

Facilitator: Lynette Dickson

Note taker: Kylie Nissen

Attendees:

Present

Lynette Dickson, Center for Rural Health
Kylie Nissen, Center for Rural Health
Dana Halvorson, Senator Conrad's Office
Laurie Peters, ND Health Information Management Association
Doug Kjos, ND Health Care Review
Lisa Feldner, ND State CIO
Nancy Wahls, ITD
Tami Wahl, Director of Privacy, Governor's Office
Art Bakke – Security Division, Governor's Office
Karen Haskins, ND Health Care Association
Nancy Willis, St. Alexius

Called in – not able to attend

Chad Peterson, Northwood Deaconess Health Center
Darrell Vanyo, Blue Cross Blue Shield
Mary Wakefield, Center for Rural Health
Jenny Witham, Dept of Human Services

Not Present

Janis Cheney, AARP
Terry Dwelle, ND Department of Health
Mark Grove, Great Plains Clinic
Ray Gruby, Gruby Technologies
Craig Hewitt, Meritcare
Cathy Houle, MD West River Health System
Bruce Levi, ND Medical Association
Dave Remillard, ND Health Care Review - retired
Kimber Wraalstad, Presentation Medical Center

Minutes

Agenda item: Minutes from July Meeting

Presenter: Lynette

Discussion:

Approved as written.

Agenda item: Workgroup Updates

Presenter: Committee Chairs

Discussion:

Committee Chairs were asked to look at the membership list for each workgroup – if there are members who have not participated within the last year, contact them and see if they want to remain on the group or notify Lynette to remove them. If there are gaps and you know of someone who would like to participate on the calls, add them and notify Lynette so they can be “officially” added.

Communication/Education – Has not met this month. Their next meeting is in September.

Privacy/Security – At this time, this work group feels there aren't any issues for them to work on, Jenny Witham suggested having those working on Security, for the time being, work with the HIE subcommittee and those that

are working on Privacy can focus on consumers and work with the Communication/Education workgroup. Nancy Willis will have information to share with this group once they get farther along with the Northland Healthcare Alliance project that St. Alexius is working on.

Funding/Resources – Will meet August 13th to review/discuss grant and loan programs (NY, AZ, MN, FL, WA, KY) to see what these states have done and what this workgroup would potentially like to recommend to the Steering Committee, for the 2009 legislative session.

HIE – Discussed focus area of what they would like to see this group moving towards. Art Bakke, ITD has expertise in security, will be joining this group.

Legislative/Policy – Federal - Dana provided an update of the Medicare bill. State - Senator Larry Robinson invited the HIT Steering Committee to present to the, Interim IT Committee meeting, August 27th to be held at St. Alexius. Time on the agenda is limited.

Discussion - What are the modes for introducing a bill? 1) Introduce a bill by having a committee sponsor the bill or a state agency can sponsor a bill directly – this would need to go through the Governor to gain his support. This opportunity has been missed for this session.

A request can be strengthened coming out of a legislative committee rather than through a single legislator. It was agreed that we will not be ready by the end of August to present specific legislation. The IT Committee is the committee that we would like to sponsor any IT legislation.

Many other states have already passed legislation for grant funding, so that would be a reasonable/realistic direction to take, there are several models to use.

Senator Robinson has agreed to sponsor legislation; Senator Lee has an interest in HIT, is serving on National Conference of State Legislatures HIT committee and was a sponsor of SB2303 in 2007. She has not been asked at this time.

Senator Judy Lee is also working to get the Steering Committee invited to the LTC Committee. No date has been set at this time.

** Nancy Willis shared that there has been informal discussion between a few of the large hospitals about a potential request during the 2009 Session to support, funding for hospitals for building improvement, HIT, etc. since there is currently a budget surplus. They are planning to bring this to NDHA's attention. – Lynette will share this with the HIE workgroup.

Agenda item: IT Interim Committee Meeting – August 27th

Presenter: Lynette/Nancy

Discussion:

The HIT Steering Committee has been invited to present to the Interim IT Committee. The committee members will have lunch at noon at St. Alexius. Presentations will begin while they are having lunch. This committee will have approximately 30 minutes plus time for questions to present.

Presentation Agenda

Welcome/Introductions; need for technology in healthcare (cost, improving access, quality of care). – Nancy Willis

Background/Overview of the HIT Steering Committee - Lynette

Share the preliminary results of the surveys – Save for next meeting. Doug Kjos unavailable, he has conducting telephone survey of clinics (primarily primary care doctor) not a single new EHR user since the previous QIO survey in 2005.

Sharing scenarios – Todd Bortke (CIO, St. Alexius) will do the EHR presentation that he did at the June HIT meeting and will do a Demo of the electronic medical records.

St. Alexius will walk them through scenarios showing how and EHR can be used to access health information for a patient. St. Alexius is in the process of creating a master-patient index with Northland Healthcare Alliance which recently rcvd a HRSA Network Grant, so they can eventually share information bi-directionally with the rural facilities they are connected to. – Todd/Nancy Willis

St. Alexius will ask a provider “champion” to be in attendance at the meeting.

If time permits on the agenda, Kimber will be asked to represent rural facilities.

We will request additional time on the agenda at their next meeting, date TBD. At this meeting the HIT Committee will need to provide them more information regarding the survey results and have details with regard to what we are asking of the legislature.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Share any potential HIT legislative requests for 2009 so we are aware; can work collaboratively and don't duplicate efforts.	All Members	Ongoing
✓ Send the results of the telephone survey of clinics to Lynette for inclusion with the other survey results.	Doug Kjos	

Agenda item: Other

Presenter:

Discussion:

1. Webinar held August 5th for "Executives role in HIT" – hosted by NDHA.
2. NDHA Annual meeting the September 24th-25th. Kimber gained confirmation from Chip Thomas, NDHA (June 6th) for the HIT Steering Committee be a standing item on the Board meeting agendas and to have the opportunity to present at the annual meeting. Karen will check with Laurie on this.
3. "Connected Nation Conference" – Fargo, July 14 – had very low attendance. Lisa feels that this is because there isn't an issue with broadband in North Dakota.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Continue to inform/update the organizations/facilities we represent about the HIT Steering Committee.	All Members	Ongoing

Agenda item: Funding Opportunities

Presenter:

Discussion:

Rural Health Care Services Outreach Grant Program

http://www.raconline.org/funding/funding_details.php?funding_id=60

The emphasis of this grant program is on health care service delivery through creative strategies requiring the grantee to form a consortium with at least two additional partners.

Application Deadline: Oct 16, 2008

Sponsor: HRSA, Office of Rural Health Policy

Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program (RHNP GP)

http://www.raconline.org/funding/funding_details.php?funding_id=218

This Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program supports one year of planning to develop integrated health care networks in rural areas.

Application Deadline: Sep 15, 2008

Sponsor: HRSA, Office of Rural Health Policy

AHRQ has announced its intent to publish 3 funding opportunity announcements by the end of August.

Thank you and best wishes to Dave Remillard who has retired from North Dakota Healthcare Review and Karen Haskins, who will retire from NDHA August 26th.

**Next Conference Call
Thursday, September 4, 2008
3:00-4:00 CST**