

Connecticut Health Information Technology and Exchange Advisory Committee
Finance Subcommittee
March 8, 2010
Minutes

Attendance: Dan Carmody (Chair), Marie O'Brien, Jim Segarra, Kevin Carr, Rich Schubach, Warren Wollschlager, Marianne Horn, Michael Hudson. Guest: Tony Roberto.

1. Welcome and Introductions

- The Chair convened the meeting and welcomed members of the Finance Subcommittee. Tony Roberto from CDA introduced himself.

2. Review of Draft Minutes from February 22, 2010

- The draft minutes from the Finance Subcommittee meeting on February 22, 2010 were reviewed and accepted without change.

3. Feedback from March 5, 2010 Meetings

- DPH provided an overview of two meetings held on March 5, 2010. From 10:00 – 11:00 am, DPH, DOIT and Gartner met to discuss the strategies and timeframe for completion of the strategic and operational health information technology and exchange plans required by ONC. From 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, the same group met with the five Chairs of the HITE subcommittees who constitute the HITE Executive Committee to discuss the role of the subcommittee in the strategic and operational planning processes. Gartner walked attendees through a March 5, 2010 Power Point, and discussed the need to answer key questions before drilling down to more operational details. In particular, they noted that other states have spent a great deal of time discussion the issues of opt-in v. opt-out, and centralized v. regional data repositories. Gartner will attend the Advisory Committee meeting of March 15, 2010 to begin the planning process.

The Chair noted that he indicated to Gartner that while these two issues were important, they are part of the bigger discussion of what does the state intend to do and why. He indicated that attendees brought up Arizona and Minnesota as states that have addressed these larger issues successfully.

4. Discussion

- Members agreed that the issues raised by Gartner were important, but that the most critical issues to be decided early in the planning processes were:
 - a. What are we going to do;
 - b. Why are doing it; and
 - c. How does it fit into health care reform.
- The Chair raised the need for additional subcommittee members, specifically mentioning community health, Medicaid and consumer representation. Members suggested we invite CHA, the CT Primary Care Association, and CHEFA.
- The Chair indicated he will be on the phone during the meeting on March 12, 2010, and that other members will need to cover the subcommittee report. He

reviewed the GAO report which he sent to members on March 5, 2010, and referenced the EHIE Washington report.

- The Chair initiated a discussion regarding the big picture issues that need to be addressed for planning purposes. The group agreed that initial data exchange efforts in Connecticut should be very focused and system wide. E-prescribing and medical reconciliation were noted as important areas, and a Master Patient Index is needed to begin the exchange process. After much discussion, the group agreed to propose an initial effort focused on the exchange and use of (1) patient medical conditions, (2) medications, and (3) lab values in the hospital emergency room settings.

This would represent only the first of a multi-phase effort. Initially, ambulatory providers would be pushing data into the exchange, would pull data out in Phase 2. This approach will satisfy current meaningful use requirements, but will need to revisit at subsequent meetings.

- The group discussed the possible role of the payor community in financing health information exchange. The Chair talked about the need for payors to see a concrete, focused and measurable effort. It was agreed that the Comptroller should be invited to join the subcommittee.

5. Assignments and Next Steps

- Kevin Carr agreed to present the subcommittee report on March 15, 2010. He noted the need for a graphic in order to present how the services will relate to each other in a doable and measurable manner.
- Jim Segarra will invite CHA representatives to join the subcommittee.
- Warren Wollschlager will invite representatives from DSS, CHEFA and the CT Primary Care Association to join the subcommittee.
- Dan Carmody will invite the Comptroller or her designee to join the subcommittee.
- The next meeting of the Finance Subcommittee is scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2010, from 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM, at the CT Development Authority in Rocky Hill.