

VERBATIM PROCEEDINGS

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND EXCHANGE ADVISORY  
COMMISSION

AND

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COMMISSIONER DOCTOR ROBERT GALVIN, CHAIRPERSON

JANUARY 25, 2010

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
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HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND EXCHANGE COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 25, 2010

1 . . .Verbatim Proceedings of a meeting of  
2 the Health Information Technology and Exchange Committee  
3 held on January 25, 2010 at 12:09 p.m. at the Department  
4 of Health Information Technology, 101 East River Road,  
5 East Hartford, Connecticut. . .

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7

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9

10 CHAIRPERSON COMMISSIONER ROBERT GALVIN:  
11 Good afternoon all. Our first order of was business today  
12 we will review the 12-21-2009 draft minutes. I presume  
13 all of you have had an opportunity to read those minutes,  
14 if not we'll take a few minutes while we have some  
15 arriving members and let you all take a look at the draft  
16 minutes.

17 MR. WARREN WOLLSCHLAGER: Did somebody just  
18 join us on the phone?

19 MR. DANIEL CARMODY: Yes, Warren, this is  
20 Dan Carmody.

21 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Hi, Dan, how are you?

22 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Hi Dan.

23 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Thank you for that. I  
24 understand something came up. I appreciate you calling

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1 in.

2 MR. CARMODY: No problem.

3 COURT REPORTER: Any way he could bring  
4 volume up on that phone?

5 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Sure.

6 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Okay.

7 MR. PETER COURTWAY: This is Peter  
8 Courtway, a motion to approve the minutes as written.

9 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Do I have a second for  
10 that motion to approve -- these are the just -- we're just  
11 voting on the 12-21 minutes.

12 VOICES: Second.

13 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Okay. Any additions,  
14 changes, deletions, spelling changes and the like? If  
15 not, all in favor -- and once again we're simply voting on  
16 adopting the minutes from our 12-21 meeting. All in favor  
17 of adopting the minutes indicate by saying aye.

18 VOICES: Aye.

19 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Opposed? The motion  
20 is carried. We are now at item No. 3, Governance Models  
21 for HIE industry.

22 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: I'm going to try to  
23 speak up so you can pick it up. Is this adequate? For  
24 those of you who don't know me I'm Warren Wollschlager

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1 with the State Department of Public Health. And probably  
2 of the largest public attendees. It's nice to see folks  
3 who I know are involved in the community attending the  
4 meeting. For those around the table we sent out the NDA  
5 report that came out a while ago that talked about the  
6 public governance models for a sustainable HIE industry.

7 As a way of background, I know many of you  
8 have read this, I've already heard from one of our  
9 colleagues at the table that we have a personal  
10 relationship with a primary author of the report and  
11 that's a resource that we'll try to tap into with the  
12 State of Connecticut. But our presentation over the next  
13 10 minutes is really going to talk mostly about our  
14 current governance model, how we got there, and some  
15 options for proceeding in an alternative way that I think  
16 in the both the short term and the long term will set  
17 Connecticut up to be more successful. Thank you, Michael.

18 Okay.

19 So background, I think I'm looking around  
20 this table as well as at a the audience and I have to  
21 laugh because I think the folks in the room know more  
22 about this stuff than I do for sure. But for those of you  
23 who know what I know the background is that the Office of  
24 the National Coordinator announced a series of fundings

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1 for different cooperative agreements. As part of the  
2 agreement for state HIE purposes we had to provide  
3 information to ONC about our existing governance model.  
4 Next slide, please?

5 Meaning why is it important that we get an  
6 appropriate governance model? That we get money into the  
7 State of Connecticut, that we get a fully functioning  
8 exchange that is capable allowing to provide us not only  
9 to exchange data, but to use it in a meaningful way is  
10 because it's tied to a series of criteria and incentives  
11 that begin rolling in just around the corner in 2011. So  
12 there's a certain urgency for Connecticut to develop the  
13 capacity to exchange data in a meaningful way.

14 Again, this is a big deal to the providing  
15 community in Connecticut. So, this the application that  
16 we submitted in response to that funding announcement by  
17 the ONC. It's up on our web site -- at DPH web site, I  
18 know many of you have seen it, we have both the budget  
19 narrative and the programmatic narrative.

20 Basically what we did in our application  
21 was reflect this exist governance structure as legislated  
22 in the last legislative session. So we have DPH as the  
23 lead health organization for the state, we have this HIT  
24 advisory committee established in statute with the

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1 Lieutenant Governor and the rest appointed by elected  
2 officials as well as a number of state agencies sitting in  
3 an ex officio capacity. That pretty much breaks down what  
4 we did in terms of a budget, but basically we set aside  
5 the bulk of the money, \$4 million, to actually go to  
6 develop the capacity for the exchange of data statewide.

7 The next biggest segment went to actually  
8 fund the state personnel. These are assets that would be  
9 employed either in the Department of Public Health or --  
10 and-or the Department of Information Technology. So we  
11 put in funding for a state health information technology  
12 coordinator, as well as for some technical expertise for  
13 DOIT, and some support staff for the Department. Over the  
14 course of four years that eats up \$2.2 million. The rest  
15 is for the planning process that we talked about and  
16 evaluative capacity over the four years.

17 Now, this isn't Warren's opinion about the  
18 challenges of the current governance model, there's just a  
19 lot of information out there in literature about different  
20 types of governance models, best practices, problems that  
21 have been inherent in the government-led governance model.

22 Typically, according to the NGA report anyways, where you  
23 see a model where government is really the driving force  
24 is -- comes out in a couple of -- for a couple of reasons.

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First of all, it comes about when a state government is plowing the bunch of money into the effort.

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Now, Connecticut has invested \$700,000 over the last

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several years to develop a plan and for some other

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reasons. But you compare that to the State of New York

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that invested \$240 million back in 2004, and has matched

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that over the last five years, it's just a different scale

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of state level investment.

10

The other place where you see a government-

11

led effort is typically where there's not a lot going on

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in the community, but there's a lot going on at the state

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level. So the state setting standards already is really

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the driver in the HIE community and is going to be a top

15

down approach to access to and reach out and collaborate

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with the HIE community.

17

That's not an accurate reflection of

18

Connecticut. At least from what I learned over my last

19

six months going around, there's some very sophisticated

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stuff going on in a variety of settings, in hospital

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settings, provider -- physician communities, or community

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health centers, school-based health centers is just

23

getting off, there's some good stuff going on in long term

24

care. Clearly to the extent there's a sophisticated

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1 degree of HIE exchange and utilization, that's happening  
2 at a provider level not at a state level.

3 Okay. So this is pretty much an overview  
4 of the current situation. It's been tweaked a little bit  
5 actually since our application, and we'll talk about that  
6 just a little bit. So as it stands now DPH is responsible  
7 as a lead health organization for the State for HIE  
8 purposes. We're responsible for the decision making, and  
9 we have that decision making authority residing at DPH.  
10 Money from the federal ONC flows through the Department  
11 eventually. It hasn't happened yet.

12 Of course, as I talked about for advisory  
13 purposes the HIT and Exchange Committee, all of you, are  
14 established in the statute and we also have all this other  
15 input going on and activities going on with our sister  
16 agencies. But as it's articulated in statute, DPH has a  
17 certain overall authority and responsibility even with  
18 respect to our sister agencies. The plan, of course, is  
19 to -- and we're in the process of developing HIT and  
20 Exchange Committee work groups to provide us a broader  
21 base of stake holders for purposes of getting more subject  
22 matter expertise, and our application talks about the need  
23 and the plan for the DPH to contract out for a lot of this  
24 stuff; contract out for planning purposes, contract out

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1 for actually the development of and implementation of a  
2 sustainable statewide HIE. So that's the contracted  
3 services you see flowing out from the DPH. But DPH is in  
4 the middle of the picture here.

