

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
151 CAPITOL STREET, AUGUSTA, MAINE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2014

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, Mike DeLorenzo, Peter Gore, Tom Hopkins, Anita Knopp, Neil Korsen, Jim Leonard, Katherine Pelletreau, and Dave Winslow. Absent members were: Andy Ellis and Maryagnes Gillman. Also in attendance were Karynlee Harrington, Acting Executive Director and Deanna White, Agency Assistant Attorney General.

Discuss proposed revisions to the new data release rule - Karynlee reviewed the revisions to the proposed rule Chapter 120: Release of Data to the Public as recommended at the October 2nd Board meeting. The Board discussed proprietary data in detail. It was stated that an MHDO Data Release Subcommittee will be established to review all Level III requests. However, the Executive Director can bring Level I and Level II data requests to the committee, if deemed necessary. The current review subcommittee members and contacts for all Maine hospitals have been added to the list serve to receive notification of all future data requests posted to the MHDO web site.

Language regarding denying data requests was discussed and will be clarified as Deanna informed the Board that any data request can be denied. She also stated that, if a request has been released it can be rescinded, but a legal decision to deny the request would need to be provided.

The opt-out and opt-in choices regarding the disclosure of directly identifiable health care information were discussed and how best to communicate this to consumers. Information will be posted on the MHDO web site. It was recommended that language be added in basis statement explaining how the MHDO will notify people and include “at a minimum” so that more information can be added if necessary without going back to rulemaking.

Group ID data elements in APCD data requests as outlined the Appendix C were discussed and it was mentioned that the MHDO can't identify group numbers.

Karynlee explained the rulemaking process going forward and reviewed the proposed timeline that was distributed if the Board initiates rulemaking.

Vote to initiate rulemaking of the new data release rule - A motion was made to initiate the proposed rulemaking based on the meeting discussion. The motion was seconded and passed with one member opposed.

Public Comment

No public comment provided.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.