

THSA

TEXAS HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

THSA Technical Architecture Task Force

Meeting Minutes

Date: 05/10/2011

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST

In Attendance:

Task Force Members

Julie Adams Seton – Ascension Health	Y	Carl Ahmed CA (Carl Ahmed) Associates	Y	James Albin St. Luke's Episcopal Health System	Y
Ginger Alford Trinity Valley School	Y	Joel Bandy UT Health – University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	N	Norman (Skip) Best Covisint	Y
Nick Bonvino Northside B Consulting	Y	Cary Brown WellMed Medical Management	N	Robert Bremer Accenture	Y
Grady Cason Cerner Corp.	N	John Delaney Texas Tech University Health Science Center	Y	Mirsa Douglass DSHS	Y
Bradley Eilers Accenture	Y	Joshua Escalante DSHS	N	Robert Flasch Accenture	N
Larry Flournoy Texas A&M University	Y	John Galloway Sierra Systems, Inc.	Y	Chris Guerrero DSHS	N
Alexandra Gorman Montgomery Co. Hospital District	N	Brian Hall IBM	Y	Eric Heflin Medicity	N
Michael Hieber Cisco	N	Ken Hughes Chart Relay	Y	Jonathan Ishee Northwest Diagnostic Clinic & Access Health Providers	N
Velma Jackson SSR, Inc.	Y	Kyle Janak Accenture	Y	Steven Kotyk QuandraMed	N
Patrick Maloney FirstNet Exchange	Y	Bert Mikosh Hill Country Memorial Hospital	Y	Robert Naismith (self) Partner in Corpus Christi Urology Group, PLLC	Y
Jeff Nordyke TMF Health Quality Institute	Y	Ken Pool OZ Systems	Y	Maurice Samuels Integrated Care Collaboration	Y
Camille Schaefer ICA	Y	Telly Shackelford Sandlot, LLC	Y	Clark Snodgrass Accenture	Y
Ernest Valle HHSC	Y	Jack Wankowski Dell	N	Jonathan Willcourt Accenture	N
Kale Woods Tenet Healthcare	N				
<i>Others in Attendance</i>					
Taylor Cook HHSC	Y	Jocelyn Dabeau THSA	Y	Tony Gilman THSA	Y
Lillian Prince THSA	Y	Steve Roddy THSA	Y	Merila Walker HHSC	Y

Agenda Items

#	Item Name	Item Owner	Time Allotment
1	Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements	Lillian Prince	10:00–10:10 a.m.

Presenter: Lillian Prince, Associate Director, Operations & Technology, Texas Health Services Authority (THSA)

Ms. Prince advised Task Force members that the meetings of the Task Force are open to the public and that the agenda, presentation materials, and minutes of the meeting have or will be posted to the THSA’s public website.

Ms. Prince discussed the Task Force’s Wiki collaborative website and asked if there were any members on the call who were not able to record their attendance through the site’s Attendance Tracker Form? Ms. Prince explained that the meeting’s purpose was organizational; to provide task force members with an overview of the Texas HIE plan, white space strategy including a brief presentation by Accenture pertaining to a Technical Services Contract (DBITS) it was awarded to assist THSA in developing a survey of technical standards, an Enterprise Architecture Blueprint (EAB), an EAB Lifecycle Management Plan, and a Technical Specifications report.

Ms. Prince further explained that the Attendance Tracker Form is being used in place of a meeting roll call but emphasized that recording meeting participation is important. She noted that the information would be used to record member participation in the official minutes of the meeting and calculate an in-kind donation. The in-kind donation will be used to help the state fulfill its match requirements associated with federal funding under the State Health Information Exchange (HIE) Cooperative Agreement Program. She provided a reminder that meetings would be open to the public and that task force meeting agendas, presentations and minutes will be posted to the Wiki site for access by task force members.

2	Update on Implementation of Texas HIE Plan	Tony Gilman	10:10–10:20 a.m.
---	---	--------------------	-------------------------

Presenter: Tony Gilman

- **Local HIE Grant Program:** Mr. Gilman provided a status update on the Texas Local HIE Grant Program. He reviewed the purpose of the program and noted that HHSC had made tentative awards to seventeen HIEs in March, that during the month of April HHSC had executed ten contracts and distributed funding to one HIE with an executed contract, and that it is taking HHSC about ten days to release funding under the program once a contract is executed. He also advised members about the opportunity to review the profiles on each HIE posted on THSA’s website at: www.thsa.org/media/2079/local%20hie%20awardee%20profile%20sheet%204-27-2011.pdf.
- **White Space Strategy:** Mr. Gilman briefed members on the status of the “white space” strategy, including a description of the white space region’s geographical area and characteristics and an explanation of the vouchers to be made available to providers through the strategy. He reviewed the purpose of the White Space Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and noted that it was officially released by the THSA on May 2. He also noted that responses to the RFQ were due by June 1. Additional information on the RFQ is available at: www.thsa.org/announcements/white-space-rfq.aspx.

Mr. Gilman asked whether members had any comments or questions about the Local HIE Grant Program or the white space strategy? The task force members had no questions.

