

Meeting Minutes

eHealth Commission

November 13, 2020 | 10:00am to 12:00pm | Virtual Meeting Only

Type of Meeting	Monthly eHealth Commission Meeting
Facilitator	Michelle Mills
Note Taker	Natalie Neubert
Timekeeper	Michelle Mills
Commission Attendees	Michelle Mills, Carrie Paykoc, Alex Pettit, Art Davidson, Sophia Gin, Chris Underwood, Chris Wells, Jason Greer, Marc Lassaux, Michelle Mills, Michele Lueck, Annie Harrington (Morgan Honea's delegate), Chris Miller (Perry May's delegate), Wes Williams

Minutes

Call to Order

Michelle Mills, Chair

- Roll call was taken. Quorum was reached.
- Motion moved and seconded to approve the October Commission meeting minutes. Motion passed and October minutes were approved.
- Review of November Agenda.

Announcements

Dianne Primavera, Lt. Governor and Director of OSP\$OHC (Office of Saving People Money on Health Care)

Carrie Paykoc, Director, Office of eHealth Innovation

Remarks from the Lt. Governor

- Thank you to Steve Kelley, Theo Gonzales, and Holly Marquardt from the Thornton Fire Department for joining us to share how they are using telemedicine during emergency response calls to support their communities
- Highlighting latest information on Governor's proposed FY 2021-22 budget and economic stimulus package:
 - Administration took efforts to minimize impacts on any population, especially our safety net and rural communities.
 - The extension of the Public Health Emergency by Health and Human Services has a positive impact of approximately \$100 million on the state General Fund.
 - Medicaid enrollment has not been as high as initially estimated last spring, significantly reducing expected expenditures.
 - These savings helped create a state stimulus package last week to help those most economically impacted by the pandemic and the economic challenges it has produced.
 - Over 400,000 people who received unemployment benefits since March will receive a one time \$375 stimulus that we anticipate will be spent quickly, helping to further stimulate the Colorado economy.
- Gov. Polis has taken actions to prevent evictions while also making efforts to prevent landlords from going into foreclosure
- Concerning impact of the lower than forecasted Medicaid clients is the rising number of uninsured Coloradans

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- Health Care Policy and Financing is requesting funding for outreach to people who are eligible but not enrolled

OeHI Updates, Carrie Paykoc

- OeHI is thrilled to move forward with rural connectivity
 - OeHI will be directly involved in advising and directing funds into rural communities specifically to support telemedicine
 - OeHI is working closely with Colorado Rural Broadband Office, Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), Department of Education (CDE), health foundations, etc. to ensure we are coordinating stimulus funding to get the most out of those funds and thinking holistically
- OeHI is hiring Senior Health IT Project Managers and looking for new eHealth Commissioners to fulfill soon to be vacant spot
 - Please apply.
 - Also will have two potential reappointments of eHealth Commissioners

Stephanie Bennett, State Health IT Coordinator, OeHI

ONC Interoperability Update

- Quick overview of the updates provided by the Office of National Coordinator to final rule, and those were pushing applicability dates back in response to COVID
- This gives providers and tech companies more time to comply
- Stephanie is working with contractors at HealthTech Solutions to provide comments in support.
 - Will incorporate any Commissioner thoughts into these comments before sharing.

Chris Wells

- Colorado Exposure notifications is a voluntary services through Apple and Google that can notify users of their potential exposure to COVID
 - Devices share anonymous tokens via Bluetooth - these tokens contain no personal information or location data
 - If another user tests positive and user was near the COVID-positive individual within a 14-day period, the service will notify users
- Please feel free to visit the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's website for more info.
- QUESTIONS:
 - **Michele Lueck:** How does the application interface with other information about what to do, or if you are notified, does it direct you to sources to help with isolation and quarantine?
 - **Chris Wells:** It will refer you to resources as to what to do, how to get tested, and what to do about potential exposure.
 - **Art Davidson:** Question about rural broadband: do we have a number for what percent of the population still needs to be connected, that gap between total population and those we are trying to reach? How far will the investment just discussed take us in filling the gap?
 - **Carrie Paykoc:** Still in early stages of doing this assessment. The Office of Rural Broadband has broadband maps. There are a couple of assessments that will be happening this winter and early next year to verify information. We are trying to use rural health centers and critical access hospitals as that hub.
 - **Sophia Gin:** Question on Rural Connectivity: Once they are connected and broadband speed increased, is that just for one year or will that infrastructure remain?
 - **Carrie Paykoc:** The plan for the funding OeHI is referring to, is health information exchange connectivity. The plan for that is to pay for onboarding,

