

MINUTES – FINAL
Health Information Technology Standards
Advisory Committee (HITSAC)
Thursday, August 21, 2014

Commonwealth Enterprise Solutions Center
11751 Meadowville Lane
Chester, VA 23836
Multipurpose Room 1222

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present:

Dr. Marshall Ruffin, Chairman
John Quinn
Rich Pollack
Dr. Jim Harrison
Dr. Sallie Cook

Others Present:

Allen, Zacc, DOC
Benghauser, Katie, SeniorNavigator (DARS)
Bessette, Anthony, OAG
Farnsworth, Mike, Binary Structures Corp. (DMV)
Goodall, Patti, DARS
Gravely, Stephen, Troutman Sanders, LLP
Grubbs, Joseph, Binary Structures Corp. (VITA) (phone)
Helmantoler, Nicole, VITA
Laugerbaum, C.W., Advantus
Marian, Farnoosh, VITA
Mix, Dave, DMAS
Roeper, Katie, DARS
Steidle, Ernie, DARS
Vaughan, Kathleen, DARS
Willis, Belinda, eHHR

Members Absent:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ruffin called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. in the VITA Multipurpose Room 1222 at the Commonwealth Enterprise Solutions Center in Chester, VA.

Note: The HITSAC meeting agenda packet including all of the presentation materials may be accessed on the VITA Web site at:

<http://www.vita.virginia.gov/ITAC/default.aspx?id=6442472422>

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes from the April 17, 2014, HITSAC Meeting

Chairman Ruffin requested a motion to approve the minutes from the April 17, 2014, meeting and the motion was made and seconded by HITSAC members. Chairman Ruffin called the item and accepted the minutes as approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Commonwealth Data Governance Status Report

Nicole Helmantoler, Enterprise Information Architect and Commonwealth Data Governance (CDG) Lead from the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA), gave the status report for the CDG team.

Ms. Helmantoler began with an overview of CDG achievements since the April HITSAC meeting starting with the Commonwealth Data Stewards Group, a group that was endorsed by HITSAC last fall. The group's kick off took place in February of this year. The group has since put out a draft charter that has been circulated through the data stewards group and put up for public comment on ORCA through the first week of September. The charter lays out responsibilities for the group in addition to calling for a minimum of one steward from each executive branch agency.

The Commonwealth Data Stewards Group held its second meeting in July of this year. Deputy Secretary of Technology Anthony Fung addressed the group and spoke about the current administration's focus on data. The group was then broken out into three working groups for the first time: the executive, functional and technical groups. A variety of topics related to analytics, data sharing and its legal considerations were discussed, and several vendors were on site to give demonstrations on data quality, data governance and analytics tools.

Ms. Helmantoler continued that once the charter is adopted in September, attention will move towards tasking the functional and technical groups with items that are outlined in the Enterprise Information Architecture (EIA) Strategy. Ms. Helmantoler concluded that there is great excitement and momentum moving forward.

Moving to the second item related to data governance, Ms. Helmantoler talked about Item 427 Compliance Monitoring, put into place about a year ago. There have been 58 active major IT investments reviewed to date. There is now movement towards having a compliance monitoring mechanism in place for planned major IT investments.

Chairman Ruffin asked about the number of exceptions filed, the concern being that agencies wanting to subvert change would just file exceptions, undermining the process. Ms. Helmantoler clarified that only two projects have filed exceptions and were

granted a temporary exception until 2016, giving the agency time to create a plan to address these exchanges in their IT Strategic Plan (ITSP).

Turning to data standards, Ms. Helmantoler highlighted the Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN) Geospatial Data/ Map Layer Standard. Ms. Helmantoler said that the comment period for the standard ended last month. VGIN is in the process of responding to comments and submittal of the standard is expected in September. Ms. Helmantoler then discussed recent activity in coordination with the Department of General Services (DGS), the Department of Accounts (DOA) and Treasury to modify the existing Vendor data standard due to conflict with the Check Printing data standard. The modified standard will be taken through the amendment process in the coming months.

Regarding the Geographic Information Standard, Chairman Ruffin asked if those standards are international. Ms. Helmantoler replied that the use of an external standard is always promoted, so while they are certainly external standards, she is not sure if they are national or international. Chairman Ruffin requested the names of the standard at the next HITSAC meeting.

Ms. Helmantoler briefly talked about the Department of Corrections (DOC) and their proposed Electronic Health Record (EHR) project, which will be expanded upon during the October meeting assuming the project has been given Project Initiation Approval. She highlighted the great relationship with the DOC, stating that the involvement of Commonwealth Data Governance in the project planning process is an example of the process working how it should. Chairman Ruffin thanked Mr. Allen of the DOC in attendance.

Ms. Helmantoler moved the discussion to current work streams, stating that CDG is in the midst of involvement in the review of agency ITSPs as part of the Commonwealth CIO approval process for FY14-16. CDG is reviewing for EIA content as this is the first ITSP approval cycle since the adoption of the EIA Strategy in August 2013.

In continuing her discussion of current work streams, Ms. Helmantoler discussed CDG's role in support of initiatives around Big Data and Open Data. She invited everyone to visit the website data.virginia.gov, as it has undergone some changes. Additionally, there has been work with the Commonwealth Data Stewards to assess the analytics landscape within all of the agencies; varying levels of maturity have been recognized. There are, however, opportunities to look within more mature agencies that may benefit from a more enterprise solution to analytics, as well as opportunities to help some of the smaller agencies get started.

