, 2019

**Council members present:** Ms. Fay Donohue, Vice Chair; Mr. Rob Birmingham; Mr. Bill Geary; Mr. Eric Gold, Office of the Attorney General; Mr. Bryan Klepacki, designee of Secretary Michael Heffernan, Executive Office for Administration and Finance; Undersecretary 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; Mr. Matthew Veno, designee of Commissioner Gary Anderson, Division of Insurance.

Noting the presence of a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

### **I. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES [VOTE]**

Ms. Donohue, chairing the meeting, called for the approval of the previous meeting's minutes. Mr. Matt Veno made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, which Undersecretary Peters seconded; the minutes were unanimously approved.

Ms. Donohue welcomed the new members of the Council, Mr. Klepacki, serving as the designee for Secretary Heffernan of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, as well as Mr. Birmingham of the Office of the State Auditor.

### **II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Campbell noted that the FY 2020 budget is still being reconciled between the Senate and the House but that he expects CHIA to be level funded. He explained that his primary budgetary objectives are the proper stewardship of CHIA's data assets as well as the successful completion of the APCD enhancement project.

Mr. Campbell walked the Council through health care developments in Massachusetts and at the federal level. He noted that Governor Baker is expected to release health care legislation sometime this session. A federal executive order was also issued on improving health care price and quality transparency. A brief discussion ensued on the impact of this directive. The Council asked to be kept informed of any notable developments or of any specific legislative language that is released.

The Council asked for an update on the CompareCare website. Mr. Campbell provided a brief update and noted that CHIA is determining if pharmacy spending data may be introduced to the site, and how best to include prescription drug use and spending data in CHIA's larger transparency efforts. The Council discussed who has access to the data, and it was suggested that efforts be made to share the data with external organizations.

### **III. APCD ENHANCEMENT UPDATE**

Mr. Campbell then introduced Deb Schiel, Deputy Executive Director of Analytics, to provide the Council with an update on the APCD enhancement project. Ms. Schiel explained to the Council the background of the APCD, why the enhancements are needed, details on the chosen vendor, as well as the selection process.

Questions were asked regarding the vendor package, and whether this was a custom-designed product for CHIA from Truven. Ms. Schiel explained that CHIA is using an already established Truven product, which should shorten the timeframe of the project. Upon learning that the Truven product is not cloud based, the Council discussed any associated risks with that approach. Concerns were expressed on the risks to our data and the product if the vendor's business failed. Ms. Schiel explained that the project contract ensures that CHIA's data remains in the agency's possession and that CHIA will receive a regular package of the data including the enhancements.

Ms. Schiel walked the Council through the various workgroups that are working with the vendor, as well as the other state agencies that are involved in the discussions. The Council members discussed whether

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CHIA was using any formal metrics to measure success of the project. CHIA walked through its main goals, including completing the project on time and with proper staff training, as well as increased utilization of the data asset, and reduced lead time and additional data cleaning for sister agencies looking to use the APCD.

The Council members also asked whether CHIA would continue to collect and store data as they are now after the completion of the project. Ms. Schiel stated that CHIA would continue to store the data at its current data center and receive data directly from the payers.

### **IV. CHIA'S PRIVACY AND SECURITY PROGRAM**

Mr. Campbell proceeded to introduce Scott Curley, Privacy and Compliance Manager, and Bill Bailey, Privacy Officer, to walk the Council through CHIA's privacy and security policies around data release.

Mr. Bailey began the presentation, and opened with noting that CHIA is exempt from HIPAA requirements. Mr. Bailey explained to the Council CHIA's formal privacy and security policies, then outlined CHIA's data use agreement to which data applicants must adhere. Mr. Curley proceeded to explain CHIA's data audit process and highlighted results.

Council members asked for clarification on the data application process, and requested to see the full life cycle of a data application, including who applied for data and when, reasons for approval/disapproval, and how long it took to receive the requested data if an application was accepted.

Council members also sought to understand whether CHIA's data includes protected health information (PHI), which Mr. Bailey answered in the affirmative. A discussion ensued on what actions CHIA takes to protect PHI and what methods Legal uses to ensure compliance with the data use agreement. Mr. Curley noted that non-state agency applicants do not receive PHI, but rather a specially created limited data set.

### **V. CLOSING**

Before adjourning the meeting, Ms. Donohue summarized key items to be discussed further, including continued updates on the APCD enhancement process, more information on data privacy and security, the APCD data application process and log, as well as state and federal health care efforts.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.