5 You see DPH includes executive director and  
6 core staff. That's where we tweaked it, the commissioner  
7 has tweaked things in a very positive way, most recently  
8 where he's named his administrative branch chief, Mr.  
9 Michael Purcaro, as executive director of the DPH effort  
10 related to HIE. Many of -- and now there's others of us  
11 who have been involved and will continue to be involved,  
12 but we're happy to have Mr. Purcaro involved, and I want  
13 to turn it over to Michael Purcaro talking about where we  
14 think we want to go with this. Thank you.

15 MR. MICHAEL PURCARO: Thank you, Warren.  
16 Hello Governor, Commissioner, Commissioner, members of the  
17 committee, and members of the public. As I look around  
18 the room I realize that I have had the pleasure of working  
19 with many of you over the past decade that I've been with  
20 the State Health Department. For those of you who don't  
21 know me, and as Warren has mentioned in his introduction,  
22 my name is Michael Purcaro and I currently serve as the  
23 administrative chief for the Connecticut Department of  
24 Public Health, the executive officer for the State's

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1 Disaster and Medical Response Team, and the vice-president  
2 to the State's Public Health Foundation. I do look  
3 forward to working with all of you in this interim  
4 executive director role to help us all build a successful  
5 and sustainable HIE system for our state.

6 By way of background, Commissioner Galvin  
7 about a month ago directed me to coordinate efforts from  
8 all of the current HIE active components in the State  
9 Health Department to achieve the following short term  
10 goal: Simply to enhance our State's grant application to  
11 ONC so that we can secure these grant funds so that we can  
12 meet our legislatively mandated responsibility to create a  
13 successful and sustainable HIE system.

14 The long term goal of my role as interim  
15 director is to coordinate our efforts to secure the  
16 necessary approvals and support to implement a new  
17 business model, this public utility model, that will allow  
18 us to more efficiently lead, manage, and sustain our  
19 State's HIE system. What we, Commissioner Galvin, the  
20 core staff leading DPH's HIE effort, primarily Mr.  
21 Wollschlager, Ms. Hooper, Attorney Marianne Horn, and I  
22 are proposing for your consideration today is to move from  
23 the current fully governmental-led HIE system model to  
24 what National Governor's Association describes in your

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1 briefing paper as the public utility model with strong  
2 government or public sector oversight.

3 Utilizing this executive HIT Exchange  
4 Committee as the initial board of directors for this  
5 model, the decision making authority and the ability to  
6 apply and to administer grants would be with the public  
7 utility entity and not within the State Department of  
8 Public Health as currently outlined in the legislation.  
9 The HIT and exchange work groups will continue to advise  
10 the public utility along with the Department of Public  
11 Health and other state agencies that are stake holders in  
12 the state's HIE system. The business structure of this  
13 entity would be a 501(c)3 or the like, and the benefits of  
14 utilizing this model are as follows:

15 Next slide, please, Michael?

16 You would be able to engage the health care  
17 community in the decision making process. We'd be able to  
18 do that more effectively.

19 Promote collaboration across diverse public and private  
20 stake holders.

21 Leverage public and private sector resources including  
22 existing technologies to meet our common goals.

23 It will give us more flexibility utilizing  
24 this public model in selecting and implementing

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1 appropriate practice technologies in order to meet  
2 timelines for meaningful use criteria. This also involves  
3 more flexibility in being able to administer grants and  
4 contracts following all state standards and transparency.

5 Utilize public and private expertise where  
6 and when appropriate. And maintains public oversight of  
7 this public utility in the aspect that the DPH  
8 Commissioner will continue to function as chair of the  
9 board of directors.

10 Next slide, please? So what do we have to  
11 do to go from the model we are now to this proposed model  
12 with your support? Well, the first thing we'd like to do  
13 to secure the funds, as I had mentioned earlier, is to  
14 revise our current state HIE grant application to reflect  
15 this new model. We believe that this new model will give  
16 us leverage and make us more competitive in securing those  
17 ONC dollars in the short run. That, in turn, will give us  
18 the funds to build the infrastructure for the public  
19 utility model that we're proposing today. We want to take  
20 this proposal with your support directly to ONC and  
21 present it to them. And, of course, to move from the  
22 current legislative mandates to where we want to be will  
23 require this group -- the support of this group to develop  
24 new legislation that would need to be enacted in order to

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1 effectuate this change. And that's our proposal in a  
2 nutshell, and what we'd like to do is now open it up for  
3 discussion and questions. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Michael?

5 MR. PURCARO: Sir?

6 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I'd like to say a  
7 couple of words.

8 MR. PURCARO: Commissioner?

9 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I think most if not  
10 all of you have had an opportunity to look at this  
11 material -- excuse me -- prior to the meeting. I think  
12 that -- I detect some feelings that maybe our original  
13 idea was, "We ought to go out and get some money and then  
14 develop an organization." Not going to work. They're not  
15 going to give us the money if we don't have any  
16 organization. And that's a plain and simple fact and if  
17 you were disbursing the money you'd probably feel the same  
18 way. I mean if somebody comes to you and asks for some  
19 money, you'd say what kind of organization do you have? I  
20 don't have one yet, but if you give me the money I'll make  
21 one. I don't think so.

22 I think we'll eventually get the money,  
23 but it may be too late to keep us competitive and in the  
24 absence of us being competitive as an entity, what I think

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1 is going to happen is that the hospitals will go their own  
2 way, and the medical groups will go their own way, and the  
3 FQACs will go their own way, we'll have a whole bunch of  
4 systems loosely related, and we'll end up buying services  
5 from Massachusetts or New York. And I really don't want  
6 to do that. I think we ought to keep the -- I think we  
7 ought to have our own services in Connecticut.

8 That is my opinion and mine alone. But I  
9 can tell you that without a strong executive director  
10 we're not going to go anyplace because somebody has got to  
11 go down to Washington and talk to people and make the  
12 contacts and go back and forth and do those kind of  
13 things. You can't write letters to people and make phone  
14 calls and e-mails. It is not going to get the job done.

15 Mr. Purcaro is my chief administrative and  
16 financial officer, and I've asked him to take this duty on  
17 as onerous as it is, because he's the best person I have  
18 in the Department for this kind of work. This is going to  
19 hurt my ability to function as a Health Department for the  
20 next 90 to 120 days because he's very, very important to  
21 our department which is stripped down both in resources  
22 and in personnel.

23 Mr. Purcaro is just coming off an \$8  
24 million building project working with the National Guard

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1 for an emergency training center, and I need him badly in  
2 the Department. But I think we need him more badly, if I  
3 fracture the language, to help us get this initiative  
4 going or just not going to -- we're dead in the water. He  
5 would -- Mr. Purcaro will need to be replaced by someone  
6 of skill and ability who can manage these kinds of  
7 projects. My estimation is that person is probably going  
8 to cost us around \$250 to \$300,000. These kind of guys  
9 don't come cheap, and you're not going do it by getting an  
10 \$80,000 a year state employee and saying we'll hire you  
11 and make you executive director for this effort. You need  
12 a top level guy.

13 We'll also, in the very near future -- if  
14 you look at my department I've got a handful of guys and  
15 ladies over there who are infotech support. There's a  
16 wonderful young man over there named Nick, and Nick helps  
17 me out a lot. Every now and then my computer says forget  
18 it, I'm not talking to you today, or I do something and  
19 Nick comes over and presses, you know, types a few things  
20 in and straightens me out, and he's terrific. He's a  
21 troubleshooter, he can program. He's not a system  
22 architect, and systems architects -- I have a kid who's a  
23 systems architect for Fortune 100 company, they're very  
24 expensive. And we'll have to invest a fair amount of

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1 money, maybe in excess of what it's going to cost for an  
2 executive director to get people on board who know what  
3 they're doing technically, and know how to design and  
4 engineer these systems.

5                   We envision this as starting off with this  
6 -- with this group acting as the temporary or acting board  
7 of directors, does not mean that you are locked into the  
8 current board's -- this current structure or anybody on  
9 the committee or not on the committee. It means that we  
10 will be soliciting funds on the basis of this governance  
11 model, and we will continue to try to get every dime we  
12 can for the State of Connecticut.

