**MHDO**

Maine Health

Data Organization

**Information │ Insight │ Improvement**

**MINUTES**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

151 CAPITOL STREET, AUGUSTA, MAINE

THURSDAY, may 23, 2019

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), Andy Ellis, Lisa Harvey-McPherson, Colin McHugh and David Regan. Joel Allumbaugh and Ron Watson attended by phone. Therefore, a roll call vote was taken for all motions made during the meeting. Absent members were: Peter Gore and Sandy Parker. Karynlee Harrington, Executive Director also attended by phone and Deanna White, Agency Assistant Attorney General was present.

**Chair Report**

Vote to approve Board minutes - The March 7, 2019 Board minutes were not yet completed, and the Board vote was tabled until the next meeting.

**Executive Director Report**

Vote to adopt Chapter 270: *Uniform Reporting System for Quality Data Sets* - Karynlee informed the Board that the Legislature passed and the Governor signed the proposed changes into law. The Attorney General’s Office completed their final review and now final adoption (refer to handout) was required by the Board. Joel Allumbaugh made a motion that the Board adopt rule Chapter 270 and the motion was seconded by Andy Ellis. The motion passed unanimously.

New Pharmacy Transparency Bill (pending Legislative action) - The Board had reviewed the first draft of L.D. 1162 but after much debate the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee unanimously voted on a revised version (refer to handout). Karynlee explained these revisions and stated that, in anticipation of this becoming law, the MHDO will need to have a data collection rule in place by April 2020. The first round of rulemaking is routine technical and thereafter the rule is major substantive. Karynlee asked the Board for authorization to create a proposed rule and explained the anticipated timeline. A motion was made by Colin McHugh and seconded by Andy Ellis to initiate rulemaking for the pharmacy transparency bill, pending legislative action. The motion passed unanimously.

Chapter 10: *Determination of Assessments* and Chapter 100: *Enforcement Procedures* - Karynlee informed the Board that if L.D.1162 becomes law, Rule Chapter 10 and 100 will need to be modified to include provisions for drug manufacturers, wholesale drug distributors and pharmacy benefit managers. A motion was made by Lisa Harvey-McPherson and seconded by Andy Ellis to initiate rulemaking for Chapter 10 and Chapter 100. The motion passed unanimously.

Chapter 241: *Uniform Reporting System for Hospital Inpatient and Hospital Outpatient Data Sets* and Chapter 243: *Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Claims Data Sets* - Karynlee would like to clean up and make some clarifications to Chapter 241 and 243 and possibly add new data elements to address some of the data needs of our data users. Karynlee will discuss with stakeholders before going forward with the proposed changes regarding new data elements. A motion was made by Colin McHugh and seconded by Andy Ellis to authorize MHDO staff to work with data submitters to put into action the clean-up based on their feedback for both rules. The motion passed unanimously.

Chapter 300: *Uniform Reporting System for Hospital Financial Data* - Karynlee has met with the Maine Hospital Association to discuss the addition of collecting and reporting consolidated financial data in addition to the unconsolidated financial data that the MHDO already collects. . Karynlee would also like to streamline the collection of hospital organizational data, currently mandated within Chapter 630, and incorporate it into Chapter 300. If this is accomplished, we would then consider repealing rule Chapter 630. A motion was made by Lisa Harvey-McPherson to initiate rulemaking for Chapter 300. The motion was seconded by David Regan and passed unanimously.

Timeline for Public Hearings - Pending the legislative action on the new pharmacy transparency bill and the timing of the end of the session, the board tentatively agreed (subject to change as the process unfolds) that public hearings would be held on September 5th for rule Chapters 241, 243 and 300; and public hearings would be held on October 3rd for the possible new pharmacy rule, Chapter 10, and Chapter 100.

Legislative Update - Karynlee reported that L.D. 51, *An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force on Health Care Coverage for All of Maine* is a carryover so there is nothing the MHDO needs to do at this point.

L.D. 30, *An Act to Improve Health Care Data Analysis* was a concept draft when the Board discussed it at a prior meeting. L.D. 30 is a carryover bill so there is nothing MHDO needs to do at this point.

Karynlee also reported that the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee unanimously approved MHDO’s budget, and submitted a memo to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee with their recommendation.

The Board received copies of a memo (refer to handout) from Andy MacLean, Interim CEO of the Maine Medical Association regarding L.D. 1694, *An Act to Amend the Mental Health Insurance Laws*. MHDO is mentioned in the memo as one of the interested parties that should be included in a meeting convened by the Bureau of Insurance to discuss a data collection plan. Karynlee will update the board as needed.

Update on CompareMaine 7.0 Launch & Next Release Scheduled for Fall 2019 - Karynlee reported that last week CompareMaine 7.0 was released with the new grouper, and with the infusion therapy information included. The review period consisted of less questions than in the past and no questions were raised regarding the new software. Staff will now begin to work on V8.0 release for this fall.

Update on MHDO Planning Session with HSRI - Karynlee discussed the staff time it takes to update the cost data on CompareMaine, which is approximately 100 days. Karynlee asked the team for a proposal on how to make the cost update process more efficient. She discussed with the board the idea of revising the requirement in Statute to update the cost data from 2x/year in section 8712 to an annual update. This change would allow MHDO to focus one update on making improvements in the content (for example adding new procedures and facilities) and functionality of the site which may be a better return on investment given we are not seeing significant differences in the cost data in a 6-month period. There was some discussion amongst the board members and general support with this direction.

The contract with HSRI ends November 2022 and under state procurement requirements the MHDO will need to issue a request for proposal (RFP) to enter into a contract with a vendor as of December 1, 2022. Karynlee plans to release an RFP during the first quarter of 2021. The board supported the idea of exploring the feasibility of hiring a consultant to assist with the preparation of the RFP and the process at large.

There was a discussion on the volume of procedures on CompareMaine. Karynlee reminded the board of the goal that staff is working towards which was agreed to at the last MHDO board retreat which is to report 80% of the costs (excluding pharmacy) that are in the APCD (commercial only) on CompareMaine. They are no longer limited to “shoppable” procedures but also looking at procedures that fall into the quadrant of high costs, high utilization and variation. Andy Ellis and David Regan agreed to share with Karynlee procedures that fil into this quadrant that are not currently reported on CompareMaine.

**Maine Quality Forum (MQF)**

Legislative Update - L.D. 1353, *An Act to Establish Transparency in Primary Care Spending*, (refer to handout) if passed will require the MQF to obtain data from the MHDO to report annually to the Legislature on the amount of primary care spending in the state. The first report would be due in January 2020. Karynlee will keep the board updated.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was provided.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.