



Health Information Exchange Statewide Planning Process

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Presentation Overview

- Texas Health Services Authority
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Organizational Background

The Texas Legislature created the Texas Health Services Authority (THSA) in 2007 through House Bill 1066.

The THSA is a public-private partnership, legally structured as a nonprofit corporation, to promote and coordinate the development of electronic health information exchange (HIE) in Texas.

A 13-member Board of Directors appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Texas Senate governs the THSA.

State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) announced the State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program to fund state planning and implementation of electronic health information networks in August 2009.

The State HIE Cooperative Agreement was funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Texas' allotment through this program is \$28.8 million over four years.

The program requires states to develop strategic and operational plans to guide the establishment and operation of electronic health information networks.

State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) submitted the Texas application to ONC for funding under the State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program in October 2009.

HHSC is contracting with the THSA to manage a collaborative stakeholder process and develop the strategic and operational plans.

Funding Award

ONC awarded Texas \$28.8 million on March 15, 2010 to facilitate HIE in Texas and advance health information technology.

The award provides \$1 million for planning and \$27.8 million for implementation.

The HIE strategic and operational plans must be finalized by September 27, 2010. Access to the implementation funding is contingent upon ONC's approval of these plans.

Strategic and Operational Plans

The HIE strategic and operational plans must:

Governance Model – Describe the process Texas will undertake to convene health care stakeholders, create trust and consensus on an approach for statewide HIE, and provide oversight and accountability of HIE to protect the public interest

Environmental Scan – Identify existing HIE capacity, resources, and collaborative opportunities

Strategic and Operational Plans

The HIE strategic and operational plans must:

Finance – Provide a business plan that identifies financing strategies for building HIE capacity and sustainability.

Legal – Include a policy framework to address privacy and security requirements for system development and use, data sharing agreements, laws, regulations, and multi-state policy harmonization activities. The primary goal will be to identify options for enabling exchange of health information while protecting consumer privacy and security.



Strategic and Operational Plans

The HIE strategic and operational plans must:

Program Coordination – Address coordination with Medicaid, Medicare, other federally funded state health programs, and other ARRA programs, such as regional extension centers, workforce development, and broadband.

Technology Infrastructure – Discuss the architecture, hardware, software, applications, network configurations and other technological aspects that physically enable the technical services for HIE in a secure and appropriate manner.

Strategic and Operational Plans

The HIE strategic and operational plans must:

Provider Adoption – Identify options to support provider adoption of electronic health records (EHR).

Consumer Engagement – Address consumer outreach and educational campaigns, and strategies for ensuring consumer input into the governance model for statewide HIE.

Collaborative Planning Process

THSA adopted a planning framework and process that includes the formation of four workgroups – Governance and Finance, Technical Infrastructure, Privacy and Security, and EHR Adoption and Consumer Engagement – made up of multi-disciplinary, stakeholder experts.

The workgroups are responsible for providing the THSA with options for the strategic and operational plans.

Collaborative Planning Process

THSA staff solicited workgroup nominations from individuals and stakeholder groups and announced workgroup members in December 2009.

The workgroups held meetings in January and April. They are meeting again this week and will meet monthly during the planning process.

THSA Workgroups

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE - responsible for developing a transparent and accountable governance model, and options on how HIE in Texas should be structured and sustained.

TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE - responsible for developing options on what health information should be exchanged and how it should be exchanged in Texas.

THSA Workgroups

PRIVACY AND SECURITY - responsible for developing options on how to secure and ensure the exchange of sensitive health information remains private in alignment with state and federal laws and rules.

EHR ADOPTION AND CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT - responsible for developing options on how to promote greater use of EHRs and how electronic health information could be used by consumers.

