

EHEALTH COUNCIL

Nebraska Information Technology Commission
February 11, 2008 9:00 AM CT – 12:00 noon CT

Lincoln-Nebraska Educational Telecommunications, 1800 N. 33rd, Board Rm., 1st Floor
Chadron-Chadron State College – Burkheiser (far east bldg. on campus) – Rm. 109, 10th & Main
North Platte-Educational Service Unit #16, 1221 W. 17th. Distance Learning Rm.
Omaha-NMC: University Hospital – Room 3215. Enter through Room 3227 (Biomedical Communications)

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Vivianne Chaumont, Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care, Department of Health and Human Services

Senator Annette Dubas, Nebraska Unicameral

Dr. Kimberly Galt, Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

Daniel Griess, Box Butte General Hospital, Alliance (Alliance site)

Donna Hammack, Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network and St. Elizabeth Foundation

Steve Henderson, Office of the CIO

Alice Henneman, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County

Ron Hoffman, Jr., Mutual of Omaha (Omaha site)

Ken Lawonn, NeHII and Alegent Health (Omaha site)

David Lawton, Division of Public Health, Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Keith Mueller, UNMC College of Public Health (Omaha site)

Nancy Shank, Public Policy Center

September Stone, Nebraska Health Care Association

Dr. Delane Wycoff, Pathology Services, PC (North Platte site)

Henry Zack, HDC 4Point Dynamics

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dennis Berens, Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health; Susan Courtney, Blue Cross Blue Shield; Joni Cover, Nebraska Pharmacists Association; C.J. Johnson, Southeast Nebraska Behavioral Health Information Network and Region V Systems; Jim Krieger, Gallup; Harold Krueger, Western Nebraska Health Information Exchange and Chadron Community Hospital; Jeff Kuhr, Three Rivers Public Health Department, Fremont; Kay Oestmann, Southeast District Health Department; John Roberts, Nebraska Rural Health Association; and Marie Woodhead (representative for Congressman Jeff Fortenberry)

ROLL CALL NOTICE OF POSTING OF AGENDA NOTICE OF NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT POSTING

Dr. Galt called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. There were 15 members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed. Ms. Byers stated that the meeting notice was posted on the NITC Web site and on the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on January 11, 2008. The agenda was posted on January 17, 2008.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 10, 2007 MINUTES

Ms. Shank moved to approve the [December 10, 2007 minutes](#) as present. Ms. Stone seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

[EMR ADOPTION IN NEBRASKA AND SOUTH DAKOTA](#)

Andjela Drincic, M.D. and Mark Siracuse, Pharm.D., Ph.D.

The report summarizes the state of EHR adoption of physician office practices in Nebraska as of summer 2007. The survey and analysis work has been conducted by researchers at Creighton University Health Services Research Program (CHRP) under contract with the Nebraska Medical Association with involvement from all members of the EHR Nebraska implementation team.

Topics covered in the report included:

- Technology used in Patient Care
- Electronic Health Record Status
- Computer Applications Currently in Use
- Clinical Functions on HER
- e-Prescribing
- Barriers to Adoption of HER
- Patient Care Visits and EHR Adoption Primary Care MDs
- Physician Perception of Patient Safety

(More detailed information and charts available on presentation link.)

The full report will be available March 1, 2008 from:

•<http://chrp.creighton.edu>

•<http://ehrnebraska.org/interact>

Or you may contact CHRP for published copies at 402-280-4944.

NEW BUSINESS/REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL. Senator Annette Dubas, Nebraska Legislature and Vivianne Chaumont, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medicaid and Long Term Care, were introduced as new member nominees to the council.

Mr. Henderson moved to approve Senator Dubas and Vivianne Chaumont as new eHealth Council members. Ms. Hammack seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried by voice vote.

HISPC UPDATE, David Lawton and Anne Byers

A contract is expected from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONCHIT) for Nebraska to be part of a 10-state collaborative to standardize business practices related authentication and auditing. The project will involve three Nebraska RHIOs, as well as the other participating states. The award duration will be 12 months from the receipt date. The ten states include Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Maryland, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia, and Washington. The Nebraska HISPC committee continues to meet and has formed an Education Work Group to examine training issues and a Legal Work Group to examine Nebraska laws.

