

OHHIT Steering Committee Minutes December 8, 2005

Participants: Bill Hayes, Philip Powers, , Stephanie Jursek, Dennis Swartzlander, Rick Sites, Mary Crimmins, Heidi Gordon, Rick Moore; *by phone*: Jon Wills, Nancy Gillette, Chris Knisely and Angela Hammond.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Stephanie Jursek, Project Manager of the OHHIT Project, welcomed the group, and all attendees introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF November 10, 2005 MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes as written was made. The motion passed unanimously.

2006 'INVITATION ONLY' MEETING UPDATE

Bill Hayes presented to the committee the draft business plan proposal outline for the 'Invitation Only' meeting. The purpose of the proposal was to provide a concise narrative of the need for the effective adoption of Health Information Technology (HIT) and Health Information Exchange (HIE) and a strategic plan for establishing a coordinated effort to meet that objective. The introductory portion of the narrative would include information, regarding the current financial issues related to health care costs, the value proposition for HIE and e-Health definitions. Bill Hayes noted that following the introduction that there would be a segment of the proposal that would describe the findings from the Technology CEO Council report, which strongly supported a coordinated effort at the state level.

Further, in building a foundation for the implementation of the OHHIT Project there would be information on the historical evolvement of health information networks from a national perspective, which entails the development of the Office of the National Coordinator for HIT and the American Health Information Community. In that regard, Bill Hayes recommended that the OHHIT Project advisory group be patterned after the American Health Information Community and suggested the advisory group might be called Health Information Community of Ohio (HICO).

The remainder of the proposal would be a focus on the mission, vision, goals and objectives, governance structure, and implementation time frame for the OHHIT Project advisory group. The goal would be to complete the project by September, with the gubernatorial election and the upcoming review of the budget in mind. A discussion ensued by the committee.

The committee liked the proposal outline overall. A few suggestions were given. It was recommended that the proposal be referred to as a planning proposal based on its structure rather than a business plan. There should be a work group that represents the interests of the consumer and information from Ohio stakeholders, regarding opportunities and barriers related to the use of HIT should not only be reviewed, discussed, and validated by the advisory group but disseminated as well. The name of the health information network should be determined by the advisory group rather than the committee. Additionally, there should be a strong emphasis on providing educational programs. Stephanie Jursek suggested this should be noted in the goals and objective section of the proposal. The committee requested use of the outline in discussions with other third parties. Bill Hayes indicated that the proposal outline could be used and would be sent to the committee after the noted revisions had been added to the proposal.

STAKEHOLDER GROUP SESSIONS

Bill Hayes reported that he would be meeting with members of the business community through William Fitzgibbon, as well as NeighborCare/OmniCare and CVS in December to provide educational programs

and generate interest in the OHHIT Project. Bill also added that in early January he will be meeting with mental health stakeholders and has contacted Marty Sweterlitsch to coordinate a meeting with long-term care stakeholders.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bill Hayes informed the committee that Philip Powers and Stephanie Jursek would be joining him at a meeting with UHIN (Utah Health Information Network) staff in Salt Lake City, Utah to learn more about their organization. A meeting with Denise Love of NAHDO was planned to take place as well. The focus of UHIN has been on eligibility and claims data. Bill Hayes remarked that he had a meeting with Dr. Baird. Dr. Baird indicated that he would be attending a meeting with Frank Samuel and Peter Pavarini, regarding HIT efforts and Ohio's Third Frontier. Bill Hayes reported he was successful in being included in that meeting to channel a collaborative effort. Dr. Baird also discussed with Bill the announcement of Dr. Leavitt's establishment of real time information on bio-surveillance effort.

Rick Sites informed the committee of letters prepared by the American Hospital Association in response to proposed rules outlining an exception to the Stark laws and an e-prescribing related safe harbor under the anti-kickback statutes. He noted that if there were specific questions with the letters, they should contact Mary Gallagher.

NEXT MEETING

Stephanie Jursek advised that the next meeting was scheduled for December 22. Since this occurred during the week of Christmas the meeting would be canceled. The next committee meeting will be January 5, 2006.