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technical assistance. and to create a financial model that can be sustained longer term to provide access in a broader way. The broadband stimulus funding is a one-time stimulus funding with the intention of laying fiber to the home and moving that forward, as well as for devices for individuals in rural communities (laptops, phones, etc).

- **Marc Lassaux:** Have there been any particular communities that have been identified for the broadband issues yet?
- **Carrie Paykoc:** Early to say, but based on the initial discussion, there is a focus on Eastern Plains. Making sure our legislators are supportive of this and ensure they see broadband as an ongoing issue that is important for the success of the state.
- **Marc Lassaux:** Broadband is expensive, \$20 million will not go very far if we go across all communities in need, but if we focus on particular areas that \$\$ can go a long way.
- **Carrie Paykoc:** Using those funds to leverage for a match and search for collaboration to combine and leverage funds to get the most out of them.

New Business

Thornton Fire Department's Telemedicine Story

Steve Kelley, Deputy Fire Chief, Thornton Fire Dept.

Theo Gonzales, EMS Captain, Thornton Fire Dept.

Holly Marquardt, EMS Coordinator, Thornton Fire Dept.

Holly Marquardt

- We work to mitigate the current COVID-19 pandemic by leverage telemedicine to delivery care in the safety of our citizen's homes
- Reduce overall strain on local emergency departments by diversion of low acuity patients to more appropriate levels of care such as telemedicine.
- Reduce the overall cost of system healthcare by providing more efficient and effective care.
- Based on our call volume, we estimate that we treat 1200 patients during the grant performance period.
 - Number changes from 6 per day to 10 per day in October

Theo Gonzales

- Project Overview:
 - Provide telehealth services to Thornton visitors and residents in partnership with CarePoint Physicians through Zoom for Healthcare
 - Deploy connected iPads in every response apparatus → all ambulances, cars, station, etc
 - Activate advanced scope paramedics-- they can do more than regular paramedics including lab diagnostics, blood tests, and rapid COVID-19 testing right in people's homes to decrease the chance of exposure.
 - Utilize peripheral devices to enhance ability to do assessments and clinically diagnose and treat patients
 - Mitigate COVID-19 pandemic with testing capabilities.
 - Integrate Julota to connect all software platforms across our care network to communicate and coordinate.
- Tiered/Layered Approach:
 - Telemedicine: Physician Consultation - medical assessment & treatment plan
 - Telepresentation: Physician & Trained provider - medical assessment & Diagnostics

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- Telemonitoring: Physician - Connected Diagnostic Devices
- With the public health emergency and COVID-19, telemedicine is their primary goal and focus, and we are layering other projects around it.

Carrie Paykoc: Can you talk about integration to health information exchange, as this is one of two of our EMS projects...

Theo Gonzales:

Our PCR (patient care reporting system), is integrated into all of the hospitals. This is an HIE specifically for EMS and fire department.

- Also use CORHIO for quality improvement; check up on patients; teach paramedics some after-skills
- Julota: bridge program that ties all HIEs together in one place for the Thornton team so they can have all of that information in real time - ultimate goal is to be a part of the connected healthcare ecosystem.