13                   As this evolves our input will shape what  
14 we talk about as a public utility model. What is that --  
15 what does that mean? It means that something like the  
16 DPUC or any of the quasi-publics that have to do with  
17 services that are provided to all the citizens in the  
18 state. Now, that group will encompass people in the state  
19 government who have particularly dedicated purposes to be  
20 there, DOIT, Social Services who are billion dollar  
21 spenders, Health Department who has custody of the  
22 records, and protects the sanctity of medical records, and  
23 others. But it will also have equal numbers of  
24 individuals from the insurance industry, from private

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1 industry, from the school-based health centers perhaps,  
2 from the FQHCs, and from all the other entities who have a  
3 stake in these procedures, and my opinion would be we'd be  
4 wise to have a few members from the general public who  
5 don't represent this Health Department or a Hospital or  
6 the Hospital Association, but are simply consumers.

7 And that would be the board that would grow  
8 out of this, maybe with some of the people here who want  
9 to be on it, or without the people who don't want to be on  
10 it, or people that you folks think should be on it and  
11 have a stake. I think two things are critically important  
12 other than the time, because as the clock ticks we get  
13 further and further behind our conference, and further and  
14 further behind the guys up north to us and the guys down  
15 south to us or southwest of us. I think that that's  
16 critically important.

17 Picking the right guy to be the executive  
18 director, or woman to be the executive director, is very  
19 important. Making sure that everybody who has a  
20 legitimate reason has a voice on the board is very  
21 important. The other critical thing is you got to have an  
22 executive committee to run this baby because you can't run  
23 it, have a meeting once a month or once every two weeks.  
24 Number one, if you do it every two weeks nobody will want

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1 to be on the Board No. 1-A is not often enough to make the  
2 kind of short term decisions that you have to make to be  
3 operational.

4 So a board that is inclusive, not super  
5 large. I think we get into 30 and 40 people we're going  
6 to have problems convening a quorum. But a representative  
7 board with a hard -- then the folks around the executive  
8 committee are going to be hard working folks. I would  
9 envision at some point the executive committee job would  
10 have a stipend attached to it for those who are spending a  
11 lot of time. Like Peter, if you're away from your work  
12 station six or seven hours a month to do something for  
13 this committee, your boss is going to say I'm not paying  
14 you to go and do that kind of work, I'm paying you to be  
15 out here in Danbury. And so I -- those are all the  
16 considerations.

17 And we think this will work. Other states  
18 have models like this -- the National Governor's  
19 Association likes this model, we need to get some money. I  
20 mean this is just never going to work by saying I'm going  
21 to -- I'm going to go out and get some money and figure  
22 out what I'm going to do with it. And this is a real  
23 broad brush. Once we get the money and get an architect  
24 and an executive director on board, then we can address

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1 problems like selling the programs to people's offices  
2 like how do you link A to B to C to D and all that kind of  
3 stuff. But right now without the money which we have none  
4 we're dead in the water. Mark?

5 MR. MARK MASSELLI: Well, first of all let  
6 me welcome Mr. Purcaro. I'm sure we all look forward to  
7 working with you and we really like the overall strategic  
8 direction you've laid out here, Commissioner. I wonder a  
9 little bit about tactical issues. I see that you're going  
10 to revise the grant application and then subsequently go  
11 for legislative approval. And I wonder if we'll have any  
12 issues there or has any preliminary work been done with --  
13 I see bipartisan support which is very important to have  
14 with both sides of the aisle to make sure this can go  
15 through smoothly, and that we have an understood time  
16 frame, because the sooner -- if, in fact, we all agree  
17 that this is the model that we want to embrace -- the  
18 sooner we can get there the better.

19 And then Michael is focusing on ONC  
20 funding, you've identified that. But really what's the  
21 business plan for other funding in the short term because  
22 as sort of a stand alone we will require more than the  
23 resources you've identified in the position paper, the  
24 resources that have been put in by our neighboring states.

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1       And I don't know if we've gotten any additional word from  
2       ONC on the issues that are pending and what we think is a  
3       ballpark of their response, but clearly it's going to take  
4       more money \$7 million over four years is really a very  
5       small plan. And so is the thought in addition he would do  
6       the ONC also put forward sort of a proposal of how we go  
7       out to the public and private markets?

8                       CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Well, I think those  
9       are excellent questions and comments. I do feel that as  
10      you say the \$7 million-and-some is -- I mean it's  
11      certainly not a figure to be taken lightly. But it is  
12      just enough to get us rolling. And so one of the things  
13      that the executive director will be doing is finding out  
14      what other sources of money are there, and how do we --  
15      and how do we access that? Without an organization you  
16      used to say you're just whistling Dixie trying to get  
17      people to give you money. They're not going to give you  
18      money if you don't have any organization. And so think  
19      that's a crucial first step.

20                      I think the step 1-A which is also crucial  
21      is in our presentation to the elected officials is to  
22      educate them so that they understand what it is that we're  
23      trying to do and not -- not sometimes what we see and  
24      Governor Fedele can testify to that -- sometimes things

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1 get sprung on people at the last moment and they don't  
2 have an opportunity, they haven't been given an  
3 opportunity, to learn about what their proposal means and  
4 it comes up at a committee meeting or before they have a  
5 chance to digest the information, and then since --  
6 usually my experience has been if folks don't know what  
7 you're trying to do they tend to vote no. Or if you make  
8 it very complicated, they're not willing to vote for it.

9 So I think we have a very large educational  
10 project to do with the elected members so to inform them  
11 so they know what they're going vote yea or nay on when  
12 the vote comes, and that's going to be a lot of work. Do  
13 you have any other comments Michael?

14 MR. PURCARO: Mark, the only thing I would  
15 add is that we brought the concept to this group first.  
16 We brought the concept to this group first. We felt that  
17 this would be the first step in moving forward before we  
18 went out to see any legislative or political support, so  
19 that's just an echo of one thing that the Commissioner  
20 said that directly answers --

21 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: We have involved the  
22 Governor's office and Governor Fedele, so that we -- this  
23 is not something Governor Rell will find out about  
24 tomorrow morning. So we have the approval to go forward

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1 with this, but we have a lot more work to do. And I can't  
2 tell you how critical it is to have an executive director  
3 who can push and get on the train and go down to DC, or on  
4 the plane and say what it is that we need. It took us  
5 four years to get the \$8 million for the project up at the  
6 Camp Hartell and about ten trips down to DC to educate  
7 people about what it is that we were trying to do. I  
8 don't think this is going to take that long, but the  
9 organizational changes will get the money out a lot faster  
10 for us so we can get operational.

11 MR. PETER COURTWAY: Mr. Galvin, this is  
12 Peter Courtway. I guess, you know, I see the concept, you  
13 know. I like the idea of being able to have a structure  
14 in place with a budget. My concern is whether or not we  
15 are going to be slowing down some of the other efforts.  
16 You know, we talked about using a contractor to come and  
17 work on the state HIT plan. I think normally this would  
18 have come out of that, so we're sort of reversing some of  
19 this in terms of the structure, but is the intent that we  
20 will still be moving forward then with the arrangement to  
21 do the plan with this is the general context? And is  
22 there funding that has been available -- made available or  
23 that we think might become available to be able to move  
24 forward on that?

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1                   CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Well, I think the only  
2 money we're going to get to start with is this \$7-plus-  
3 some million. I think it's extremely unlikely that we get  
4 any money out of the current legislature, we've \$500  
5 million in debt. I don't think they're going to send any  
6 our way. I think they are depending on us to go out and  
7 secure federal and ARRA funds, but I don't think there's  
8 any source of money. We have none. I mean we're  
9 developing this on a hide, and Michael is one of our  
10 assets that we're devoting to it, but we have no budget  
11 for this.

12                   MR. COURTWAY: Commissioner, there was one  
13 slide up there though that talks about our strategy moving  
14 forward and it does say planning stay the same. So we  
15 will be some odd transition where even if we could make  
16 this happen overnight DPH still has to be the applicant  
17 for money this time until such time as there's some other  
18 entity created. That can't happen until we get some  
19 money. So as we move towards this model we're still going  
20 to be DPH very much involved as a primary contractor and  
21 still have the plan to go forward with the planning  
22 process.

