

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2020

4:00-7:00 pm

Regular Meeting

[Zoom Recording](#)

Meeting Materials can be found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/HIT-Work-Groups/Health-Information-Alliance/Meeting-Materials>

Directors Present: Allan Hackney, John Vittner, Mark Raymond, Allen Davis, Jill Hummel, Lisa Stump

Opening, Roll Call, Opening Statement:

Allan Hackney recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

July Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion to approve the July meeting minutes. Lisa Stump created the motion. Mark Raymond seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.

Motion carried.

Meeting Agenda

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion to approve the August 5, 2020 meeting agenda. Allen Davis created the motion. Jill Hummel seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. **Motion carried.**

I. Reports

a. Board Chair Report

Allan Hackney welcomed Commissioner Diedre Gifford from The Dept. Social Services (DSS) as an ongoing participant in the Board meeting discussions. Allan reminded the Board that the Office of Health Strategy (OHS), DSS and the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) agreed to amend the statute that defines the members of the Board to include the Commissioner (or designee) of DSS as a

standing ex-officio member of the Board. Allan noted the importance of having DSS to share their voice at the table.

Allan informed the Board that Jill Hummel will be resigning from the Board in October 2020.

Allan announced that The Community Health Network (CHN) has signed on as a second participant to Connie. By signing on to the Trust Framework CHN is now able to legally and technically accept data. CHN is the principal administrative service organization supporting Medicaid, and they offer a wealth of knowledge around many purposes in the state.

Allan noted they are spending a lot of time with client facing work with the trust framework agreements, the adjustments requested to the framework are largely incidental and oriented to the organization structure, rather than the framework itself.

Technology update: Allan reported that continued work with DSS and contracted services Velatura, to do an in-depth evaluation of Core Data Analytic Solution (CDAS). This evaluation is covering virtually every aspect of business prospect, security, budget, etc. Allan noted the initial reports on this work are very encouraging.

Allan updated the Board on the status of the Request for Quote (RFQ) to seek an integration engine partner for the front end of CDAS, as the message broker for the transactions. They are currently in contract negotiations with the potential vendor. Allan expects to be in a position to bring a recommendation to the Board for approval on this vendor in September.

Allan shared updates on the status of funding and contracting activities. There are five important funding documents of importance to the work Connie does:

- 1) **Implementation Advanced Planning Document (IAPD):** With the assistance of DSS, the FY21 IAPD was sent to CMS on July 21 and their 60-day evaluation period has begun.
- 2) **Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) #3.** This is important for funds to flow Connie. MOA #3 was approved which is necessary to allow the funding approved for FY20 to move was finalized between OHS & DSS.
- 3) **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) #4:** pertains to FY21 funding associated with the IAPD. OHS and DSS are close to completion on MOA #4. There were

issues concerning actual mechanism of how funds would flow. This is in process of being resolved between OHS, DSS, & OPM.

- 4) **Connie Seed Money Contract:** The original funding in the contract was revised to allow Connie to operate at least through Sept. 30, 2020. This contract needs to be approved by the Attorney General.
- 5) **Main Connie Contract:** Reflects FY21 activities, there were a number of discussions with OHS and the team is currently working through contract details and issues. The contract needs to align to whatever gets approved to the IAPD and reflect agreed upon deliverable milestones between OHS and DSS. This has some more work to do.

Allan added, we received SUPPORT Act approval and funding. The SUPPORT Act APD was a tri-party agreement, with funding oriented to Connie to make a direct EHR connection to the PDMP and evaluating system known as PULSE. However, the approval is so late relative to the expiration of the SUPPORT Act, that we will be challenged to draw down on the short time left. There has been a number of meetings to determine what it will look like in FY21 when it expires.

b. Executive Director Search Committee Report

Mark Raymond reported the Board held a Special Meeting (July 29) to propose bringing on an interim executive director. Mark shared that the ED Search committee will continue the recruitment process for a permanent director.

c. Finance & Audit Committee Report

Allan Hackney reported that the Finance and Audit Committee held its first meeting. The committee includes Pat Charmel, John Vittner, and Allan Hackney.

This meeting focused on chartering the role and the expectations of participating in the committee. They discussed and determined a quarterly meeting schedule (with the exception of special meetings). The charter will be refined and brought back to the full board. The committee discussed areas of focus such as the budget, forecasts, and how to structure those discussions.

The committee also discussed the selection of the independent auditors. There were updates that resulted that will require respondents to make adjustments. The Finance Committee members agreed to have a special meeting to have a presentation by each of the respondents in session, and then ultimately review and select the auditor for Connie. John Vittner added identifying key roles for the committee.

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 September. John Vittner created a motion. Jill Hummel seconded. There was no further discussion. **The motion carried.**

III. Adjournment

Motion: Allan Hackney asked for a motion to adjourn. Jill Hummel made a motion to adjourn. Lisa Stump seconded. **None opposed.** The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.