

THE WEST VIRGINIA HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Health Information Network was held at the office of The West Virginia Medical Institute, Charleston, West Virginia on August 17, 2007, pursuant to written notice posted on August 7, 2007 at the offices of The WV Health Care Authority.

PLACE OF
MEETING

The following Board members were present in person or telephonically:

ATTENDEES

Julian Bailes, MD, Chair
Ms. Sonia D. Chambers, Secretary-Treasurer
George F. Boxwell, DO, (for Olen E. Jones, Jr., Ph.D.)
Sarah Chouinard, MD
Robert L. Coffield, JD
Mr. J. Fred Earley, II, Vice-Chair
Michael O. Fidler, MD (for Joseph Selby, MD)
Mr. Michael Harmon (for Mr. Ted Cheatham)
Mr. Joseph Letnaunchyn, WVHA
Jennifer Plymale (for Charles H. McKown, Jr., MD)
David Potter (for George Karos)
John E. Prescott, MD
Mr. Kyle Shafer
Mr. Jesse W. Samples
Mr. Phil Schenk
Mr. Gerald Rouche (for Secretary Martha Y. Walker)
Mr. John Wiesendanger, CEO WVMI/Quality Insights

Non-members present were:

Dr. John G. Brehm, WVMI, Chief Medical Officer
Mr. Perry Bryant
Ms. Linda K. Cipoletti, WVMI, Executive Assistant
Dr. Jim Comerci, IPA
Mr. John Gray, HCA
Ms. Brenda Hancock, HCA
Ms. Sallie Hunt, Chief Privacy Officer, HCA, Acting
Executive Director, WVHIN

Mr. Jim Kranz, WVHA
Mr. Leonard Kelly, WV Medicaid
Ms. Ruth Koontz, HCA
Mr. Larry Malone
Ms. Helen Matheny, WVSMA
Mr. Mike Morris, WV Bureau Public Health
Mr. W. Grant Norman
Ms. Patty Ruddick, RN, WVMI Patient Safety
Director
Dr. Marshall Ruffin, Accenture Health Sciences
Mr. Tom Susman, TSG Consultants
Dr. Charles Schade, WVMI, Senior Epidemiologist
Ms. Juliet A. Terry, State Journal
Ms. Marilyn White, HCA

Additional non-members may have been present, but whose names were not captured on the sign-in log.

Dr. Julian Bailes, Chair of the WVHIN Board of CALL TO ORDER
Directors, welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order.
Materials were distributed electronically to the Board members in
advance and were presented on the screen via the webinar site
throughout the meeting.

Dr. Bailes called for approval of the minutes of the
January 26, 2007 meeting. Ms. Sonia Chambers moved that the
minutes be approved, Dr. George Boxwell seconded the motion and
the Board unanimously approved the minutes as written.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Sonia Chambers, Secretary-Treasurer proceeded with
the Treasurer's Report. She informed the Board that year-to-date
expenditures total \$28,469. Ms. Chambers informed the Board that
the 2007 Budget was \$50,000 leaving a remaining cash balance of

TREASURER'S
REPORT

\$21,531 which will be carried over and added to the WVHIN FY 2008 budget appropriation of \$1,400,000. The total amount of budget dollars available to the WVHIN fund for FY 2008 at present is \$1,421,531. Dr. George Boxwell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, Mr. Bob Coffield seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the approval of the Treasurer's Report.

Dr. Bailes proceeded with the Executive Committee report and update. The Executive Committee's primary focus has been the selection of its Executive Director, consideration of federal solicitations, appropriate delegation of its authority around efficient management practices and board meeting support. The Executive Committee received resumes and conducted interviews for the Executive Director. Upon review and consideration, the Executive Committee unanimously recommended that the WVHIN board appoint Sallie Hunt to serve as its Executive Director via contract, with negotiations to be conducted by Sonia Chambers on behalf of the WVHIN.

Dr. Bailes also informed the Board that the Executive Committee will ask the Board to support the WVHIN participation in two federal proposals. Proposal details will be presented to the Board based upon the Committee's recommendation under Agenda Item #8

The Executive Committee also directed that a policy

EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
REPORT

be developed to enable the board to appropriately delegate its powers under law to its Executive Director, thereby promoting efficient and effective management of the WVHIN. The Committee approved the policy, WVHIN – 2007.01, and recommends that this policy be adopted at this time.

