

Nebraska Health Information Technology Board
Meeting Minutes

Date: December 14, 2023 **Time:** 12:00p **Location:** virtual
Method and date of public notice: Posted to Public Meeting Calendar (nebraska.gov) on 12/06/2023.

1. Attendance

Board Members	Present	Absent
<i>Senator Ben Hansen (ex officio)</i>		x
<i>Senator Robert Clements (ex officio)</i>		x
Manuela (Manny) Banner		x
Dr. Jessika Benes	x	
Dr. Aimee Black	x	
Dr. Jaime Bland	x	
Lynn Edwards	x	
Dr. Douglass Haas	x	
Dr. Kimberley Haynes-Henson		x
Dr. Mark Latta	x	
Dr. Monalisa McGee-Baratta	x	
Ashley Newmyer	x	
Felicia Quintana-Zinn	x	
Dr. Stephen Salzbrenner	x	
Dr. Phillip Vuchetich	x	

Quorum Present? (8 members required): **YES**

Call to Order (Time): 12:02pm

AGENDA

- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Dr. Aimee Black moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on September 28, 2023; Dr. Jaime Bland seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The minutes were approved.

- 3. General Updates and Announcements:**
 - **Open Meetings Reminder:** Meetings are open to members of the public.
 - **Annual Report:** The HIT Board annual report was submitted online by the due date after having been reviewed by board members.
 - **Open Board Seats:** The board resignations of Dr. Kevin Bagley and Dr. Anna Dalrymple leaves two board seats open to be appointed by the Governor – one health care payor and one family practice physician.
 - **2024 Meeting Dates:** The planned schedule for 2024 meetings was announced: March 7th, June 20th, September 19th, and December 12th. Per the attorney general ruling, half

of the meetings must be in person and board members must attend in person to participate in the meeting.

- **Travel Reimbursement:** Mileage for in-person meetings can be reimbursed; administrator will send email with process for 2024.

4. NHA PDMP Dashboard:

CyncHealth responded to an RFP from the Nebraska Opioid Settlement Remediation Advisory Committee. The RFP was submitted in partnership with the Nebraska Hospital Association to produce a dashboard that would assist providers in utilizing data that is already available in the PDMP in their work to respond to the opioid crisis. The announcement of the RFP is likely to be forthcoming soon.

5. Standards vs. Terminology:

Dr. Jaime Bland oriented the board to the conversation from the last board meeting regarding standards versus terminology. Dr. Bland reminded the Board that it is *federal* interoperability regulations that define electronic health record data sharing requirements. It is not the HIT Board that determines the standard for data sharing but rather the federal agencies who define those requirements. The HIT Board adopts the federal standard. Sharing of information with social care platforms is a newer development in interoperability. We will be bringing forward social care standard recommendations to the HIT Board at a later date.

Dr. Naresh Sundar Rajan provided an overview of standards versus terminology:

- *Standards:* A standard in HIT refers to a set of guidelines or rules that dictate how data should be structured, formatted, and exchanged. How the data should be structured in order to be exchanged.
- *Terminology:* Terminology in HIT refers to the vocabulary or set of terms used to describe and represent health concepts, procedures, and data. This is the semantics of information.

CyncHealth adheres to USCDI v3. USCDI is a data standard defined by the federal agency Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) which incorporates data classes and data elements. ONC defines how information should be exchanged. USCDI does not replace existing standards or terminologies; it builds upon existing standards in use by national systems and organizations. It is required as part of API certification criterion.

Dr. Sundar Rajan provided a high-level overview of the USCDI version update process. He also provided two real-world examples. There were no questions.

Dr. Bland advised we will be recommending that social care terminology is mapped to LOINC or SNOMED terminology to ensure a standard across participants. Dr. Sundar Rajan noted there are vendor/EHR standards coming to market, but ONC will set national standards.

Dr. Monalisa McGee-Baratta recommended that CyncHealth look at potential partnership opportunities with HUD for their required point-in-time studies. Dr. Bland affirmed CyncHealth would be happy to continue a conversation about this.

Dr. Stephen Salzbrenner requested that recommended resources to gain a mastery of interoperability concepts be added to the Board portal. Dr. Bland affirmed CyncHealth could make such resources available.

6. **Adjourn:** Dr. Jaime Bland moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:37pm, Mark Latta seconded. There were no objections. Motion approved.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled meeting for the HIT Board is March 7th, 2024 in person in Lincoln, NE. A calendar hold will be sent out.