

TEXAS HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

Capitol Extension Building, Room E1.010
Austin, Texas 78701

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2010
10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Edward Marx (Chair), Alesha Adamson (Secretary), Raymond Davis, David Fleeger, Donna Montemayor, Judy Powell, Darren Rodgers, Adolfo Valadez, and Stephen Yurco

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kathleen Mechler (Vice Chair), Matthew Hamlin (Treasurer), Fred Buckwold, Dee Porter

STAFF

Tony Gilman, CEO

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Edward Marx called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chair Marx welcomed the Board members and guests, and asked Mr. Tony Gilman to take roll. Chair Marx welcomed Mr. Stephen Palmer with the Office of eHealth Coordination at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and thanked him for participating in the Board's meetings.

Chair Marx also reviewed the mission and vision of the THSA:

Mission

The Texas Health Services Authority will promote and coordinate the development of a seamless electronic health information infrastructure to improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of the Texas health care sector while protecting individual privacy.

Vision

To enhance health care quality and effectiveness for all patients, the health care sector should be supported by an infrastructure made up of interoperable, electronic health records composed of standardized, structured data elements that are exchanged among authorized health care organizations and providers across secure regional and statewide networks.

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS

Approval of Minutes from the June 24, 2010 Meeting

Chair Marx asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 24, 2010 meeting. Dr. David Fleeger made a motion to pass the meeting minutes. Mr. Darren Rodgers seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

CEO Update Operations, Work Plan, and other Administrative Matters (Briefing Item)

Chair Marx advised the Board that the next item on the agenda was an update from Mr. Gilman on the THSA operations, project work plan, and other administrative matters. Mr. Gilman reviewed the month activity submitted to HHSC on July 15. He advised members that the report provides a summary of activities and identifies any changes to the project timeline, obstacles to success, and milestone tasks for the next month's reporting period. The report also provides HHSC with copies of the weekly status reports submitted by CTG and a summary of the expenditures during the reporting period. Mr. Gilman noted that he gave a presentation to the Texas eHealth Alliance on July 7 on the development of the health information exchange (HIE) strategic and operational plans. He also reviewed updates made to the work plan and staff process chart. Chair Marx thanked Mr. Gilman for his presentation. There was no further discussion.

Update on Health Information Technology Regional Extension Centers (Briefing Item)

Chair Marx advised the Board that the next item on the agenda was an update on the Health Information Technology (HIT) Regional Extension Centers (RECs). Mr. Gilman advised the Board that the four Texas RECs were meeting in Kansas City for the first of two annual regional meetings. Regional meetings are occurring for REC regions across the country. The focus for this meeting is privacy and security and meaningful use. He also told members that the operational plans and budget have been approved for the CentrEast REC and the Gulf Coast REC. The operations plan for the North Texas REC has been approved. The West Texas REC is close to getting their budget and operational plan approved but are still awaiting approval. Chair Marx thanked Mr. Gilman for his presentation. There was no further discussion.

Update on Meaningful Use Criteria (Briefing Item)

Chair Marx advised members that the next item on the agenda was a presentation from Ms. Kathleen Costello, Interim Director for the Medicaid HIT Program, HHSC. Ms. Costello briefed members on the Medicaid EHR Incentive Payment Program and meaningful use rule released in July. Chair Marx thanked Ms. Costello for her presentation and asked members if there was any discussion. Members discussed the presentation and asked Ms. Costello questions about the incentive program and meaningful use rule.

HIT Coordinator Update on Medicaid HIE Advisory Committee and Dialogue with the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (Briefing Item)

Chair Marx advised the Board that the next item on the agenda was an update from the State HIT Coordinator, Mr. Palmer. Mr. Palmer provided an update on the activities of HHSC's Medicaid HIE Advisory Committee and reviewed the Program Information Notice (PIN) released by the Office of the National Coordinator for HIT in July. The PIN provided states with additional guidance on the strategic and operational plan requirements under the State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program. Chair Marx thanked Mr. Palmer for his presentation. There was no further discussion on this item.

Update on the Collaborative Workgroup Progress and Environmental Scan (Briefing Item)

Chair Marx advised the Board that the next item on the agenda was an update from Mr. James Honn, with Computer Task Group (CTG), on the collaborative workgroup progress and environmental scan. Mr. Honn reviewed the workgroup meetings that occurred in early July and provided the Board with an analysis of the HIE environmental scan conducted by CTG. Mr. Honn also discussed the draft HIE strategic and operational plans, including a crosswalk showing where the requirements of the State HIE

Cooperative Agreement Program were addressed in the draft plans. Chair Marx thanked Mr. Honn for his presentation. Members discussed and asked questions about the results of the environmental scan.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:01 p.m. and resumed work at 12:46 p.m.

Consideration of Draft HIE Strategic and Operational Plans (Action Item)

Chair Marx noted that the next item on the agenda was consideration of the draft HIE strategic and operational plans. The Board reviewed and discussed the plans, and considered staff recommendations on white space, the definition of HIE, and privacy and consent.

White Space Approach

Members discussed a flexible white space strategy that leverages local HIE networks and supports one or more state-level contracts to support HIE services in areas without a local HIE.

Defining HIE

Members discussed the need to have staged definitions of HIE to align with, but expand upon, the meaningful use requirements, in order to ensure that an adequate level of HIE capacity is in place as providers are faced with increasing HIE requirements based on the staged meaningful use requirements. Members agreed that the initial HIE focus should be on e-prescribing, lab results and delivery, and clinical summary exchange.

Privacy and Consent

Members noted that the Texas Legislature will meet in 2011 and discussed the need for the THSA to continue to study consent by doing the following in the last calendar quarter of 2010:

- Conduct focus groups to study Texans' opinions regarding consent and the potential tradeoffs between quality, cost, and control of medical information;
- Monitor research on participation and the impact that consent policies have on achieving the efficiency and quality objectives of HIE;
- Monitor the implementation and administration of consent policies to develop best practices that improve participation and privacy; and
- Study the reactions to and effects of the policies used in the Medicaid HIE pilot.

Following member discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the draft HIT strategic and operational plans as presented to the Board. The motion further directed staff to work with Chair Marx, Mr. Raymond Davis, and Ms. Judy Powell on any final edits to the plans before being released for public comment the week of August 2. The motion was seconded by Ms. Alesha Adamson and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT


The Board received public comment from Maurice Samuels with the Texas HIE Coalition and Dr. Susan Blue the Texas Medical Association.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Chair Marx asked Mr. Gilman to brief members on information items. Mr. Gilman noted the Board was scheduled to meet on August 26 and November 18. He also briefed members on the financial summary report. The Board had no questions on these items.

ADIURN

Chair Marx asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Darren Rodgers and seconded by Judy Powell. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



Alesha R. Adamson, Secretary