

Board Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2020

4:00-7:00 pm

Regular Meeting

Zoom Recording:

Directors Present: Allan Hackney, John Vittner, Mark Raymond, Allen Davis. Patrick Charmel
Joined at 6:02pm.

Opening, Roll Call, Opening Statement:

Allan Hackney recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm.

June Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. John Vittner created the motion. Allen Davis seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.

Motion carried.

Meeting Agenda

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion to approve the July 1, 2020 meeting agenda. Mark Raymond created the motion. John Vittner seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. **Motion carried.**

I. Reports

a. Board Chair Report

Allan Hackney announced that Commissioner Diedre Gifford (or designee) of the Dept. of Social Services (DSS) will participate in Connie Board Meetings as a non-voting member. This follows the agreement between the Office of Health Strategy (OHS) and DSS to pursue a statutory change to add DSS to the board as standing ex-officio and voting board member. Allan remarked that it is a great addition to have to have DSS involved in the strategy and operations discussions regarding Connie.

Allan thanked Pat Charmel and John Vittner for volunteering to join the Finance and Audit Committee. The first meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee will

be scheduled in mid-July, during this meeting they will be looking at the results of the initial Request for Quote (RFQ) for an auditor.

Allan shared an update on the various funding streams. He reported there has been good progress made with the HITECH Act Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). DSS and OHS settled on a quarterly process for the mechanism of drawing funds that transfer from CMS to DSS to OHS. The process would entail a prior cash forecast for Connie and OHS for their portion and include an agreement around milestones and deliverables. OHS and DSS are working to codify that in the MOA.

Allan noted that a meeting was held with DSS to clarify how some of the proposed use cases will be developed over time. During this meeting, DSS also had the opportunity to review the simplified Technical Assistance & Connectivity program that the board affirmed.

Allan added another source of funding is the SUPPORT ACT. The SUPPORT ACT federal funding will help with the opioid crisis and includes a number of areas where the Prescription Drug Monitor Program (PDMP) can be expanded and improved. This MOA is a tri party agreement between the Dept. of Consumer Protection, DSS and OHS has been approved by CMS.

Allan shared that in collaboration with DSS, the new IAPD for FFY 2021 is in a good place, and they are scheduled to send the IAPD to CMS on July 6. Connie has been operating under the seed money contract. The team is working through discussions with OHS and DSS on how to extend the seed money at least through the end of September.

Allan shared an update on the RFQs. An RFQ was issued for the interface engine. Allan reported that the evaluation team worked through the three bids received and is progressing towards a draft contract with one respondent. Allan added that there will be two additional RFQs issued, one to Integration Partners and one to obtain temporary staffing services.

Allan shared that discussions are continuing with organizations regarding the legal framework. Currently, there are approximately 30 organizations in various stages of joining, and at least two of which are almost complete. The conversations are becoming clearer as modifications were made to the Trust Framework.

b. Operations Report

Allan reported that the Operations Advisory Committee held its fourth meeting. During this meeting, Dr. Rob Aseltine was welcomed to the OAC as a function of CTHHealthLink signing as a participating organization. Additionally, Nancy Barrett from the Dept. of Public Health joined the meeting and shared information on DPH lab and lab testing. There were also discussions regarding the Interoperability Rule that was issued by ONC, including the impacts on both the healthcare ecosystem and Connie itself.

There was a suggestion to create a task force comprised of security people from different healthcare organizations to work with the Connie team around a common security assessment tool. The group agreed to the process and hopes that by collaborating, they'll end up with a tool that can be universal. This is intended to give everyone comfort that appropriate security controls and routines are in place and done efficiently.

The Privacy Workgroup held its first meeting (subcommittee under the OAC). During their first meeting, a number of questions were raised with respect to privacy issues and the role of Connie.

c. Executive Director Search Committee Report

Mark Raymond reported the committee was not successful in identifying and hiring an Executive Director through the first search process. Based on the recommendation of the search committee, the search will be reopened. Further discussion will be held in the Executive Session.

II. Business Agenda

a. Board Treasurer and Secretary

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion that the Board table the election of the Board Treasurer and Secretary until August. John Vittner created a motion. Mark Raymond seconded. There was no further discussion. **The motion carried.**

b. Update: Status of Technology Assessment

Dr. Lisa Moon provided an overview of technology assessment activities regarding DSS tools and future technical assessments. A final report is expected to be completed and approved by DSS later in the fall.

c. Policy Second Read and Adoption: Cybersecurity

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion to adopt the proposed cybersecurity policy. John Vittner created the motion. Allen Davis seconded. There was no further discussion. **The motion carried.**

IV. Executive Session

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion for the Board enter into executive session regarding personnel matters related to the executive search committee. Mark Raymond created a motion. Allen Davis seconded. **None opposed.**

Allan invited Michelle Puhlick (member of the Search Committee) to join the Executive Session. The Board entered executive session 5:40 pm. Pat Charmel entered the session at 6:02 pm. The Board exited executive session at 6:42 pm.

a. Adjournment

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion to adjourn. Mark Raymond made a motion to adjourn. **None opposed.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.