eHealth Commission Charter Discussion and Vote on Update

Carrie Paykoc, OeHI

Summary of Changes

- Much has changed since prior to COVID-19, bringing edits and recommendations for review and approval
- UPDATES:
 - Updated Commission Member Approval Title:
 - “eHealth Commission leadership”
 - Added State Health IT Coordinator, Stephanie Bennett, to the charter
 - eHealth Commission Chair: Marc Lassaux’s term is ending in February
 - Changing 3 to 2 chairs on the Commission
 - **VOTE: opposition from changing 3 to 2 chairs: NO OPPOSITION**
 - **Michele Lueck:** Good governance best practices: any requirement of members, any expectations regarding committee involvement? Is it time to think about rotating Chair positions?
 - **Carrie Paykoc:** Regarding good governance, there is discussion about eHealth Commission Chairs running sub-workgroups as executive sponsor later in the document
 - **Michele Lueck:** I am wondering if we should have clearer expectations for each Chair during their term? Also, how are we thinking about chair and co-chair positions?
 - **Carrie Paykoc:** It makes sense to have eHealth Commissioners chair at least one sub-group or assignment with the office. I would suggest adding clear expectations about running at least one work group. In terms of term limits of the Chair and rotation of the Chair, we had not previously thought about this. It makes sense to rotate or set limits. I would propose to the Commission that in 2022, Michelle rolls off as Chair, same with Jason...let’s review offline term limits.
 - **Wes Williams:** I wonder about keeping Michelle and Jason as Co-Chairs, making Art Vice Chair, and then making Art Chair once Michelle and Jason roll off, and then picking a new Vice-Chair and then repeating this process annually.
 - **Carrie:** will work with the team to update the document with a section on chairs, terms, and more and will get back to the Commission on that.
 - Other changes in the document worth highlighting...

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- Updated Tasks and Responsibilities to include:
 - Made sure that there is reference to Health IT Roadmap with a link
 - Commission went through successful transition of administrations, however, if we go through another transition want to ensure the Commission is in line with State priorities
- Added Appendix:
 - Added to the end to clarify term limits, who is on Commission and the role each individual represents, and executive order to the document
- Questions:
 - **Art Davidson:** In an earlier part of the document, you talk about completion of Colorado's IT Roadmap. But we are "refreshing" the Roadmap this year, so I think it would be worthwhile to make those consistent. The roadmap will always be changing, always in evolution, so good to make the phrasing consistent.
 - **Marc Lassaux:** Propose that we draft up language about the vice chair/co-chair concept and send out to eHealth Commission members and send off to eHealth members to vote.

Health IT Roadmap Update and Sustainability Discussion

Carrie Paykoc, OeHI

Joel Dalzell, HCPF

Carrie Paykoc, OeHI

- Health IT Roadmap 3.0: Summary of The Initiatives led by OeHI
 - We are at a time that we need to start thinking about future priorities, strategies, where we want to head next.
 - Would love to expand time during Commission meetings next year to ensure we have additional time to workshop strategies, approaches, and capabilities
- OeHI Expenditures- Health IT Roadmap
 - Through your steering, our office's project management and leadership we've been able to implement significant investments
 - Reviewed the funds in each fiscal year
 - We've invested in organizations and projects that are promoting health innovation, policy, and more to improve strategies in the roadmap
 - By this time next year, we will have invested an additional \$10 million in projects including rural connectivity, information governance, care coordination and more
- HITECH Transition Update
 - There will be some projects that do not qualify for the new Medicaid enterprise funding

Joel Dalzell, HCPF

- HITECH Transition Update
 - State Medicaid efforts: breaks down into two tracks of work:
 - (1) CMS has been engaged to certify aspects of HIEs that certify Medicaid as a payer which will allow us to tap into federal funding in the long run for those functionalities.
 - (2) Figure out which Health IT Roadmap initiatives that will continue past September 2021 have a direct impact to Medicaid as a payer, to transition to MMIS funding

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- Expect to have a better idea of these in the Spring
- Questions: feel free to reach out to Joel Dalzell via email.

VOTING:

Michelle Mills: Motion to extend eHealth Commission meeting an additional hour in 2021?

Group discusses and decides to compromise to add an additional half hour.

Michelle Mills: Approved to add an additional thirty minutes onto the eHealth Commission Meetings.

HIE Sustainability Task Force Update

Kate Keifert, National Governors Association

Lauren Block, National Governors Association

Carrie Paykoc, Director, Office of eHealth Innovation

Carrie Paykoc

- We are planning on sunseting the stand-alone HIE Sustainability Task Force, and infusing the process into the Roadmap refresh.
- Added emphasis on behavioral health, public health and health equity reflected in the roadmap.
- Commission Feedback:
 - **Wes Williams:** Cost of HIEs to the provider system was a frequent theme-- is that now part of the roadmap?
 - **Carrie Paykoc:** There is affordability of health IT and analytics as stand-alone initiatives. However, in the next version of the roadmap, cost cannot stand alone. Cost and sustainability are hand in hand.
- Kate to provide additional context to the conversation...