23                   CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Yea. And I think the  
24 other aspect is that in becoming a 501 tax free entity it

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1 makes disbursing -- receiving and disbursing funds much  
2 more expeditious and it gets rid of what would probably be  
3 a four to six month lag for it to pass through all the  
4 various approving authorities. So part of what we're  
5 trying to do is get this governance section and --  
6 section and then move forward and become, or attach  
7 ourselves to, a 501 corporation so that we can -- so that  
8 we can do business. Right now we can't do any business no  
9 matter what we call it because we don't have any money.

10 MR. COURTWAY: And we have -- this is Peter  
11 Courtway again. Is it the Department of Public Health  
12 then makes the application for creating the 501(c)3? Or  
13 which entity or which sponsor actually puts the paper work  
14 in for a 501(c)3?

15 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Well, have our own  
16 foundation a 501 foundation.

17 MR. COURTWAY: Okay.

18 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Now, if it's the will  
19 of this group that that be vehicle within which we move  
20 forward pro tem, that's fine, that's already in existence.  
21 If it's the will of the group to create another separate  
22 501 tax free corporation we can do that. But there's  
23 already one there -- we put together the foundation  
24 several years ago -- to do these kind of things. But if

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1 it's the will of the group that you'd rather create a  
2 whole new one you can do that too. But I think the long-  
3 range view is this whole thing belongs somewhere in a  
4 little building like DPUC with commissioners and board  
5 members and executive committee and there isn't -- within  
6 the Department, Peter, there is not the expertise nor the  
7 bodies to run this. Tom?

8 MR. THOMAS AGRESTA: Thank you,  
9 Commissioner Galvin. This is Tom Agresta. I think that  
10 in it would be fair to say that as we put together the  
11 initial HIT strategic plan as part of that advisory group  
12 to that, that we endorse the idea of a public utility as  
13 being a very good governance model. Although it doesn't  
14 come out in the final plan it was discussed at length in  
15 the meetings and it does make a lot of sense for all of  
16 the reasons that were kind of mentioned. So I think in  
17 the long term I'm very much in support of that process.

18 I guess I have several questions with  
19 regard to feedback that you might have received from the  
20 ONC where this would be helpful in transitioning to  
21 receiving money if there is the ability to share that.  
22 And then the other question really is about processing and  
23 timing. How much time and -- does it take to move in this  
24 direction? I think many of us are probably not familiar

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1 with how one sets up a public utility, the process that's  
2 required, etc.

3 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Well, those are fine  
4 questions. In terms of feed back from ONC, I mean, part  
5 of the reason why we think this would be in the short term  
6 as well as the long term is that we want to push ONC to  
7 work with us. Quite candidly, the folks who are getting  
8 the most immediate feed back and are being positioned to  
9 receive the funds are those that are already up and  
10 operational, our colleagues up in Massachusetts who have  
11 this exact same model are already engaged in serious  
12 budgetary discussions. We're down at the bottom of the  
13 pile. Some of the feed back was that this is a different  
14 model than we were familiar with in Connecticut, several  
15 years ago as we've been tracking what you've been doing  
16 in Connecticut, the model where DPH was the lead. So no  
17 one has said to me at ONC, oh, we want to you to adopt a  
18 different governance model per se.

19 We think that by doing so we'll be able to  
20 be more assertive in actually going down and making this  
21 pitch to ONC. You heard the Commissioner's time frame,  
22 Mr. Purcaro is only available short term, so it's a narrow  
23 window of opportunity. We would hope to get the support  
24 of this group and then as we move into February get down

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1 in front of ONC.

2 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I think, Tom, that the  
3 question comes up well I can understand how it's going to  
4 look now and using this board, this group as a temporary  
5 board, I can understand that. But how's it going to look  
6 when it says -- whatever we end up calling it -- and  
7 there's a little building and there's a sign out in front  
8 and these people come in and out, and there's clerks, and  
9 executive directors, and all, and technical experts.  
10 What's it going to look like? I think probably DPUC is  
11 probably a close analogy, but other people are already  
12 doing this. And to be crass, we can look and see what  
13 they do and take what they do and if it fits us, it suits  
14 us fine, and if it doesn't we can discard it.

15 I think the really important thing is that  
16 you want everybody who is involved, including people who  
17 are just representing the general public, to have a voice  
18 on this committee -- and then I'll be redundant -- but you  
19 got to have some movers and shakers, guys like yourself  
20 and Kevin and other people at the table who are going to  
21 get the day-to-day work done and there's going to be --  
22 well, you can't save all this up and say we're going to  
23 decide about this contract or this contract, and gasoline,  
24 mileage, and all of those thing use have to do to run an

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1 operation and that's very important. But there are plenty  
2 of ways to device this.

3 I just think that the -- the administration  
4 would certainly want DSS with a billion dollar spenders,  
5 and we're record custodians and the registrar of vital  
6 statistics, and of course, we want to include Mike and his  
7 colleagues from Information Technology. And then maybe  
8 some other state agencies might want to include even  
9 initially or subsequently. And then we need a broad -- a  
10 broad base of people who represent the hospitals, the  
11 health care industry, the consumers, and the like.

12 And then that will be one of the difficult  
13 things for us to say, you know, who do we want to be here?

14 And as I said earlier, if you got, like, three dozen  
15 people you're going to have a hell of a time getting  
16 things done, and then you need five or six, you know,  
17 people who are going to be your core executives to run it.

18 I think that there will be some, you know, there are  
19 people like Mark who need to be represented the federally  
20 qualified health centers and the, etc., etc., etc.

21 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: If I could, just one  
22 other thing to go to the question of what's it going to  
23 look like eventually. Is that if we can get the money for  
24 the planning freed up and loosening in the state, then the

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1 planning process with the input of this body is going to  
2 go along concurrent with the legislative process. You  
3 know, the session starts off first week of February. And  
4 so I mean it's going to be a juggling act to coordinate  
5 those two, but in the best of worlds we have money, the  
6 planning would be going on, we'd end up with the strategic  
7 plan that mirrors the legislative initiative at the end of  
8 the day, by the end of the session.

9 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Yes, Mark?

10 MR. MASSELLI: Mark Maselli, Commissioner,  
11 I assume that we can revise our application so we -- I'm  
12 taking that has a given that you know we can submit it.  
13 And I think by analogy it's a little hard to know why the  
14 other states are winning. I like the model. I'm not sure  
15 it's the model or the money in the other states that  
16 they've got a lot of people and the mission and the energy  
17 that they've already put into it. So I'd be a little  
18 careful about saying it's just the model, but I think the  
19 model is important for us to do.

20 And I assume that you believe that Michael  
21 was going to be able to squeeze them with this change of  
22 application to free up some money in the short term. So  
23 somehow there's a strategic plan out there. I'm a little  
24 confused about the foundation itself going to this

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1 foundation. Lisa is probably better to answer this, but  
2 taking another foundation with another purpose onto our  
3 purpose might be able to file an application on it. I  
4 assume, though, you have either Marianne or someone who's  
5 working on the legal language to start the six month  
6 501(c)3 process, six to nine months we can squeeze it  
7 through. But it would be nice to sort of have a  
8 conceptual and actual time line and time frame so we can  
9 see the moving parts. Because I think Peter got to it  
10 earlier we're substituting some things in. We're moving  
11 here. We don't want to lose the momentum we have.

12 So we've got the work of this committee  
13 going on and then around us we have all these  
14 organizational changes that are going all with different  
15 time lines, but we're continued to be focused on what  
16 we're doing. But giving some texture to that so that  
17 people can actually see it and give us some sort of sets  
18 of issues that we're going to have to confront that change  
19 would be happy. I started off with just postulating what  
20 I assume. You guys have strategically come to a decision  
21 on we can revise the application, ONC will probably help  
22 them conceptually with, and help us with our ability to  
23 squeeze dollars out more quickly than we would the model  
24 that we're currently in.

