

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
151 CAPITOL STREET
AUGUSTA, MAINE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

The meeting of the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) Board of Directors began at 9:05 a.m. with the following Board members present: Lisa Harvey-McPherson, (Chair), Maryagnes Gillman, Poppy Arford, Andy Ellis, Peter Gore, Anita Knopp, Neil Korsen, Jim Leonard, Katherine Pelletreau, and Dave Winslow. Anne Head (Vice-Chair) was absent. Also in attendance were Karynlee Harrington, Acting Executive Director and Deanna White, Agency Assistant Attorney General.

Chair Report

Vote to approve Board minutes - A motion was made and seconded to accept the October 1, 2015 MHDO Board minutes as written. Motion carried.

Legislative Update

L.D. 1305:- Lisa Harvey-McPherson informed the Board that the Insurance and Financial Services Committee will meet on November 12, 2015, (9:00 – 12:00), and that Karynlee will be presenting an overview of the CompareMaine website.

The Chair informed the Board that the Legislative Council has reviewed over 300 bills for the new legislative session and we should know in December what bills, if any, may impact the MHDO.

Status of Board Appointments: Karynlee has no new updates. She will follow up with Commissioner Head, Vice-Chair of the Board.

Board Chair Transition Planning: The Chair asked the Board to consider electing a “Chair Elect” to help with transitioning as Lisa will be stepping down. Lisa stated that she is willing to stay on as Chair through this legislative session, especially as the Board moves Chapter 120 through the legislative process. Katherine Pelletreau encouraged the Board to elect an existing Board member to the position of Chair and not a new member to the Board. Karynlee will send a written notice prior to the December meeting seeking nominations.

Acting Executive Director Report

CompareMaine Update & Next Steps: (see hand-outs “CompareMaine-Next Steps & User Statistics) Karynlee reviewed the highlights of the CompareMaine 1.0 launch. Overall feedback from some of the largest payers and hospitals are that the content on the website looks good. She said that she is working with Aetna, EMMC and St. Mary’s specific to two surgical procedures. These two procedures have been suppressed for these two facilities for Aetna until the issue has been resolved. Karynlee then reviewed the list of issues that she and team will be addressing over the next 3, 6 and 12 months. Specifically Karynlee stated that she will improve the level of “specificity” on the individualized cost spreadsheets that are sent to the facilities and health insurance companies that are listed on CompareMaine prior to the data going live on the site. In the next round of release she will include a break-out of the professional and facility costs as well as the break down for the costs developed for the procedures where the MEG grouper is being used. She went on to say that she would like to also consider how best to display this level of information on CompareMaine-she gave an example of a hover feature over the total costs that would provide a high level breakdown.

Gordon Smith, Maine Medical Association, congratulated Karynlee and the MHDO on their efforts with the CompareMaine website and looks forward to future enhancements. He also stated that physicians in Maine have known for a long time that this information would be coming.

Review Project Deliverables and Timelines for Next 12 months:

Karynlee distributed and reviewed the Transformation Progress Visual (see hand-out) along with the key deliverables and timeline for the next twelve months.

Status of Data Releases - Karynlee informed the Board that there was a re-release of 2012 inpatient and outpatient hospital data and 2013 inpatient data. Karynlee explained that there were some problems found in the validation structure that allowed for incomplete and inaccurate data. These problems will be addressed before the historical data is released. Karynlee reminded the board that the new hospital data submission system that is under development is scheduled to go live in July 2016. She has held several webinars beginning earlier this year designed for hospitals to understand the requirements as defined in Rule Chapter 241, *Uniform Reporting System for Hospital Inpatient Data Sets and Hospital Outpatient Data Sets* and the new data submission validation requirements. She has also convened a smaller group of hospital data submitters and hospital data users to assist the team in providing feedback on issues specific to the new system that will impact hospitals. One of the primary goals of the new system is to reduce the administrative time hospital data submitters spend on submitting data and at the same time improving the quality of the data that is being submitted. Ms. Harrington also noted that the transition to the new system may be

painful in the beginning but in the long run it should be a more efficient process for all parties. Another goal of the new system is to release hospital inpatient data on a quarterly basis. More details to follow.

Ms. Harrington informed the board that she has been invited to attend a meeting (as has several board members-not in the capacity of MHDO board members) on November 17th, which Jim Leonard is convening to discuss eVBP (Value Based Purchasing) data needs. More to come as the meeting agenda is developed.

CompareMaine:

Karynlee has had a conversation with MaineHealth regarding CompareMaine and how complexity is addressed in the grouper methodology. Karynlee is reviewing the Group methodology and will report back to the board in December.

Chapter 243: Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Claims Data Sets

Karynlee stated that she would like the board to consider the filing requirements for health claims processors as defined in Chapter 243, Section 2A, sub-section 9. She explained that the current thresholds are too low as they create a scenario where smaller payers meet the requirements one year and the next year they do not. This type of fluctuation creates administrative issues for the data submitter, the MHDO and our data users. Ms. Harrington will propose a rule change in 2016 but in the interim she is requesting that the board consider waiving the requirement. Deanna White, the MHDO's AAG is going to research this provision in the rule and will address at the December board meeting.

Next Board Meeting 12/3/2015

Ms. Harrington reminded the board that the December meeting is scheduled for three hours because of the Public Hearings on Chapter 120 & 270 which are scheduled to begin at 9am on 12/3.

Maine Quality Forum (MQF)

Karynlee said that the DHA-MQF Board will be meeting on November 18, 2015. She reminded the board that the governance of MQF is the MQF-DHA board. MQF is now part of the general fund and has an appropriation of approximately \$2.6 million for the 16-17 biennial budgets (\$1.3M per year). She also mentioned that a request for proposal has been issued to provide analytical support. The MQF Board will be developing a strategic plan for the next 4 years.

Public Comment

Gordon Smith, MMA commented that the MMA and MHMC is hosting a conference on November 18, 2015 that will be attended by professionals and employers and would like to promote the CompareMaine website. Ms. Harrington will connect with Mr. Smith after the meeting to discuss a flyer.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50.