Kate Kiefert

- Discussed:
 - Success factors for HIE Sustainability
 - Aligned principles and goals
 - Policy levers to advance interoperability
 - Health data sharing structures:
 - Public utility component
 - Health data utility components
 - Health data sharing opportunities
 - Common infrastructure and data/interoperability standards
 - Common data utility use cases
 - HIE metrics and ROI
 - Financing options
- Financial sustainability and transparency is a key factor in successful sustainability HIE ecosystems
- Identifying policy levers can be a fantastic way to enhance data sharing
- Goals and principles of HIE sustainability: gaining efficiency; advance standardized data collection, sharing and use; improve value and reduce cost
- There are a range of policy levers incentivising participating in sharing and use of data
 - Examples: Executive Order legislation, contracting, etc
- Health Data Sharing Utility Components:
 - Regulatory authority

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- Designation
- Governance and rule making
- Oversight and monitoring
- Financing rules
- Principles
- Health Data Utility Use Case Examples:
 - Reusable technical infrastructure
 - Public health gateway
 - Single reporting
 - Social needs information exchange
 - Population health
 - Up to the Commission to come up with common use cases in order to identify health priorities in Colorado
- Metrics and Return on Investment
 - Technology maturity
 - Interoperability advancing
 - Implementation and sustainability costs and return on investment
 - Colorado-specific HIE metrics, identified these to show administrative metrics to demonstrate where Colorado is in order to promote transparency.
- HIE Financing Models
 - What are some feasible options so Colorado can continue to sustain the investments and technology to import information exchange?

Carrie Paykoc

- One additional thing highlighted for eHealth Commission: we'll be working with NGA to dig in deeper on other state models and can bring this back to Commission in future months if there are other areas commissioners want us to hone in on
- Comments from Commissioners on our Sustainability TF
 - **David Mok-Lamme:** Really cool to learn about the utility model, need to do the hard work to learn about what other states are doing in order to learn what may be a better fit for Colorado.
 - **Jason Greer:** In the utility model, is the idea that the Commission would run through an evaluation of what a Colorado-based utility model for HIEs, and if Commission decides this is a good model for our state, do we then have a conversation with QHN and CORHIO about converting to a utility model? How does that conversion occur if that is the direction we decide to go in?
 - **Kate Kiefert:** In order to get to the goals, we need to define governance. There will be designations of roles and responsibilities. Align policy levers and funding options. There are ways you can set it up, but it must be aligned to principles and goals, and everyone knows where they are in the whole process. A lot of different ways to determine is it useful, how to set it up, and then how to execute it.
 - **Jason Greer:** Will that part of the discussion be a part of the Roadmap Refresh?
 - **Carrie Paykoc:** Maybe not jumping to how we get there, but more fleshing out what could this mean.

Back to Michelle Mills, onto public comment.

Public Comment Period

- As a Regional Health Connector in the Eastern plains, we are looking at easy-to-use

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phone apps for telehealth calls. There are several providers that are currently using these apps.

- No comment
- What is Joel Dalzell's Email
 - joel.dalzell@state.co.us
- How can we get oral health up to speed?
 - **Carrie Paykoc:** Lots of different ways, but we'll take it back to Medicaid. Seems like a FEMA policy. We will follow-up on that.

Final comments from Michelle

- Carrie Paykoc final topics to review...
 - Team will be making changes to charter and bylaws for Commissioner review and approval next week
 - Welcome input from any commissioners for any version or vision for the Roadmap
 - We are extending the meeting to 2.5 hours starting in January
 - **Wes Williams:** Do you think the Gov. will make decisions about appointments before our next meeting, or afterwards?
 - **Carrie Paykoc:** Unsure about exact timing, but will be around that time..

Michelle Mills

Review of December Agenda- no comments.

Any final thoughts- no comments.

Motion to Adjourn

Michelle Mills, Chair

- So moved. Meeting adjourned at 11:46 AM MST