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1 MS. LISA BOYLE: This is Lisa Boyle. Just  
2 on the issue of the foundation, I mean everything is going  
3 to depend on what the purposes are -- the charitable  
4 purposes of your existing foundation of whether we could  
5 use it. This is sort of -- we're talking about a  
6 foundation that's going to have a very specific purpose,  
7 so my sense is having not seen the certificate of  
8 incorporation or the document for your existing foundation  
9 the purposes may not, you know, be exactly what you want.

10 I think Mark's right it's probably a six month time  
11 frame. Sometimes you can do it a little quicker if you,  
12 you know, have all of your ducks from a row. But I think  
13 my sense of it is you're probably going to end up with a  
14 new one. You know, doing the documents is not a big  
15 problem, it's just the IRS, you know, they come back with  
16 questions it takes time. So it's usually about a six-  
17 month window.

18 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Yea. We don't know  
19 whether it could reside temporarily in the existing  
20 foundation while the paper work is going on forward. I  
21 think the problem is where is the \$8 million going -- \$7  
22 million going to go to? Whose name is going to be on the  
23 check? And if it goes into the state government general  
24 fund that makes it difficult or even with the Department

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1 it makes it difficult and cumbersome to be operational  
2 because of multiple levels of oversight and review.

3 MS. BOYLE: We could actually form -- if we  
4 decide to go with a new entity we could form the legal  
5 entity very quickly. And then once we got tax exempt  
6 status it would be retroactive to the date that we filed.  
7 We wouldn't have to wait during that time to get it. I  
8 mean it seems like it wouldn't be difficult to get tax  
9 exempt status for that kind of an entity.

10 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Well, we want to do  
11 the right thing and we want to do things that protect the  
12 public and are transparent so whatever, you know, you're  
13 the person with the expertise, you and Marianne in that  
14 direction. So whatever the best way to do it is once  
15 again the best way not to do is it not to send the money  
16 down through the various levels of state government,  
17 because you'll never -- it will be four to six months to  
18 disburse it and we'll be dead in the water.

19 COURT REPORTER: One moment, please.

20 (Off the record)

21 MS. BOYLE: I do have a little bit of a  
22 concern of shifting the grant, you know, from going  
23 forward even though we're talking about going to ONC and  
24 presenting this new model, not having sort of that lined

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1 up and then them taking us seriously because we are in  
2 sort of this transition mode, the entity is not formed,  
3 and who is it really that's the applicant? I think we're  
4 going to think about that more concretely and figure out  
5 how to do that quickly. And that may end up back where  
6 what I was saying we form the entity and apply for tax  
7 exempt status and change the applicant on the grant.

8 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Okay. Now, have we --  
9 are we reaching a place where we can't move forward  
10 without discussing what the document is going to look  
11 like? Or do we have enough by saying we have the  
12 executive committee servicing -- the advisory committee  
13 serving as a board of directors and we have an executive  
14 director -- a full-time executive director? Can we move  
15 forward? Do we need to ask Washington about that or what  
16 needs to happen? I don't know that.

17 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Well, what we'd like to  
18 come out, Commissioner, with the support of this body and  
19 then we'd like to go down and start the discussions with  
20 ONC in saying here's our model, you know, our application.

21 In the short term not much is going to change, because  
22 the money is still going to have to come through DPH and  
23 we're we still have to engage in the strategic and  
24 operational planning processes. So -- but with the

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1 support of this group I think it would give us a little  
2 more clout going down to ONC saying this isn't just us  
3 changing our mind half way through, we have the support of  
4 the statutory --

5 MR. MASSELLI: Warren, Mark Masselli again.

6 I just want to get back to the question I sort of  
7 postulated before. Do you know this for a fact? Because  
8 I think we're certainly supportive of it, but we don't  
9 want to ask questions we don't know the answers to. So I  
10 would say -- I mean I would probably bounce this off down  
11 there and say here's where we are, and again that assumes,  
12 and a lot of the applications I write I would love to  
13 revise and extend my remarks, but this is the deadline,  
14 this is what you sent in, and so you've got to know  
15 whether or not they are going to be open to that so I'm  
16 open to the concept of the model, but I want to know the  
17 answer before we make the change so that we're comfortable  
18 with it.

19 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: What we do know is we've  
20 been told by ONC is that we have to provide them  
21 clarifying information, additional information. So that  
22 we do know. Is that -- they're not satisfied with our  
23 application as it stands, and they're asking for us to  
24 provide additional information. So that gives us the

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1 opportunity.

2 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Okay. I think what we  
3 need to do is send someone down to DC, put Mr. Purcaro on  
4 a train or in limo and send him down to DC.

5 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Easy Commissioner, easy  
6 Commissioner.

7 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: What do I go to do to  
8 get the money? What do you want? What do you want? Or  
9 what do you expect? Because we're dealing with  
10 conjecture, and what we kind of, you know, kind of think  
11 they want and how we think they'll react, but I think we  
12 need to get Michael and maybe one or two others who know  
13 what they're doing to go down and say what is it that you  
14 want us to do for you to feel comfortable about disbursing  
15 this funding?

16 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: We talked about --  
17 before this meeting folks came up and we might be helpful  
18 to have folks from the this committee come down as part of  
19 a group that's going down to speak to ONC.

20 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Yes.

21 DR. AGRESTA: This is Tom Agresta. I mean,  
22 clarifying the difference between a cooperative agreement  
23 and a grant, and what that means in terms of your ability  
24 to revise and update things. I think they're very

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1 different. In other words, you negotiate quite a bit of  
2 the structure in a cooperative agreement so that I think  
3 it can change quite a bit, as I understand it, although  
4 I'm not been in the negotiating process for cooperative  
5 agreements in the past. And the other comment that I  
6 would make is that I would, you know, there are at least  
7 on paper you have one 501-3(c) in the state, he helped  
8 Connecticut that at least has its mission to do health  
9 information exchange, and thinking about how one would  
10 collaborate or work with that group in this context I  
11 think needs to be thought through. Because they may have  
12 more history and knowledge about that particular group  
13 than something newly being formed, so it needs to be very  
14 carefully thought through and discussed.

15 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I'll give you my  
16 opinion if it helps do something now it's gradually  
17 getting to be too late and later and later. And there are  
18 a lot of entities involved in this, Health being one of  
19 them. But if we don't get somebody on the road and say,  
20 look, we've got a governance structure which we will be  
21 turning into a board of directors when we've got  
22 organizational funding and organizational development and  
23 the like, we have an executive director.

24 Is this what -- is there someone has got to

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1 go down and say what do you want and having -- what do you  
2 want give me the money. We went down to Washington -- I  
3 don't know how many times we went down, and of course we  
4 went down, everybody thought the training center was  
5 wonderful. We had admirals coming down, admirals, guys  
6 with stars and junk on their uniforms, badges, and all  
7 that stuff, and they all thought it was wonderful. And  
8 then we would go down there and they would say we think  
9 this is a fantastic idea, we don't know how to disburse  
10 the money to you. And we would go back and they would say  
11 what do you mean you don't know how? We've got the money  
12 but what did they tell us? We don't know how to give it  
13 to you. We don't know who to give it to. Or how could it  
14 be on a National Guard facility and Health and Human  
15 Services give you the -- and we went around and around  
16 till we finally said the magic words, the magic word for  
17 Representative Murtha and the duck came down with the \$8  
18 million as Groucho would have it.

19 But it was a long, you know, and sort of a  
20 long drawn out thing about what is it that you're trying  
21 to do, and how do we understand what you're trying to do,  
22 and what your structure is so that we can disburse  
23 fundings without getting in trouble. And nobody wants to  
24 get in trouble, and so I don't know that. I don't whether

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1 they'd say come back when you're a 501(c)3. And which  
2 would probably be July or something like that. I just  
3 don't know. I think it's important to move forward with  
4 this structure. All of which, you know, we could make  
5 this the --

6 VOICE: Excuse me. I thought I turned it  
7 off.

8 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Uh-huh. I warned you  
9 about that. It's a good thing I'm not Governor Rell,  
10 you'd be right out of here.

