



## Health Information Technology Advisory Council

DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
 May 16, 2024 | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
[Zoom Meeting Recording](#)

Member Attendance					
Joseph Quaranta (Co-Chair)	R	Josh Scalora (DDS)	R	Alan Kaye	X
Sumit Sajnani, OHS HITO (Co-Chair)	R	Sandra Czunas (OSC)	R	Dina Berlyn	R
		Adam Prizio (OHA)	R	Cassandra Murphy	R
Gui Woolston (DSS)	R	David Fusco	R	Susan Israel	R
Elizabeth Taylor (DMHAS)	R	Geoffrey Hook	X	Mark Gildea	R
Nicole Taylor, MD (DCF)	R	Patricia Checko	R	Rebecca McLearn, AHCT	R
Byron Kennedy (DOC)	R	Lisa Stump	X	Michael Crain	X
Gary Archambault (DPH)	R	Patrick Charmel	X	Thomas Woodruff	R
Mark Raymond, CIO	R	Jaime Rodriguez	R	Bert Plant	R
Supporting Leadership & Other Participants					
Amy Tibor, OHS	R	Elson Guo, OHS	R	Heidi Wilson, Connie	R
Tyra Peluso, OHS	R	Jenn Searls, Connie	R		

*In accordance with FOIA statutes re: meetings held by solely by electronic-means (remote) R= remotely, IP= in person, X=did not attend*

Topic	Presenter	Time
<b>1) Welcome and Call to Order</b>	<b>Dr. Joseph Quaranta</b>	<b>1:02 pm</b>
The regularly scheduled HITAC meeting was held virtually on Thursday, May 16, 2024. Dr. Quaranta welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Byron Kennedy and Bert Plant were welcomed as new members and introduced themselves. Roll call was conducted and quorum was present.		
<b>2) Public Comment</b>	<b>Members of the Public</b>	<b>1:05 pm</b>
There were no public comments made.		
<b>3) Action: Approval of Minutes: February 15, 2023</b>	<b>Dr. Joseph Quaranta</b>	<b>1:06 pm</b>
<b>(Vote)</b> Dr. Quaranta requested a motion to approve the February 15, 2024, minutes. The motion was made (Raymond) and seconded (Checko). There was no discussion. Minutes were unanimously approved.		
<b>4) Legislative Update</b>	<b>Cindy Dubuque-Gallo, OHS</b>	<b>1:10 pm</b>
Cindy shared an overview of SB1, now PA 24-19, specifically sections 22-24 which are relevant to the HIE. The language can be found here: <a href="#">PA 24-19</a> . Cindy described six key legislative changes, including a work group that has been established to provide recommendations to OHS and the public health committee regarding policies and procedures for the HIE.		
Sumit remarked that it was a short session and this being prioritized speaks to the importance of the HIE. He further stated that the collaborative nature of working with provider associations, organizations, and the work group that has been established is a great testament to the engagement from these stakeholders towards the program.		
<b>1) HIE Regulations Update</b>	<b>Sumit Sajnani, HITO &amp; Tyra Peluso, OHS</b>	<b>1:20 pm</b>
Tyra introduced herself as Lead Planning Analyst for the Health IT unit at OHS. Tyra gave an update on the status of regulations development, key highlights included:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SB1 (now PA 24-19) has brought clarity around the timeframe for providers to connect to and participate in the HIE - providers should not only be connected to, but actively participating in the HIE not later than 18 months after the implementation of policies &amp; procedures.</li> </ul>		

- The workgroup established in PA 24-19 creates a positive path forward in the development of the HIE policies and procedures. Tyra provided an overview of the workgroup construct and current status: the work is time limited with recommendations due to OHS and the public health committee not later than Jan 1, 2025. Membership is no more than 15 individuals. Four specific topics of focus are identified. The workgroup is in its development stage – OHS is discussing logistics with legislative points of contacts, including the meeting schedule, and workflow.
- Tyra provided an update on the activities the HIE Regulations Advisory Subcommittee (RAS): RAS membership has been formalized, OHS consultant Richard Gold will be an active participant facilitating the RAS, the schedule is being developed, and update will be provided once logistics between the two groups are finalized.

Sumit shared further information on how the recommendations from the two separate groups will coincide and be coordinated. Sumit stated that the new workgroup established by SBI is temporary with a specific scope and deliverable by Jan 1, 2025, whereas the RAS is a sounding board group on all topics within the HIE regulations, policies, and procedures. A first discussion was held with association representatives to begin the discussion on figuring out how the different groups can work together. HITAC will be updated. RAS should have its first meeting in June.

**2) HIE Accomplishments towards Statutory Goals**

**Jenn Searls, Connie**

**1:45 pm**

Jenn commented that the Connie team is pleased to see clarification around connecting and participating in PA 24-19, and to see privacy language consistent with Connie’s data sharing agreements and policy. The Connie team looks forward to working more with SBI group and RAS in any way that can be helpful.

Jenn gave a presentation on Connie achievements that are specifically part of the 11 statutory goals of the HIE outlined in [CG.S. Sec. 17b-59d](#). The 11 goals are mapped to three main areas (1) the stakeholder mandate to assist providers and physicians, (2) empowering consumers, and (3) supporting public health reporting. Jenn shared key progress made in each of these areas.

The floor opened for questions. Members asked a variety of questions, including regarding the patient portal and whether there is potential for e-referral system. The full presentation may be viewed here: [May 16 2024 HITAC presentation](#)

**3) Update on State of CT AI Policy**

**Mark Raymond, CIO**

**2:15 pm**

Mark shared a presentation update on the State AI policy. Mark stated that he was part of a team, along with OPM, that wrote the AI policy. SB2 was proposed this year and it talked about how AI can be used and regulated across the state; it was passed and approved in the senate but did not make its way out of the house – it’s expected to be picked up next year.

Last year, PA 23-16 identified what CT should be doing around AI use within government. Mark described several actions that needed to be taken, including developing a policy. This was completed in February and the policy framework can be found on the OPM website: [Policy AI Responsible Use Framework](#). Mark shared key highlights from the policy. He stated that if an organization does not have an AI policy, it’s a great place to start from and to understand how it should be approached. PA 23-16 also required an inventory of AI systems; this information is reported online in the CT Open Data portal – the portal contains an inventory of all systems and a subset of those that are using AI. Mark shared that the state has developed model cards similar to nutritional labels for safety. He described the components of the model card.

Mark stated that the most important thing we need to understand around AI is that this is a technology that is operating on your data, so understanding your data that you would like to use with this is the most important thing. Mark discussed the importance of having contingencies for its use. Mark shared a table with potential outcomes.

Sumit made a comment and inquired about what was in SB2. Mark provided a brief overview. Jaime inquired about federal laws. Mark described some of the federal guidance published. He commented that there is a broad cry for federal action on this front.

<b>4) Announcements and General Discussion</b>	<b>Dr. Joseph Quaranta</b>	<b>2:20 pm</b>
There were no announcements. Dr. Quaranta remarked on the progress made over the years and the impact this is having on the citizens of CT.		
<b>5) Wrap Up and Meeting Adjournment</b>	<b>Dr. Joseph Quaranta</b>	<b>2:24 pm</b>
The meeting adjourned at 2:24 pm.		

**Next Meeting: June 20, 2024**

All meeting information and materials are published on the OHS website:  
<https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/HIT-Work-Groups/Health-IT-Advisory-Council>

Meeting presentation  
[May 16 2024 HITAC presentation](#)

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