The meeting of the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) Board of Directors began at 9:00 a.m. with the following Board members present: Lisa Harvey-McPherson, (Chair), Anne Head (Vice-Chair), Poppy Arford, Andy Ellis, Maryagnes Gillman, Tom Hopkins, Anita Knopp, Neil Korsen, Katherine Pelletreau, and Dave Winslow. Jim Leonard arrived at 10:30 a.m. Mike DeLorenzo, and Peter Gore were absent. Also in attendance were Karynlee Harrington, Acting Executive Director and Deanna White, Agency Assistant Attorney General.

Chair Report
The Board agreed to a proposal by the Chair to reorganize the agenda to ensure a quorum for a possible vote on the proposed data release rule.

Acting Executive Director Report
Review and Discussion of Proposed Data Release Rule - Karynlee reviewed the proposed changes to the current rule Chapter 120: Release of Data to the Public, which will be repealed and replaced in its entirety. She informed the Board that many of the proposed modifications are a result of requirements in LD 1740.

In reviewing the proposed changes the main areas of discussion were: the MHDO review subcommittee; the new structure of using Levels I, II and III to define data file types; the inclusion of the data elements within each of these levels; proprietary information by data element and the restriction on possible appeals; entities reselling MHDO data; psychiatric and substance abuse information and public display of data elements referred to as the triple-sort.

Karynlee stated that the MHDO Data Use Agreement is being revised, using CMS and Massachusetts’ DUA as a guide. An improved internal data tracking system will be built in 2015 which will streamline the administration of the various requirements of the data request and release process.

It was mentioned that a more formal communication strategy needs to be established to inform consumers and other interested parties of the opportunity to sign up to receive notifications of pending data requests. All hospital CFO’s have been added to the
interested parties list. Karynlee will also add health plan contacts that are active data submitters.

The Board decided to schedule another meeting later in the month to continue their review of the rule. In the interim, Board members were asked to send any feedback they have on the proposed rule to Karynlee that she will then share with everyone at the next meeting. Karynlee will also make the recommended revisions as discussed and agreed upon by the board, using track changes and will forward them to the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.