11 VOICE: Absolutely. And deservedly so.  
12 Actually that's why I do this, so I can get the hell out  
13 of here.

14 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I think it's important  
15 to get started on this because we're all, you know, we're  
16 all kind of, you know, it's like being in a forest in the  
17 dark. We're all sort of trying to get a little bit of  
18 illumination sort of feeling our way along and hoping we  
19 tonight blunder into something that's a disaster or  
20 something that will bite you or sting you or whatever. So  
21 I think it's important to move. And we could change this  
22 governance model any way you want, or make it 501 (c)3 or  
23 use the additional one whatever you recommend. And put  
24 people on or take people off.

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1                   Our concern is the Department of Health is  
2                   protecting -- protecting the information since we're the  
3                   state registrar. If we thought that the systems did well  
4                   down the road we're not significant to protect the  
5                   identities and birth records and death records and all  
6                   that stuff we have then we'd be upset about it. But you  
7                   can devise any -- the model probably should have enough  
8                   people from the public section or the private section to  
9                   counterbalance the public section so you don't have --  
10                  it's not all one way.

11                  DR. NANCY KIM: Commissioner, it's Nancy  
12                  Kim. I agree with you. I favor anything that makes us  
13                  more nimble or creates a more nimble body than what we  
14                  have now. And even if it's six months it doesn't sound  
15                  like it's going to delay the disbursement of funds, but it  
16                  sounds like it will expedite the implementation phase so I  
17                  think we need to move forward with some kind of model  
18                  similar to this, if not this exact model anyway.

19                  CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I agree. And I mean,  
20                  Mike may go down and they say it's not what we want, and  
21                  come back to the group and say we need this, or we need  
22                  that, or we need the other thing, or come back when you  
23                  got the IRS approval. I don't think that's going to  
24                  happen. But it might. But right now we're sort of, you

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1 know, trying to, you know, extrapolate from a little bit  
2 of known knowledge and other people's experience, etc.,  
3 about what it might be like. And I think doing nothing  
4 puts us -- and leaving in the department may delay us  
5 several months and it may be -- it may be a fatal delay in  
6 terms of creating a robust system The Governor has a  
7 question.

8 LT. GOVERNOR MICHAEL FEDELE: Commissioner  
9 Galvin, I'm sorry.

10 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Yes, Governor?

11 LT. GOVERNOR FEDELE: I would add my  
12 comments, you know. Again, I think there's a lot of  
13 questions, but I think clearly from a conceptual concept  
14 this probably hindsight is 20-20, probably a better  
15 process to move forward with. And I think we try to get  
16 as many parallel things going on at once in hopes of  
17 Michael being successful clearly not only Michael's ONC  
18 visit, and trying to get a sense there, the 501(c)3  
19 component, the legislative component, trying to float that  
20 balloon out there, too. And I think it's important if we  
21 believe conceptually if all those questions were answered,  
22 if this was the direction the group should group should go  
23 in I think we should make a conscious decision to say yes,  
24 let's go in that direction, knowing there are some I's to

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1 be dotted and T's to be crossed, and running those  
2 parallel things, and clearly anything the executive branch  
3 my office can do to work in concert with any of the ONC  
4 thing, clearly the legislative component, you know, we're  
5 available to the assist in any way possible, except giving  
6 you money.

7 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: None to give.

8 LT. GOVERNOR FEDELE: You're absolutely  
9 right.

10 MR. COURTWAY: Just a point of order. The  
11 -- does this require a motion of this committee to endorse  
12 the public utility concept? Is that ultimately what the  
13 work is today?

14 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: That would be great.  
15 I'm not sure so much if it's required as a point of order,  
16 but that's what I was hoping we could come out with.

17 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I wonder whether we  
18 should -- whether the motion should be to utilize the  
19 present committee as an acting board of directors leading  
20 towards a temporary board of directors. I don't know.

21 MS. LISA BOYLE: This is Lisa Boyle. I  
22 don't know, I think we may be premature. I think what we  
23 want to do is probably make a motion to endorse the  
24 concept and then we should explore the 501(c)3 issues

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1 probably outside of the full group, maybe come back with  
2 the options including maybe looking at existing 501(c)3s  
3 like the one that the statute has and the e-Connecticut.

4 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: And just so you  
5 understand, that one that the Department -- that the  
6 foundation is linked to the Department has a separate  
7 board of directors and that makes decisions. It's not --  
8 I happen to -- I approve people who are on the Board, I  
9 have no -- my request -- I don't have a vote. So it's not  
10 simply an extension of the Department although it has  
11 close links.

12 MS. BOYLE: But that might be actually why  
13 that entity won't work, because you're talking about a  
14 very specific composition for this new board so that may  
15 be why we have to look at others.

16 MS. MARIANNE HORN: I agree with Lisa that  
17 really what would be useful today would be getting a sense  
18 of the group as Lieutenant Governor mentioned, it will  
19 depend somewhat on the legislative outcome what kind of a  
20 model we would end up. But perhaps what might be useful  
21 is we have a legal and policy subcommittee meeting on  
22 February the 2nd and Attorney Boyle is co-chair -- or a  
23 chairing that, and we might look at what the possible  
24 models could be, and as Mr. Masselli was saying, develop

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1 some kind of a time line and what the issues are for the  
2 development of each one of those and come back to the  
3 committee next month with that. And we're meeting  
4 February the 2nd at 8:30 in this room.

5 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Nothing is locked in  
6 concrete, or paper mache, or whatever, this is all very  
7 fluent. So what gets to fly will be what we think is  
8 appropriate for the organization to be able to do business  
9 and be competitive.

10 MS. JAMIE MOONEY: This is Jamie Mooney  
11 speaking. Sorry, Jamie Mooney. What was just described,  
12 would that preclude Michael from going down to the ONC and  
13 raising that those questions about -- so that would happen  
14 in parallel?

15 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I don't think so. I  
16 think as long he has the group of this group, scrounge up  
17 some money somewhere for him. I don't know, maybe he  
18 could hide in the cafeteria on the way down in the food  
19 car. But we've got to get a little bit of funding so  
20 Michael can get down and back but we'll work that out one  
21 way or another. But I think we have enough if it's the  
22 feeling of the board for him to go down and maybe take one  
23 or two of the other members with him and start to explore  
24 what it is we're -- we have to be competitive and frankly

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1 to get the money.

2 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: It would be nice if  
3 folks from this committee sort of self-nominated if they  
4 have an interest in being part of that entourage, perhaps  
5 let us know somehow, let me know, or let Michael know.  
6 Michael you're going to give your contact information out  
7 to folks, right?

8 MR. PURCARO: Right.

9 MR. COURTWAY: This is Peter Courtway. I'd  
10 like to motion. That the committee endorses the change of  
11 the Governor's structure to a public utility model  
12 pursuant to the issues discussed at the committee.

13 MS. BOYLE: Seconded.

14 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Okay. And I think the  
15 motion is clear. It was certainly clearly stated, sir.  
16 All in favor of the motion -- is there any further  
17 discussion? If not, I'll call a vote. All in favor  
18 indicate by saying aye?

19 VOICES: Aye.

20 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: All opposed? None.  
21 Carried unanimously. Great. Okay. Thank you all. All  
22 set? Yup. Annual report?

23 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: So the annual report.  
24 I've implemented a lot of the committee work. I've never

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1 seen an annual report that had to be submitted three  
2 months after it was convened, a very tight time frame, not  
3 much to report. I sent you all what's pretty much  
4 boilerplate language for a lot of these legislative  
5 reports. Not a lot of content, it says the meeting was  
6 convened.

7 I would, though, amend this now to reflect  
8 this latest activity. I think this is significant in  
9 something that would then signal to the general assembly  
10 and the elected officials that we're going in this  
11 direction. So. I don't know if folks had any -- this is  
12 due February 1st. So I don't know -- I mean we talked  
13 internally, we could have done a list more cutting and  
14 pasting of what was in the plan instead of just  
15 referencing the plan, I'm not so sure that that was --  
16 that was necessary. I really think candidly the plan of  
17 the annual report that's only reflecting three meetings  
18 doesn't have a lot of meat to it.

19 So I get I would first of all look for feed  
20 back and then see if I have the green light to make some  
21 changes, send it all out electronically to everybody one  
22 last time, and then submit it to the general assembly.  
23 Again, the changes I would make would be somehow  
24 reflecting the vote that we just took.