Dr. Bailes opened the floor for discussion of the Executive Committee’s recommendations to the Board for approval. Mr. Early moved that the WVHIN board appoint and engage Sallie Hunt as the Executive Director. Dr. Michael Fidler was pleased to second the motion and the Board unanimously approved the appointment. Dr. Bailes congratulated Ms. Hunt on her new appointment as Executive Director.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
APPOINTMENT

Mr. Early moved to adopt the WVHIN’s delegated authority policy as recommended by the Executive Committee. The policy primarily provides:

ADOPTION OF
WVHIN
DELEGATED
AUTHORITY
POLICY

- a. The ED has authority, on behalf of the WVHIN, to make and enter into contracts and agreements; execute instruments; make purchases and dispense funds; and, dispose of real and personal property, on the authority of his or her signature for individual transactions up to \$50,000. The ED shall notify the Executive Committee of said expenditures, contracts, etc. where the obligated amount of the transaction exceeds \$25,000.
- b. For individual transactions over \$50,000, the ED has authority, on behalf of the WVHIN, to make and enter into contracts and agreements; execute instruments; make purchases and dispense funds; and, dispose of real and personal property, on the authority of his or her signature and the signature of one of the WVHIN officers.

The full approved policy is available at www.wvhin.org

Ms. Chambers seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

The newly appointed Executive Director, Sallie Hunt, was next on the agenda to present her report. Ms. Hunt introduced WVHCA staff and Ms. Linda Cipoletti and commended them on coordinating the meeting via a webinar site to achieve Dr. Bailes' directive that the meeting be paperless.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Ms. Hunt informed the audience that interviews for the Chief Information Officer and Administrative Assistant positions will begin next week.

Ms. Hunt encouraged attendance at the WV eHealth Initiative meetings, hosted by WVMI. This steering committee brings companies to WV from across the nation to share their success stories that, in turn, can be used to educate and support WVHIN agenda items to enable the Board to make the best decisions for the State of WV. She advised the Board that the next WV eHealth Initiative meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. at the WVMI offices located at 3001 Chesterfield Place, Charleston, WV.

Ms. Hunt gave a brief synopsis of her meeting in Vermont of the National Governor's Associations eHealth Alliance. She stated that the NGA will be making recommendations to the

states to advance HIE in specific areas after the first of the year. She also anticipates that a recommendation will be made that all states make their medical, nursing and pharmacy licensure applications available on-line. It is also anticipated that Congress will direct the federal government to review its privacy laws and regulations much in the same way that the states have reviewed their privacy laws, to reduce variability and enhance interoperability.

Ms. Hunt informed the Board that she will give a presentation to the Legislature's Joint Committee on Technology at August interims Sunday, August 19, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. in House Finance. She will present the WVHIN's objectives, as well as challenges to the Committee.

Ms. Hunt then brought the Board up-to-date on ePrescribing that the Board voted to support at the January 26, 2007 meeting. She informed the Board that during the Legislative session the law was passed to allow ePrescribing in WV. In a joint collaboration with the Board of Pharmacy development of emergency and legislative rules to carryout the ePrescribing initiative is underway.

Ms. Hunt advised that cost analysis on the stakeholder engagement and business plan development are being pursued to present to the Board at the October meeting. These figures will have a major impact on the proposed 2008 budget to be presented to the

Governor in the next couple of months.

This concluded the Executive Director's report.

John C. Wiesendanger, Chair of the WVHIN Consumer/Employer/Privacy Committee was next on the agenda. Prior to giving his report, Mr. Wiesendanger commended the Executive Committee in the recommendation of Sallie Hunt as the newly appointed Executive Director.

CONSUMER
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Mr. Wiesendanger reported that the Committee met in May to discuss proposed membership and to work on developing next steps. Several organizations have agreed to work with this Committee for the purpose of further collaboration in moving forward through the stages of health information exchange and seeking to solve the problems inherent in this transition.

Mr. Wiesendanger announced that a WVHISPC six-month extension contract has been awarded to WVMI. WVMI will work with the WVHIN and WVHCA on key issues that were addressed in the final implementation report to RTI in May 2007. Mr. Wiesendanger also stated that the main focus of this extension contract is to engage consumer stakeholders in developing guiding principles that will provide a long-term strategy for successful health information exchange. WVMI, WVHIN and WVHCA will be working with TSG Consulting Group to obtain baseline information and to educate consumers on EHRs as it pertains to privacy and

security of health information. Mr. Fred Early moved to delegate the role of HISPC steering committee to the Consumer Committee and to accept Mr. Wiesendanger's report as presented. Ms. Chambers seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

The Technology Report was next on the agenda, presented by Mr. Kyle Schafer. Mr. Schafer stated that the interviews for the position of Chief Information Officer will begin the week of August 21, 2007.

TECHNOLOGY
REPORT

Mr. Schafer has been actively involved with various vendor presentations to compare the architectural as well as security differences of all. Presentations revealed that a definition of terms is of the utmost importance because of the numerous acronyms used in the health information exchange. His staff is currently working with the Gartner Group to develop a definition of terms consistent with the electronic health record or electronic medical record and will be posted on the website.

Mr. Schafer's staff has obtained a list of all medical facilities across the State and is in the process of conducting a mapping initiative to ensure there is adequate connectivity. The Board was advised that phone numbers for physician offices were provided by the WVSMA and will subsequently be matched with providers in all areas of the State. Mr. Schafer also informed the group that to ensure rural areas have connectivity, Cisco has agreed to

perform pre-engineering studies to fill gaps with alternative technologies, if necessary.