3	Discussion of Governance and Statewide Policy Development Process	Tony Gilman	10:20–10:25 a.m.
----------	--	--------------------	-------------------------

Presenter: Tony Gilman

Mr. Gilman noted that the next item on the agenda was a discussion of the draft Statewide Collaborative Policy Development Process document. He observed that the purpose of the document is to outline the policy development and approval process and to identify the areas where there is an anticipated need for Statewide Policy Guidance. The document also outlines the charter and areas of study for each of the THSA’s task forces.

Mr. Gilman also reviewed a diagram depicting the collaborative policy development process. He noted that the task forces created by the THSA would consider issues including standards, architecture, trust agreements and provider and consumer engagement plans, and that their work will funnel up through the Collaboration Council to the THSA Board of Directors.

4	Technical Architecture Task Force Charter	Lillian Prince	2:25 p.m.
----------	--	-----------------------	------------------

Presenter: Lillian Prince

Ms. Prince reviewed the charter of the Technical Architecture Task Force and asked the members if there were any questions? There were no questions.

5	Key Initial Areas of Task Force Focus	Lillian Prince	2:25–2:30 p.m.
----------	--	-----------------------	-----------------------

Presenter: Lillian Prince

Ms. Prince explained that the task force’s initial focus in the coming months will be to study the Enterprise Architectural Blueprint (EAB), the EAB Lifecycle Management Plan and State-level Shared Services, including Record Locator services, Provider Directory services and connectivity to state data sources and the Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN).

Ms. Prince asked whether members had any questions regarding the task force charter or initial areas of focus? Mr. Larry Flournoy (Texas A&M) indicated that there are many private/public HIPAA-compliant entities offering transport and that some already carry clinical and research information. Ms. Prince thanked him for the comment and Mr. Gilman further explained that he did not feel the charter excluded existing, dedicated telecommunication networks, and that these networks may be part of the overall HIE solution for Texas. Mr. John Galloway, with Sierra Systems, asked how doctors and hospitals will connect if they are in an area not included in an HIE? Mr. Gilman responded that providers have the opportunity to determine how to achieve federal meaningful use requirements and that some regions have multiple, potentially competitive, HIEs. He also noted that, by August 2011, THSA will qualify organizations to provide HIE core HIE services – lab results delivery and clinical summary exchange – to providers in the white space counties. Bert Mikosh, with Hill Country Memorial Hospital, asked what options providers in areas not served by an HIE would have if they do not choose the limited services available, and whether they could start their own HIEs? Mr. Gilman responded that THSA does not preclude

anyone from starting a HIE and noted that another round of funding through the Local HIE Grant Program is not currently planned but that there is potential for another round, depending on how many current HIE awardees move ahead with implementation. One member noted that ‘authentication’ was not listed and asked if it was part of the focus? Ms. Prince responded that authentication would be part of the focus. Another participant asked if there would be a published list of Technical Architecture task force members? Ms. Prince responded that a list is available on the task force shared Wiki site along with agendas and other meeting information.

6	Presentation by Accenture on its approach to creating a report on Technical Standards, an Enterprise Architecture Blueprint (EAB), an EAB Lifecycle Management Plan and a Technical Specifications report.	Lillian Prince	2:30 p.m. – 2:51 p.m.
----------	---	-----------------------	------------------------------

Presenter: Helen Haman, Andy Truscott (Accenture)

Ms. Haman introduced the Accenture team consisting of Amy Goring, Robert Bremer, Kyle Janak and Andy Truscott. She presented a diagram that depicted the role of team members and how THSA, Accenture team members and Accenture’s Connected Health IT division would be working together. Mr. Truscott discussed Accenture delivery methods, their Enterprise Architecture Planning Methodology and the Enterprise Architecture approach for THSA. The project timeline and associated deliverables were presented and each of the deliverables was then discussed. An Enterprise Architecture Blueprint example was also discussed which consisted of access channels, services, data sources, EHR Information Exchange and a general technology infrastructure.

A copy of Ms. Haman’s presentation is available on the THSA website at:
<http://www.thsa.org/media/2101/accenture%20thsa%20colouncil%20presentation%20-%20may%206,%202011%20-%20final.pdf>

Ms. Prince asked if there were any questions? There were none.

7	Future Meeting Schedule	Lillian Prince	2:51 – 2:55 p.m.
----------	--------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------

Ms. Prince noted that all task force meetings were scheduled in reference to monthly meetings of the Collaboration Council on the second Friday of each month and meetings of the THSA Board of Directors, which meets on the 3rd Friday of the month on a quarterly basis.

She reviewed the following future meeting schedule for the Technical Architecture Task Force:

- Tuesday, May 31
- Tuesday, June 28
- Tuesday, July 26
- Tuesday, August 30
- Tuesday, October 4

- Tuesday, November 1
- Tuesday, November 29

Ms. Prince also noted that additional meetings were likely to be scheduled for this task force in the future.

8	Other Items	Lillian Prince	2:55 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
----------	--------------------	-----------------------	------------------------------

Ms. Prince asked if there were any other items anyone would like to discuss? No additional items were identified.

9	Adjournment	Lillian Prince	3:00 p.m.
----------	--------------------	-----------------------	------------------

Ms. Prince announced that the meeting was adjourned.