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1                   Wonderful report, huh? All right, great.  
2                   So could we get a motion from the folks that would allow  
3                   us to do that?

4                   VOICE: Motion.

5                   MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Seconded?

6                   VOICE: Seconded.

7                   MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: All in favor?

8                   VOICES: Aye.

9                   MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Opposed? All right  
10                  great, thank you. Statewide HIE committees.  
11                  Commissioner, I just wanted to follow up on your comments  
12                  last -- last meeting about various other committee  
13                  activity that is are going on. And we actually heard, I  
14                  think it was you Peter, testifying in front of one of the  
15                  SustiNet committees. Thank you actually for some kind  
16                  words in there. But -- so I don't know if you had  
17                  anything you wanted to update us on regarding those  
18                  committees?

19                  MS. VOGEL: No, I'm not sure if you can  
20                  pick up my voice. No, I'll just yell. It's Cristine  
21                  Vogel. I was not able to integrate all three boards to  
22                  see where the overlap is. I can assure you there's  
23                  absolutely no overlap with the Health Care Reform Advisory  
24                  Board. Our guiding principles are due February 1st as

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1 well, and probably the only guiding principle, we can't  
2 say recommendation as you all know we don't have a federal  
3 bill yet to recommend anything, but we'll only be  
4 supporting this board and try to support aggressive  
5 movement on health IT. As you know all the -- many of the  
6 cost containment measures in the federal legislation need  
7 IT to be implemented.

8 So -- so that board -- there'll be no  
9 overlap, and I actually need to meet with Meg Hooper,  
10 she's on my schedule to meet in a few days to see where  
11 the Sustinet Board is so I apologize. But I do know, Mr.  
12 Courtway, instead of probably a Venn diagram of three  
13 circles it's probably only two because I have completely  
14 removed the Health Care Advisory Board from doing anything  
15 IT which, you know, is disappointing but not duplicative,  
16 so.

17 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Thank you. A question  
18 of Jamie?

19 MS. MOONEY: It's Jamie Mooney. I am on the  
20 board of Sustinet committee and actually Peter and I were  
21 discussing this a week or so ago. Sustinet is basically  
22 trying to put together a public health plan option that  
23 brings -- integrates a lot of the other Public Health  
24 programs like Charter Oak and Husky and all those others

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1 into one place, for public employees etc., let's have some  
2 critical mass. But the key differentiators would be a  
3 medical home model, and really change how health care is  
4 delivered and move in that direction.

5 And in terms of the overlap between what  
6 we're doing on this committee and what the IT committee  
7 that I'm in charge of the Sustinet board is doing is the  
8 question about exchanging information and electronic  
9 medical records. Because one of the things that Sustinet  
10 wants to do is for the physicians who sign up for Sustinet  
11 provide them with electronic medical record that they can  
12 use in their office that would share information amongst  
13 the Sustinet enrollees, and then obviously hook into  
14 whatever is going on with the state, so there's the  
15 intersect.

16 And then part of the discussion that -- or  
17 part of what I'm thinking at -- is if in any way the  
18 health information exchange to these here include  
19 electronic medical record, that's not currently on the  
20 books but as things progress it may, then the Sustinet  
21 people would want to know about this because why would the  
22 Sustinet group choose one electronic health record and the  
23 state have another. So anyway that's -- that's what we  
24 have to start thinking about and start keeping track with

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1 these -- these two boards. Is that helpful?

2 MS. CHRISTINE VOGEL: But if you wouldn't  
3 mind -- Christine Vogel. Wouldn't the Sustinet IT  
4 subcommittee also need to wait for the outcome of this  
5 board because we're creating the policies and the  
6 standards that the state needs to comply with?

7 MS. MOONEY: Exchange standards, yes. But  
8 if -- remember the exchange that the Sustinet group is  
9 thinking about is just amongst those physicians that are  
10 using -- that have the enrollees. Just like local rios  
11 maybe what Peter's got going on up in the Danbury area is  
12 about the exchange amongst those physicians.

13 MS. VOGEL: Oh, I see.

14 MS. MOONEY: You're perfectly correct. I  
15 mean, in terms of the connect back into the HIE we'd  
16 obviously have to wait to see what's going on here. If  
17 you go back to the fact that we're most likely not going  
18 to be developing software and using something that's  
19 commercially available, there are standards that the  
20 federal government is putting together, so I don't think  
21 we can go too far afield. But you're perfectly correct  
22 that we need to be cognizant of that. What Sustinet is  
23 really waiting to here is what is finally the legislation  
24 from the federal government in terms of whether or not

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1       there is going to be a public option and what it's going  
2       to look like, or what the states have to do and that's  
3       really the -- the elephant on the table at the moment.

4                   MR. COURTWAY: This is Peter Courtway. I  
5       don't know the -- I think it's really the other way around  
6       in terms of, you know, the technology pieces and actually  
7       setting up the exchange. I've talked about it in the  
8       past. I think that I have a limited view of what  
9       ultimately the health and the outcome goals are that the  
10      State is -- the multiple state initiatives drive us to.  
11      So, you know, whether or not those outcomes and the use of  
12      this technology our experience specific goals relating to,  
13      you know, health outcomes, or cost reduction, or quality,  
14      those pieces need to really be pulled together globally so  
15      that this is the contacts that the technology is applied  
16      to.

17                   You know, fundamentally we don't have a  
18      technology problem, it is a vision of how you want to  
19      apply the technology, and then I think that gets to the  
20      question of whether or not an EMR or electronic health  
21      record is in play or not in play, or which group has it in  
22      play. But I still think that we do -- I see it very  
23      limited view that the technology subcommittee can actually  
24      frame a technology solution for. I don't know how to get

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1 it, but --

2 MS. VOGEL: Well, you do.

3 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Thank you. Just No. 6.

4 Agenda Item No. 6, we're just keeping on there. I  
5 believe we sent you out information about a description of  
6 all the other ONC grants or cooperative agreement  
7 opportunities. I know from the top of my head that  
8 there's a few deadlines coming up. We've got the 29th for  
9 the regional extension center application due, and I know  
10 that Dr. Agresto, you were part of a team to put on a  
11 session last week that many of us listened in on. So I  
12 also had a chance to go speak with our colleagues over at  
13 the community college centers and I know that they are  
14 putting in as for two separate applications for community  
15 college training sites, so those two activities I know are  
16 going on in Connecticut. I don't know if anybody else  
17 knows of anything going on right now. No? Okay.

18 Formation of subcommittees. Marianne,  
19 maybe you can talk us through this a little bit. We  
20 passed out a -- we passed out some information about a  
21 subcommittee process. I will say for those of you who  
22 have volunteered to head up our subcommittee process, I  
23 appreciate the fact, and we've communicated with a lot of  
24 you and some of you are in different places here. There's

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1 certainly still an urgency about convening these meetings  
2 of subcommittees, but it's not an emergency.

3 I think it's going to be a wonderful asset  
4 in terms of our planning process, but more specifically I  
5 think some of the subcommittees like the legal and policy  
6 are going to take off and look at some more immediate  
7 issues as well. So, over the course of the next month I  
8 hope that each of the subcommittees will convene. I'll  
9 will working with those of you who communicated with  
10 already. Again, the reason we don't have a governance  
11 subcommittee was because this was the body and so I  
12 appreciate the fact that you guys supported our activities  
13 last time. Marianne, do you want to walk us through that?

14 MS. HORN: Sure. And I think at the outset  
15 I want to stress that the Department of Public Health is  
16 here to provide administrative support so that this does  
17 not become administratively difficult for the chairs to  
18 put these subcommittees together and hopefully, you know,  
19 we can provide you with all kinds of contact information  
20 and providing the legal notice that is required, and  
21 taking very brief minutes, making sure all of those things  
22 are posted so that the process is transparent.

