

MINUTES

Health Information Technology and Transparency
Advisory Board and Ad Hoc Expert Meeting

Health Information Exchange Standing Committee
Georgia Tech Research Institute
250 14th Street, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30318
Room 119B
June 20, 2007
10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Member Attendance:

Jeffrey Broka	Dr. James Buehler	Robert W. Bush
Dedra Cantrell	Michael Heekin	R. Scott Leavell
Patricia Massey	Glenn Pearson	Dr. Winston Price
Gayle Ransom	William Zimmermann	

The Health Information Exchange (HIE) Standing Committee was brought to order by Standing Committee Chairperson Robert Bush at 10:30 a.m. HITT Chairperson Dr. Winston Price introduced Ms. Dana Greer, *Procurement Services Director*, of the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) who discussed DCH's policy and procedure regarding procurement and partnerships with vendors. Ms. Greer informed the Committee that the state must publicly post vendor opportunities and can not solicit any particular vendor without presenting the same opportunity to all vendors.

Advisory Board member Dr. James Buehler asked questions specifically about grants and if the state could form partnerships with other entities to solicit grant funds. Dr. Buehler informed the Committee about several grants related to HIE that the state may be eligible to apply for in the near future. He recommended that DCH and the Board solicit partnerships now for grant writing in preparation for future grant opportunities.

Ms. Denise Williams, *HIE Project Manager*, of DCH discussed the current progress of the HIE Standing Committee by reviewing the deliverables to be accomplished by the Committee. Ms. Williams informed the Committee that the HIE matching pilot funds will be distributed as Request for Grants (RFG) instead of Request for Proposals (RFP). She then introduced Ms. Greer and Ms. Tiffney Ward, *Purchasing Agent*, of the DCH Procurement staff who reviewed the timetable and tasks required to post the grant and make awards. Each member of the Committee was given the Grant Opportunity timeline to review. The goal is to have the grant posted by August 1, 2007 and begin awarding grant funds by October 15, 2007. A recommendation was made to have the Applicant's Conference held during the August 15th HITT Advisory Board meeting since the members were already prepared to attend that day. The Committee Chair and Ms. Williams addressed questions regarding the aggressiveness of the timeline. Members

agreed that the Committee would work to meet the deadlines. Committee Chairperson Bush thanked Ms. Greer and Ms. Ward for their attendance and presentation.

The committee broke into the three Subcommittees, Privacy and Confidentiality, Technical and Communications to review their respective drafts of the developed pilot project criteria. Each committee made updates to their developed sections of the criteria and submitted those updates for review by the Committee as a whole. The Subcommittees requested additional time after lunch to complete their criteria selection drafts.

The Privacy Subcommittee presented their drafts of the privacy and confidentiality criteria and solicited feedback. Discussions ensued regarding the appropriateness of the HIE committee requiring privacy requirements that are greater than HIPAA law. Members of the Privacy Subcommittee recommended that the HIE pilots should have a higher standard than the current HIPAA law to set a new precedent and to write new law. The Committee debated the position and the issue was later resolved by agreeing to give applicants special consideration if their respective privacy standards exceeded current HIPAA law.

The Communications and Technical Subcommittees presented their drafts of respective recommended criteria. Feedback from the HIE Committee was solicited, received and agreed upon. Each Subcommittee Chair will update the criteria and send it to Ms. Williams for inclusion in the grant.

Committee Chairperson Bush reminded the HIE Committee that there will be another opportunity to review the criteria in the draft grant document. Ms. Williams informed the committee that she will distribute the first draft grant within the next couple of weeks for review and feedback. The goal is to have the final draft ready by the July 18th HITT Advisory Board meeting.

As there being no further business to be discussed, the Health Information Exchange (HIE) Committee was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THE
_____ DAY OF _____, 2007.

Robert Bush, Committee Chairperson

R. Scott Leavell, Committee Secretary