UPDATE ON NEW LEGISLATION & DISCUSSION OF APPROPRIATE ROLE OF EHEALTH COUNCIL AND NITC IN LEGISLATIVE PROCESS—Steve Henderson

As a result of the NITC Legislative Performance Audit recommendations, LB 823 was introduced this legislative session. LB 823 gives the NITC more oversight on enterprise project management. The bill is moving rapidly through the legislature. Currently, it is in select file. An amendment has been filed that will incorporate the GIS (Geospatial Information Systems) Committee and NIDCAC (Nebraska Intergovernmental Data and Communications Advisory Council) under the umbrella of the NITC. The question was raised regarding the eHealth Council's role with legislative bills. Mr. Henderson stated that there may be times when the council will have opinions on legislation. The preference is to have the eHealth Council present their viewpoints to the NITC. The NITC would speak on behalf of the council and the NITC. If members speak to legislators as representatives of other organizations, the Office of the CIO would ask that they identify themselves as such.

Rick Becker of the OCIO maintains legislative information on the NITC Web site:
<http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/itc/sg/legislation.html>.

ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Anne Byers, Community I.T. Manager

Overview of Process and Discussion of [Submitted Action Item Ideas](#)—Co-Chairs

The NITC annually reviews and updates the Statewide Technology Plan. The Commission has identified 8 strategic initiatives and has asked the advisory councils develop action items to achieve the strategic initiatives. Ken Lawonn, Dennis Berens, Donna Hammack, Dr. Steve Hinrichs, and Marsha Morien, and Anne Byers submitted ideas for action items.

The council reviewed the actions items and provided feedback.

By group consensus, the council agreed to have action items revised per recommended changes for an electronic review and approval to be submitted to the NITC at the March meeting. Ms. Byers requested that the revisions be by the end of this week or first part of next week.

Council members expressed concerns regarding the USF grandfather clause and would like a way of communicating their support of the clause. Mr. Henderson offered to include this on the NITC March agenda as an urgent issue.

[NGA STATE ALLIANCE FOR EHEALTH](#) - Wayne Sensor, CEO, Alegent Health

The State Alliance for e-Health is a consensus-based executive-level body of state elected and appointed officials formed to address the unique role states can play to facilitate the adoption of interoperable electronic health information exchange. The purpose of the alliance is as follows:

- Address barriers to health information exchange and adoption of health IT while preserving privacy, security and consumer protections.
- Build consensus among state policies, regulations and laws and guide modification of policies, regulations or laws.
- Allow for dialogue among states to fuel creativity and partnerships with the private sector in the health IT arena.
- Allow input from experts and others working on health IT endeavors to inform state policymaking.

2008 issues that the State Alliance will be addressing:

- Increase knowledge regarding financing, sustainability and accountability for health information exchange
- Identify levers for states to further electronic prescribing
- Continue to find ways to support standardization and interoperability

Key Activities Going Forward

- Issue State Alliance's first report to the nation on e-health and states (March 2008)
- Establish new taskforces to examine (a) privacy and security and (b) states roles.
 - Currently seeking candidates to serve in 2008.
 - Meetings in April 2008 and June/July 2008.
- Support implementation, with activities such as:
 - Develop a guide and set of tools based on current and future recommendations of the Alliance to assist states in forming plans for electronic HIE and health IT adoption.
 - Select states to support in the development of state-wide innovations that would include Alliance recommendations.

- State sharing of best practices through learning forums.

For more information on the alliance, contact one of the sources below:

State Alliance Listserv: Send a blank email to subscribe-state-alliance@talk.nga.org to receive updates and news on the State Alliance for e-Health.

State Alliance for e-Health Website: www.nga.org/center/ehealth

Michelle Lim Warner, MPH:

Program Director, Health Division, Center for Best Practices, National Governors Association,
mwarner@nga.org, 202-624-3545

Other informational links are listed below:

[Health Information Communication and Data Exchange Task Force Report](#)

[Health Information Protection Task Force Report | Appendix B.2](#)

[Health Care Practice Task Force Report \(August 15, 2007\)](#)

[Health Care Practice Task Force Report \(October 3, 2007\)](#)

ADJOURN

Mr. Lawton moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Stone seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried by voice vote.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Anne Byers of the Office of the CIO/NITC.