23 So the -- each subcommittee will have a  
24 chair approved by the commissioner and again I think we

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1 pretty much have a chair for each one of the  
2 subcommittees. We -- if there is a meeting of the  
3 subcommittee and you're discussing matters under your  
4 control, then that needs to be noticed at least 24 hours  
5 beforehand with the Secretary of State and we post an  
6 agenda on our DPH web site, and Denise Sleeper is the one  
7 who handles all of that for the Department of Public  
8 Health, if you can just get the information through Warren  
9 or me and to Denise then we'll make sure all takes place.

10

11           Again, we need to provide a place where the  
12 public can participate and DOIT has, least for the legal  
13 and subcommittee -- I won't speak for all of the  
14 subcommittees -- has offered this room for February the  
15 2nd. And again we can provide assistance with finding a  
16 place where the public can plug in. I know for stem cell  
17 sometimes that an office at the Department of Public  
18 Health and we have the subcommittee members by phone and  
19 if it's a quick meeting we can do it in away that's really  
20 -- we get the business done as quickly as possible because  
21 we do respect your time.

22           You have to have an agenda, and again these  
23 are considered special meetings. So if there's -- make  
24 sure that your agenda items -- and we'll work with you on

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1 that -- are inclusive enough so that you don't have to  
2 amend them because that's not allowed for a special  
3 meeting.

4 And I think that's really about it. If there are  
5 questions that come up please just be in touch with DPH.

6 And as I mentioned the Legal and Polices  
7 meeting February the 2nd, and our agenda is up there. We  
8 may have to amend it to -- after this meeting to -- as our  
9 agenda is a little bit more specific than it was. We do,  
10 we still have 24 hours at least.

11 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: I would say, I don't  
12 know to who extent other committee members have an  
13 interest in or willingness to serve on subcommittees. I  
14 know that Dan, your subcommittee has membership of three  
15 committee members. I think that's great, but I'm not sure  
16 that there's that kind of cross-participation. There may  
17 not need to be but again, these meetings we could use the  
18 help.

19 MS. HORN: And we're trying to balance the  
20 number of people with outside expertise and making the  
21 process one that actually works. Our legal and  
22 subcommittee we've taken lots of recommendations from  
23 folks, we haven't been able to have everybody on the  
24 committee, but if there are people who are in the public

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1 or around the table who think that they'd like to serve on  
2 a committee, please just let us know, and again we just  
3 have to make sure that they're workable.

4 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Great.

5 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Is there any new  
6 business? New business? None. Okay. I notice that we  
7 have quite a few attendees who have sat patiently through  
8 the meeting. Are there any -- is there any public  
9 comment? Anybody in the audience who would like to  
10 comment or add to our proceedings?

11 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: You're a quiet public.

12 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Yes, it's a very quiet  
13 public. I will just say one more thing which I've said  
14 several times. It's very important that no one feels  
15 excluded from potentially being a committee member, or a  
16 board member, or participating in a subcommittee and on a  
17 subject where almost everybody has an opinion. And I  
18 would -- we would welcome input. I think sometimes when  
19 we form entities we look at people who come from way down  
20 in Fairfield County, or way out in the western part of the  
21 state and say gee, you know, it's really hard for people  
22 to come all the in from Danbury or all the way up from  
23 Greenwich like the Lieutenant Governor, but it's very  
24 important to have that, and it's very important for us not

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1 to exclude people.

2                   Everybody around this table has  
3 connections, and is an important person, and a very valued  
4 person, and you all have at least one representative and  
5 one state senator that you know. And we need centrally to  
6 prepare information for you so that you can share it with  
7 your representative and let him or her know this is  
8 important to me, and I really think it's something that  
9 you should vote for because it benefits everybody. And I  
10 would ask you to start thinking about who would you go  
11 talk to.

12                   I'm going to talk to Tom Kehoe who's in  
13 Glastonbury, who's my rep, and then Marianne Handley,  
14 who's my senator, and just explain to them I think this is  
15 important stuff, this is what we're trying to do, we're  
16 not trying to create some sort of an empire, this is not  
17 and administration attempt to usurp the program or  
18 anything else. We just want to get these things moving  
19 for the benefit of everybody in the state.

20                   I don't think it's certainly as  
21 Commissioner of Health I do not want to control the  
22 program. I have some -- my issues are those of  
23 safeguarding information and being the custodian of vital  
24 statistics. So I would hope we could convince everybody

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1 this will be a combined group of people. I would like to  
2 see it be maybe half or -- half the individuals being  
3 state government, and the other half being private, we may  
4 need more on the private side. We certainly want to do  
5 something so we don't have a vote where everybody who  
6 works for the Governor votes this way and everybody who  
7 doesn't votes that way. Maybe we need to have a chair who  
8 is a tie breaker only vote. There are a lot of things  
9 like that.

10 But we really need you to sell this to  
11 people so that -- and I need to sell it to Tom Kehoe and  
12 to Marianne, so and to Henry Genga over in East Hartford  
13 and some of the other people and say this is what we're  
14 trying to do. This is not some sort of a -- not some sort  
15 of an effort during times of budgetary distress to create  
16 yet another quasi-public, etc, etc. So I would hope that  
17 you would all use your good offices and friendships, and  
18 remember the guy who votes or the woman, you're asking to  
19 vote for them this spring is the same guy who's going to  
20 ask Peter to have a cocktail party for him in the fall.  
21 Everybody is up for election in the fall. Thank you all  
22 and unless there's any further business, I would entertain  
23 a motion -- oh, what?

24 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Oh, I would -- in terms

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1 of meeting schedule are we sticking to the Mondays now?  
2 But what I do know that some folks simply can't come from  
3 10 to 12, or 12 to 2. So there was at least a question  
4 raised could we stick to Mondays, and one month get it set  
5 for those of you who have busy practices and stuff, but  
6 get it set so one month it's maybe 10 to 12, and the next  
7 month it's 12 to 2. It's still a Monday, but it might  
8 facilitate folks like Susan or Lisa who have recurrent  
9 conflicts. We don't want to lose anybody from this group.  
10 Everyone is too critical.

11 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: I think that's an  
12 important point and having been in private practice for  
13 many years, I know that for Ken Dardick who I have great  
14 respect for to be here, he's losing half a day's gross  
15 income, two hours here, and an hour in and out. That's  
16 three-and-a-half hours and that's tough. If we could  
17 mitigate that in some ways of making it a little easier,  
18 that's fine. But we have to make it pretty simple so the  
19 odd months it's this time and the even months -- otherwise  
20 we'll end up without a quorum which is deadly.

21 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Right. So again, I  
22 don't expect it to be resolved here, but would it present  
23 a huge -- if it presents a huge problem, I don't want to  
24 go down that road, but if not --

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1 MR. KENNETHA DARDICK: 12 to 2 actually  
2 works out, because that 12 to 1 I'm not working anyway,  
3 so.

4 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: You don't work through  
5 your lunch hour?

6 DR. DARDICK: I can do almost anything as  
7 long as I can eat.

8 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: So could you make -- for  
9 the note then, so the next meeting is going to be held  
10 then we're going to try it then from 10 to 12 just to --  
11 all right? Just to --

12 MS. BOYLE: He said it was okay.

13 VOICES: (Multiple voices talking.)

14 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: I thought he said it was  
15 okay.

16 MS. BOYLE: What's been happening to me is  
17 I've had a meeting on the exact day and time. It's not  
18 that noon is always bad, it's just that we've been hitting  
19 the exact same day as another board that I'm on. And so I  
20 missed two of their meetings, I have to go to next one.

21 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: Okay. So if it doesn't  
22 work, then we'll stick to who we have. That's why I threw  
23 it out there.

24 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Okay. What time is

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1 the next meeting?

2 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: 10 to 12.

3 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: 10 to 12. Everybody's  
4 got that?

5 VOICE: 10 to 12 on --

6 MR. WOLLSCHLAGER: On the 22nd. Yes. And  
7 then we'll revert back to the third Monday again, we're  
8 accommodating a state holiday. Okay?

9 CHAIRPERSON GALVIN: Okay. Thank you all  
10 for your attention and perusal of the documents. You're  
11 great.

12 (Whereupon, the hearing was adjourned at  
13 1:30 p.m.)