

Minutes of the Health Information and Analysis Oversight Council

June 20, 2023

Council members present: Ms. Laura Adams; Ms. Amy Bianco, designee of Secretary Kate Walsh, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; Mr. Niels Puetthoff, designee of Commissioner Gary Anderson, Division of Insurance; Mr. Brent Benson, Office of the State Auditor; Ms. Fay Donohue; Ms. Cassandra Roeder, designee of Secretary Matthew Gorzkowicz, Executive Office for Administration and Finance; Executive Director David Seltz, Health Policy Commission; and Ms. Sandra Wolitzky, Office of the Attorney General.

Ms. Donohue called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTE [VOTE]

Ms. Donohue welcomed Ms. Amy Bianco to her first Council meeting as the designee of Secretary Walsh. Ms. Donohue then called for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2023, meeting, which was followed by a formal roll call vote; the minutes were unanimously approved.

II. STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

Ms. Lauren Peters introduced the Council meeting agenda and began her presentation on the development of CHIA's strategic plan.

Prior to the Council meeting, Ms. Peters had shared with members a copy of CHIA's draft strategic plan. During the meeting there was a discussion between Council members on various components of the plan, including insights into areas where CHIA may make improvements or consider additional ideas going forward. Council members were enthusiastic about the development of the strategic plan, and supportive of its role in defining CHIA's mission, priorities, and objectives.

Ms. Peters explained that, as a next step, CHIA's senior leadership team would work to develop tactics flowing from the strategic plan, including operational plans. She pledged to provide the Council with a six-month status update on implementation.

III. CHIA PRIORITY AREAS UPDATE

Ms. Peters then moved to walk through the rest of the Council meeting agenda. Next, she introduced three agency priority areas that she wanted to share with the Council: CHIA's primary care dashboard, health equity initiatives, and the workforce survey.

Caitlin Sullivan, Deputy Executive Director of Health Informatics and Reporting, presented on CHIA's work to develop the next primary care dashboard. First, she gave a brief background of the project, noting that CHIA released the inaugural dashboard in January 2023, with data metrics divided into four domains: finance, performance, capacity, and equity. Ms. Sullivan then outlined to the Council the new and expanded metrics that CHIA and Massachusetts Health Quality Partners (MHQP) are considering for inclusion in the next version of the publication. She invited the Council to think about any other metrics or domains to be included, as well as whether the publication should be in the same or a different format as the 2023 dashboard. Ms. Sullivan concluded by noting that the metrics should be finalized by this coming August, with a planned publication date of late fall or early winter 2024.

Ms. Peters then provided the Council with a brief update on CHIA's health care equity initiatives as well as the Workforce Survey. She noted that CHIA began fielding the Massachusetts Health Care and Human Services Workforce Survey (MHCW) in May, and outlined some of the content areas covered, including vacancy and turnover rates, racial and ethnic workforce composition, and challenged to addressing recruitment and retention. Ms. Peters asked the Council to consider for the next meeting how best to share survey results and other methods to encourage provider organizations to participate in the survey.

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IV. EAPCD UPDATE

Jayne Reed, Senior Director of Customer and Data Product Support from DOT, quickly presented to the Council on recent eAPCD developments. Ms. Reed explained that CHIA was closing out the development phase of the project and moving toward the operating phase. She noted recent project milestones, such as improved system performance and the continued onboarding of data user groups, like the Health Policy Commission. Ms. Reed then walked through the status of the business intelligence tool and the next steps in the eAPCD contract with IBM.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Peters concluded the meeting by presenting the Executive Director's Report, which included highlights of recent legislative developments from Emma McNamara, CHIA's External Affairs Manager, a budget update, and a discussion of artificial intelligence (AI) applications in health care.

VI. CLOSING

With no other business to discuss, Ms. Donohue sought to adjourn the meeting; the meeting concluded at 4:00 p.m.

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