Dr. Bailes raised the question of the functionality of the WVHIN website. Ms. Hunt indicated that with the hiring of additional resources, the website will provide documents such as status reports to enhance communication, as well as act as an educational tool for those interested in learning more about the WVHIN.

Mr. Early moved to accept the Technology Committee Report as presented and Ms. Chambers seconded the motion. Hearing no objection, the Board unanimously approved the Technology Report.

The Executive Director, Sallie Hunt and Dr. Marshall Ruffin, Partner and VP for Accenture Health Sciences were next on the agenda to inform the Board in more detail of the two federal proposal opportunities involving WVHIN. As mentioned earlier, the two RFPs are the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Health Information Network 2 (NHIN2). Both are nationally recognized efforts in the implementation of national health information exchange. Dr. Ruffin explained that the CDC is a multi-year contract opportunity to create health information exchange for public health purposes in WV. If awarded the contract, WVHIN would move quickly to consolidate the separate public health

FEDERAL
PROPOSALS FOR
BOARD
APPROVAL

networks onto the WVHIN architecture.

Dr. Ruffin continued to inform the Board about the NHIN2 opportunity. This also is a multi-year contract with the Office of the National Coordinator of Health Information Technology (ONC) of the Federal Government to build a statewide health information architecture. Accenture has partnered with the WVHIN in the submission of the proposal. The Federal government plans to award between 10-15 contracts in as many states. The major objective of this contract is to connect to the other 10-15 health information exchanges through WVHIN.

Following discussion, Ms. Chambers made a motion to accept the Executive Committee's recommendation that the WVHIN 1) contract with the federal government to support and participate in both projects if awarded to the WVHIN; i.e., as subcontractor in the CDC federal proposal and as contractor in the NHIN2 proposal; 2) for WVHIN to proceed with the next stage of planning for the WVHIN build out; and 3) implementation to include development of the detailed work plan and budget request to the Governor's office. Dr. Michael Fidler seconded the motion. Hearing no objection or additional discussion, the Board unanimously approved Ms. Chambers' motion.

Dr. James Comerchi from Wheeling, WV was next on the agenda to discuss the Upper Ohio Valley Individual Practice

IPA
PRESENTATION

Association (IPA)'s EMR. Dr. Comerci informed the Board that the IPA is an organization of physicians to provide a network of medical services to subscribers of a local managed care company. The IPA contracts with over 300 physicians in the tri-state area. The purpose of this organization is to provide electronic access to health care information via secure data exchange for patients, professionals and providers. Dr. Comerci introduced the Application Services Provider (ASP) Model Benefits and explained how physicians can benefit such as reduced cost of ownership and speed of deployment. At the present time, IPA needs technical support to grow, funding for project management for statewide access and support to add additional regions in the future.

Dr. Comerci discussed with the Board the obstacles of the electronic medical record such as capital expense, technology expertise, cost of support, disruption of office and cash flow and transportable data/records.

Larry Malone, Chairman of the WV Telehealth Alliance, a statewide non-profit group comprised of stakeholders involved in telehealth and rural health care in WV who focus on telehealth coordination, planning and programs, gave an update on the objectives of the group. Since January, Mr. Malone and his staff have worked closely with congressional delegates in submitting the FCC Broadband Application. The application was completed and if

WV TELEHEALTH
ALLIANCE
PRESENTATION

the application is granted, these funds will be used to establish broadband connectivity which will be the success of the WVHIN. Mr. Malone further stated that the mission of the WVTA is to advance the use of telehealth in WV in the areas of health care delivery, administration and patient care, as well as education/training and research and policy. The major objectives of the \$300K Benedum Grant are similar to the WV Telehealth Alliance objectives which are to create a web-based telehealth information exchange for WV; facilitate the Administrative needs related to FCC Rural Health Grant; enhance WV's Health Care Education/Training; and improve the status of health care in WV. Mr. Malone further stated that with the integration of resources it is his feeling that they can overcome the barriers that currently exist such as rural areas struggling with quality broadband service.


Dr. Charles Schade, Senior Epidemiologist for WVMI, was invited to discuss a negative study on EHRs and health care quality published by Reuters. The study used data from the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. Dr. Schade continued to state that although the measures were based on accepted quality concepts and have been previously published their scores were derived from physician reports at a single visit and may have underestimated actual quality achieved over time in chronic disease patients. The NAMCS

**EHR STUDY
PRESENTATION**

is a well-reputed data collection, but the information reported on the encounter forms is not audited. Dr. Schade stated that better tools are needed to assess the impact of electronic medical records. It was the consensus of the group that the Reuters EHR study gave a negative impression of the electronic health record.

Dr. Bailes announced the next meeting of the NEXT MEETING WVHIN Board of Directors has not been established but email communication will be sent with details in the near future.

There being no further business, the meeting was ADJOURNMENT adjourned at 3:30 p.m.


Sonia D. Chambers, Secretary-Treasurer, WVHIN
