

# **Minutes of the Health Information and Analysis Oversight Council**

## **March 21, 2023**

**Council members present:** Ms. Laura Adams; Mr. Niels Puetthoff, designee of Commissioner Gary Anderson, Division of Insurance; Mr. Brent Benson, Office of the State Auditor; Ms. Fay Donohue; Ms. Martha Kwasnik, designee of Secretary Matthew Gorkowicz, Executive Office for Administration and Finance; Dr. Meredith Rosenthal; Executive Director David Seltz, Health Policy Commission; and Ms. Sandra Wolitzky, Office of the Attorney General.

Ms. Donohue called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

### **I. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTE [VOTE]**

Ms. Donohue welcome CHIA Executive Director Lauren Peters to her first Council meeting in her new role. She called for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2022, meeting, which was followed by a formal roll call vote; the minutes were unanimously approved.

### **II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Peters introduced the Council meeting agenda and began her Executive Director's Report.

She updated the Council on several major projects currently underway or recently completed at CHIA to form a foundation for deeper discussions in later meetings, including the primary care dashboard, the new health care workforce survey, and health equity initiatives. The Council discussed these ongoing initiatives and expressed interest in receiving more detailed updates at the next meeting. Ms. Peters also explained to the Council that she is working with CHIA's executive team to develop a strategic plan that will assist in guiding the agency's priorities and decision making. She noted that strategic plan materials will be shared with Council members at a future date.

Emma Schlitzer McNamara, External Affairs Manager, then provided an overview to the Council on recent legislative developments and legislation that could impact CHIA or its work. She also provided a brief update on the FY 24 budget process.

### **III. EAPCD UPDATE**

Ms. Peters introduced the next agenda item, the Enhanced All-Payer Claims Database (eAPCD), and provided brief background information to the Council on the dataset. Jayme Reed, Senior Director of Customer and Data Product Support, was then introduced to provide a more detailed walkthrough and update to the Council.

Ms. Reed provided some background information on the project and outlined the original project goals before explaining how in recent months the eAPCD project has revamped its processes and procedures both internally and with the vendor working with CHIA on the eAPCD. She provided some examples of how the eAPCD is currently being used for internal analytic work. Ms. Reed concluded by outlining the planned next steps for the project, including that CHIA aims to wrap up the development stage of the eAPCD by this summer. The Council discussed the project progress as well as next steps with the vendor. Council members requested another status report on the eAPCD at the next meeting.

### **IV. ANNUAL REPORT FINDINGS**

The final agenda item was a presentation of findings from CHIA's March 2023 *Annual Report on the Performance of the Massachusetts Health Care System*. Ms. Peters remarked to the Council that this was CHIA's tenth Annual Report and explained that the approach to analyzing this year's data was different than in prior iterations of the report due to the impacts of COVID-19. CHIA for the first time annualized total health care expenditures and other relevant metrics over a three-year period between 2019 and 2021 to provide a more contextualized picture of health care spending and utilization. The Council was supportive of this approach. Molly Bailey, Associate Manager, then walked the Council through notable

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key findings and what was new to the report this year.

**V. CLOSING**

With no other business to discuss, Ms. Donohue sought to adjourn the meeting; the meeting concluded at 3:38 p.m.