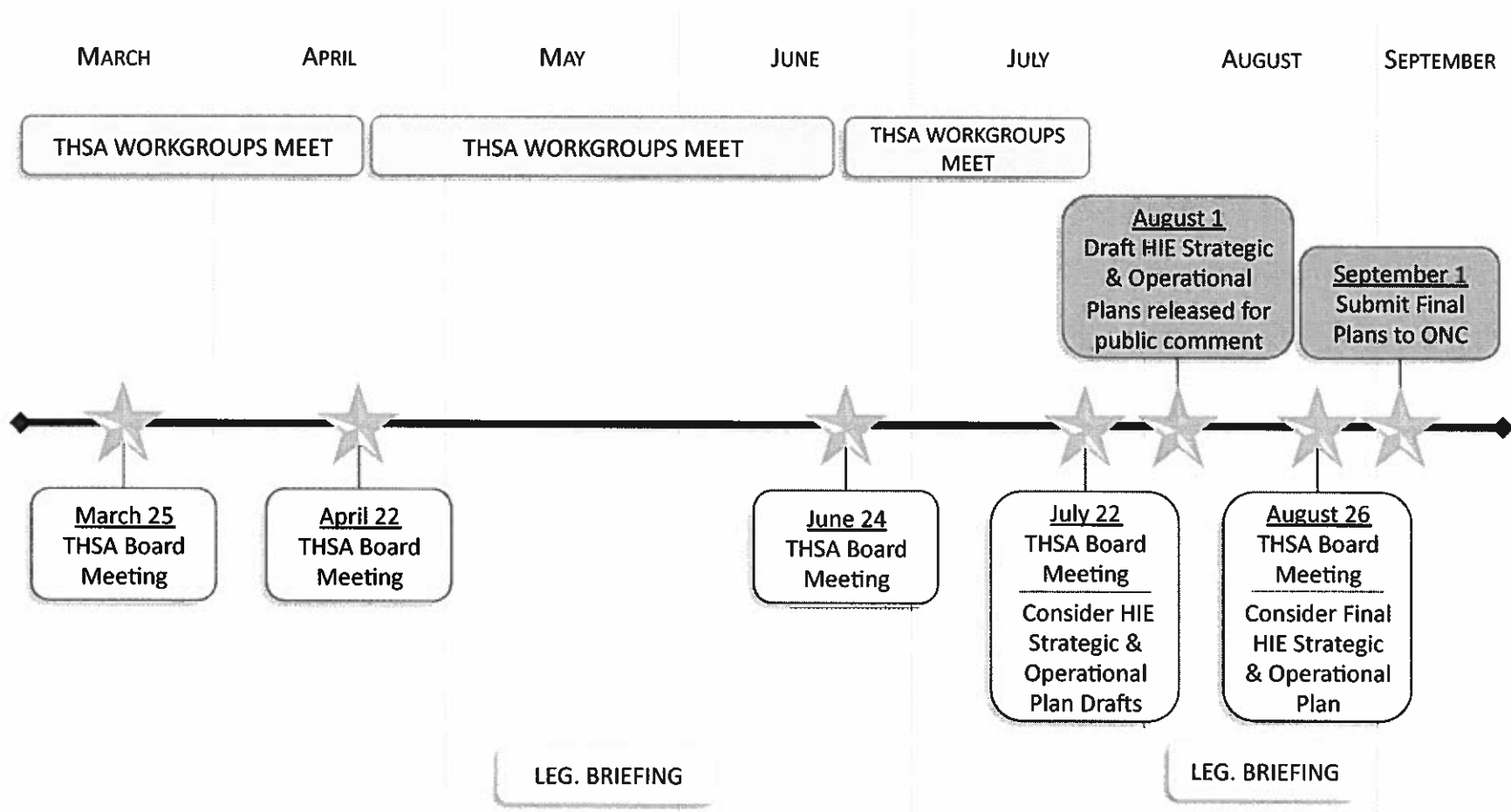
THSA Consultant Contract

In December 2009, the THSA released a Request for Qualification (RFQ) for consultant services to assist THSA staff in facilitating the multi-stakeholder collaborative planning process and to assist with the development of the HIE strategic and operational plans.

28 proposals were submitted in response to the RFQ.

The THSA narrowed the field down to 3 firms in January 2010 and interviewed those firms during the first week of February.

THSA awarded the consultant services contract to CTG in March 2010.



HIE PLANNING PROCESS TIMELINE