**MHDO**

Maine Health

Data Organization

**Information │ Insight │ Improvement**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Virtual Meeting

THURSDAY, February 3, 2022

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

The virtual meeting of the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) Board of Directors began at approximately 9 a.m. with the following Board members in attendance: Joel Allumbaugh (Chair), Dr. Neil Korsen, Andy Ellis, Anne Head (Vice Chair), Lisa Harvey-McPherson, Michelle Probert, David Regan, and Ronald Watson. Absent: Peter Gore. Also participating were Karynlee Harrington, Executive Director and Deanna White, Agency Assistant Attorney General.

**Chair Report**

Joel opened the meeting with introductions and a review of the voting protocol for virtual meetings. The board reviewed and voted unanimously to approve as drafted the February 3, 2022 meeting notes. Joel then asked Karynlee for her report.

**Executive Director Report**

**Refer to Meeting Presentation which can be found here:** [**https://mhdo.maine.gov/boardMtngs.htm**](https://mhdo.maine.gov/boardMtngs.htm) **for details on topics summarized below:**

**Nomination Process for MHDO’s Health Information Advisory Committee (HIAC) as required in Public Law, Chapter 423 (LD 541)**

Karynlee reviewed with the board the requirement in PL. 2021, Chapter 423, regarding the creation of the MHDO Health Information Advisory Committee. Specifically, she focused on the requirement of the MHDO board to appoint 6 members of the 11-member committee. Instead of creating a sub-committee of the board to vet nominees, the executive committee agreed to request board members to e-mail Karynlee by March 31, the name of two nominees for the stakeholder category they represent (consumers, providers, hospitals, employers, and carriers). The MHDO board will vote on the nominees at the April 7, 2022 board meeting.

**Enforcement of new provisions in Rule Chapter 270, *Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Quality Data Sets***

Karynlee reviewed with the board their enforcement decisions made specific to the new requirements in 90-590 Chapter 270, *Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Quality Data Sets*.

Based on the continued challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and specifically resource issues in Maine hospitals and nursing home facilities, Karynlee asked the MHDOBoard of Directors to suspend enforcement of 90-590 CMR Chapter 270, Section 2. A.HAI-6, Section 2. B. HAI-7 and HAI-8 and Section 2. E. A. A motion was made and seconded to suspend the enforcement as requested with the understanding that this issue will be re examined at the September 2022 MHDO Board meeting. It was also suggested by several board members that a phased in approach may be feasible and will be discussed in September. The motion passed unanimously.

**Status of CompareMaine 10.0**

Karynlee updated the board on the status of the release of CompareMaine 10.0; and the anticipated release date, week of 2/21/22. Karynlee also summarized the priority issues based on feedback from the CM 10.0 external review, that she plans to explore the feasibility of implementing with her team for the next release of CompareMaine. Karynlee will bring back to the board the specific recommendations for how best to address these issues:

* + Displaying payment ranges
  + Revising the methodology for attributing payment estimates to professional vs. facility
  + Replacing the cell phone bars with an alternative approach for translating the rates and or confidence intervals for the quality measures

There was discussion about displaying payment ranges on CompareMaine and that using ranges for only those procedures where the ETG grouper is used may make sense.

**Legislative Update**

Karynlee provided a legislative update specific to the bills that she is monitoring this session (which began January 5, 2022; and statutory adjournment date is April 20, 2022) that if passed may impact MHDO and or MQF. Karynlee reported that LD 1842-*Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 120: Release of Data to the Public*, a major substantive rule of the MHDO, was voted unanimously out of committee OTP. Karynlee stated that she will consult the executive committee as needed throughout the session.

**Status of Reports Due to Legislature**

Karynlee updated the board on the status of the four MHDO reports that are due to the HCIFS Legislative committee. Refer to table in meeting deck for details-slide 11.

**Maine Quality Forum (MQF)**

Karynlee reported on the key activities that the MQF is working on. Including developing the year three annual report on Primary Care Spending in the State of Maine; participating in LD 1196, *Investments in Primary Care & Behavioral Health,* Stakeholder Group, (as requested by HCIFS Committee); preparing annual report on Rates of Healthcare Associated Infections in State of Maine; and updating the quality data on CompareMaine as data becomes available.

Karynlee discussed the status of Project Firstline and brought to the boards attention the new content that has been added to the Infection Prevention Forum, the infection prevention online learning modules for healthcare and direct care professionals that has been developed in partnership with Maine CDC, University of Southern Maine and the Federal CDC. Karynlee shared the link to the site and encouraged board members to review the site as applicable. <https://maineinfectionpreventionforum.org/>

**Public Comments**

None

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.