

**MINUTES**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

151 CAPITOL STREET

AUGUSTA, MAINE

THURSDAY, september 8, 2016

The meeting of the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) Board of Directors began at 9:05 a.m. with the following Board members present: Neil Korsen, (Chair), Anne Head (Vice-Chair), Joel Allumbaugh, Andy Ellis, Lisa Harvey-McPherson, and Anita Knopp. Absent members were: Peter Gore and Sandy Parker. 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 approve the May 5, 2016 MHDO Board minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Status of Board Appointments/Resignations - Chairman Neil Korsen informed the Board that third-party payer representative Patrick Denning and DHHS representative Jim Leonard have both retired, and therefore have resigned from the Board. Anne Head stated that Colin McHugh has been appointed by the Governor as the hospital representative on the Board. Karynlee will talk to Commissioner Mayhew about a replacement for the DHHS vacancy. A discussion followed about the size of the Board and the need to keep a balance of payers, providers and consumers. The Board agreed that the issue will be revisited, as needed, at a future meeting.

Review of June 2 Board Retreat Meeting Notes - The Board received highlights of the retreat for their review. Neil stated that the key topics discussed were: Gobeille, data access and the release of data.

**Acting Executive Director Report**

Gobeille v. Liberty Mutual Decision - Karynlee informed the Board that the US Department of Labor released a proposed rule 29 CFR Parts 2520 and 2590 RIN 1210-AB63 Annual Reporting and Disclosure which is the vehicle to submit comments and a proposal on how the DOL could require self-funded ERISA plans to submit claims data. The comment due date is October 4, 2016. Given the timing of the comment due date Karynlee asked the board to authorize her to sign onto a comprehensive proposal as a comment to the Department of Labor (DOL) proposed rule 29 CFR Parts 2520 and 2590 RIN 1210-AB63. A motion was made in support of the request and after some discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Other Issues as a Result of Gobeille

Karynlee informed the Board that Harvard Pilgrim Health Care has sent a letter to their self-funded ERISA clients encouraging them to allow Harvard to send their data to the state APCD’s. Anthem sent a letter stating that in order for Anthem to continue to send fully insured ERISA claims data they needed the MHDO to verify our status as a Health Oversight Agency. Lastly, Karynlee shared with the board that she is working with the Maine Health Management Coalition (MHMC) and their employer members (specifically the self-funded ERISA plans), to try and secure the submission of this data to the MHDO on a voluntary basis. The MHMC is in the process of sending a letter to their employers encouraging them to submit their data to the MHDO.

Value Proposition (VP) Subcommittee Meeting - The subcommittee held its first meeting in August. A draft charge for the group was reviewed and approved by the board. Kyle Russell with Virginia Health Information joined the meeting and discussed how their group is using a tool developed my Milliman and their claims data to identify medical tests and procedures that are not generating value for patients. Kyle shared specifically the work that they have been doing with the State of Virginia using their claims data and the Milliman tool. The subcommittee agreed that at its next meeting we would invite Milliman in to present their tool.

CompareMaine 2.0 and Planning for Release 3.0 – Karynlee reviewed the schedule of CompareMaine updates. The previously scheduled November 2016 update will be postponed until early 2017 due to the impact of the Gobeille. Karynlee also noted that she will send a communication to all payers informing them that the hiatus is over and that all data due, with the exception of self-funded ERISA, is to be submitted to the MHDO by the end of October 2016.

Individualized spreadsheets are currently sent to all payers and facilities allowing them the opportunity to review their data prior to it being posted on CompareMaine. This is a substantial amount of work that few providers are reviewing in detail. In an effort to help minimize the amount of information to be reviewed we are restructuring what we send to providers and payers with a focus on the outliers. Karynlee discussed this approach with David Winslow with the MHA and he was comfortable with the new approach.

New Rule 120: Release of Data to the Public / Review and Vote to Approve Data Release Subcommittee Membership - Karynlee is working internally to put an infrastructure in place to support the changes in Chapter 120. This includes establishing a Data Release Subcommittee, which will meet, in person, if there is an appeal to a decision made by Karynlee regarding a data request, or whenever we receive a Level III data request. A list of potential Board members for representation on the subcommittee was disseminated for Board review. A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed names for representation on the Data Release Subcommittee. After some discussion it was decided that a Chair will be chosen for the subcommittee if an issue arises that warrants the necessity. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Hospital Data Submission System - Karynlee informed the Board that we now have a hospital submission portal similar to the claims data. The new system requires hospitals to make updates to their source data which has created some changes in work flow but will ultimately produce a higher quality data submission. The two primary goals of the new system: Streamline the data submission process and improve the quality of the hospital data.

New MOU with University of Southern Maine-recognizing the growing demand for health data analytics in Maine, the University of Southern Maine has established a health informatics research cluster (HIRC) with a team of computer science, public health, statistics and other faculty and research staff. Funded through special, legislatively appropriated funds from the Maine Economic Improvement Fund (MEIF), one of the HIRC’s key goals is to provide workforce development and training in the area of health data management and analysis. MHDO has executed a MOU with the University of Southern Maine HIRC to advance health data training opportunities within the University. The MHDO will share data, technical knowledge, and the perspective of health care payers, providers and consumers with the HIRC. The HIRC will provide graduate student training in health data, develop documentation of the training process, and address research questions of importance to Maine Health Data Organization and its stakeholders.

Budget - We are working on the fiscal year 2018/2019 biennium budget-it looks like there will be increases in our OIT and health insurance costs. The Maine Quality Forum is now transferring money to the MHDO for their share of maintaining the CompareMaine website. MHDO has received most of this year’s annual assessments from health plans and TPA’s. The hospitals assessments will be going out later this month.

Chapter 243 - Karynlee made the recommendation that updates be made to Rule Chapter 243, Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Claims Data Sets. Specifically Language will added regarding voluntary data submissions, as previously discussed. The Board may need to meet in February and March to finalize the rule. There was a motion to move forward with adding the language as discussed, to make clear that all the same protections apply for mandatory and voluntary submissions, and to hold a Public Hearing in December. The proposed rule will also include a change voted upon at the December 3, 2015 board meeting that the minimum threshold for submission of premiums-based and self-insured claims data will increase to $2,000,000. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Data Release Subcommittee-The board reviewed the membership of the Data Release Subcommittee as recommended by the Chair (as required per Rule Chapter 120-Section 12). A motion to accept the recommendation passed unanimously.

**Maine Quality Forum (MQF)**

Karynlee informed the Board that there has been a lot of discussion with the conveners of the PCMH/MAPCP pilot specific to life after the PCMH/MAPCP pilot and SIM- both scheduled to end 12/31/16. Karynlee is a member of the Medicare Proposal Group-multi stakeholder group convened by the Commissioner of DHHS. Karynlee will continue to participate in these discussions as we consider next steps.

Commissioner Mayhew and Karynlee sent a joint letter in August to the 103 Maine nursing homes in the state of Maine informing them of the new HAI training modules.

Lisa mentioned the letter that the MQF received from the Health and Human Services Subcommittee regarding the collection of marijuana. Karynlee spoke with the HAI Collaborative Partners who agreed that this data is hard to collect because it is not standardized. She will continue to work on this and will speak with the Executive Committee on the best approach to take. Karynlee also informed the Board that she has received several requests for information on opioids. MHDO and MQF are doing more ad hoc analysis which fits into the visions we discussed at the retreat regarding our new delivery model.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was provided.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.