An EIA Scorecard re-assessment is also part of CDG's upcoming work stream. Back in 2012, Dr. Joseph Grubbs sent out the first EIA Scorecard to assess maturity within the agencies related to data governance, data sharing, data asset management and data standards. The EIA Scorecard will again be sent to Commonwealth Executive Data Stewards to complete in order to gauge the change in maturity between 2012 and 2014.

However, the EIA Scorecard will be modified prior to sending to include a new set of questions related to analytics maturity. Related to this, Ms. Helmantoler said that the EIA Domain Report will also go through a modification process to include Enterprise Analytics.

Ms. Helmantoler concluded that the CDG will work with NASCIO to build data management webinars, taking advantage of lessons learned with the EIA Strategy and within data governance and data standardization.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor for additional questions from HITSAC members. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the CDG status report item.

eHHR Program Office Status Report

David Mix, Program Director for eHHR from the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), provided the status report on the eHHR Program.

Mr. Mix focused the status report on eHHR Program office highlights, advances made in eligibility modernization and care management. The office is preparing for FFM / HIM open enrollment starting on November 15, 2014 for addressing workload problems from increased MAGI applications and renewals. Mr. Mix talked about addressing the operational efficiency, particularly since applications and related processes have increased exponentially. A contractor is working on clearing the FFM backlog with a target to clear the backlog by October of this year. The program office is addressing the Central Processing Unit (CPU) that will supplement the staff at the local agencies.

Regarding active initiatives, the Enhanced Memorandum of Understanding (eMOU), the Commonwealth's version of the DURSA, is getting rolled out. It has been signed by all HHR agency heads.

Mr. Mix said that eHHR is focusing on cost sharing and reuse, as it must meet federal CAP. They are still working on the eHHR Program transition planning, adjusting the project workload as the completion of the project requires less staff.

Regarding project status, the MAGI project has been completed and closed. The conversion project is in execution. They are transitioning cases from the legacy system to the new system. Relating to the Program Migration project, Mr. Mix talked about a change that was made to improve operational efficiency. The process is in place and rolling. Phase I will impact in six weeks, while Phase II will wrap up in 2016.

Regarding care management, the Birth Registry project was completed and closed. It will be used by the new case management system in 2015. The Death Registry implementation is scheduled for October 2014. The Immunization Registry will be implemented in 2015. These registries will have interfaces to ConnectVirginia if it is on-boarded.

Looking forward, Mr. Mix said that eHHR has started to compile their Enterprise Service Catalog which is driven by the Strategic Plan. They are in the processing of determining the scope and looking at funding options. A work group chaired by Deputy Secretary of Technology Fung has been meeting to address funding by Medicaid/CHIP, as the technology must comply with OMB A-87 Circular and be reflected in a federally approved CAP. A road map is currently being developed.

Moving to data analytics, Mr. Mix said that CMS is interested in seeing some ROI after spending 200 million dollars on the project. Notable savings have not been observed, though money is being spent for better outcomes. There is currently a demographic shift happening in the population workforce and data analytics will help recognize these early trends.

Mr. Mix summarized analytics concept development, aligning with the Commonwealth Big Data initiative. Dialogue has begun with HHR agency leaders and there is a HHR cross agency workgroup on analytics. Chairman Ruffin asked if the National Governors Association had collected detailed process output measures. Mr. Mix said that they have information available, though he is not privy to exactly what that information is. Chairman Ruffin asked if there is any one agency with the most responsibility for Analytics. Mr. Mix replied that the DSS has a research division, which generates the majority of metrics. DMAS has formed a data analytics division, though staffing is not complete.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor for any additional questions from HITSAC members. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the eHHR Program update item.

Virginia Department of Health Status Report

Debbie Condrey, the Chief Information Officer of the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Condrey's presentation notes are available on the VITA website:

<http://www.vita.virginia.gov/ITAC/default.aspx?id=6442472422>

Questions may be directed to Ms. Helmantoler who will route them to Ms. Condrey.

Seeing neither questions nor objections, Chairman Ruffin closed the agenda item.

Commonwealth Authentication Service Status Report

Mike Farnsworth, DMV Project Manager for the Commonwealth Authentication Service (CAS), provided the CAS status report.

Mr. Farnsworth started by reviewing CAS accomplishments to date, challenges and upcoming activities. Mr. Farnsworth clarified Enhanced Credentialing Capabilities (EC2), explaining that it can be thought of as a next generation CAS. It was developed primarily for planning purposes. EC2 is its own project with its own budget, funding and team.

Mr. Farnsworth said that CAS went live on October 1st with DSS as its first customer. Over 355,000 credentials have been issued through CAS to date. CAS is supported by dedicated FTEs with support from external consulting.

CAS is protecting DSS as intended, but to address the eHHR vision to capitalize on the investments made by the Commonwealth, particularly in Enterprise Services, there is an active search for the next agency to utilize these services. Mr. Farnsworth explained that there are actually two mechanisms by which CAS can be used to protect an agency: 1) Light Lift and 2) the Federated Model. The former sits as a proxy in front of the application and interacts with the end user while the latter connects to other systems. The Federated option has not been utilized as of yet, so there is interest in onboarding an agency so that the option can be exercised, resulting in a full enterprise service offering. The Federated Model is also the connection that will be used to connect to CSDII.

Although CAS was a collaborative project with VITA, it is listed as a DMV asset, creating challenges in terms of refunding the agency. DMV is working closely with VITA to create a transition plan that will enable CAS to become a full enterprise service offering. This transition will happen within the next year.

As discussed at the last HITSAC meeting, CAS was developed to protect Commonwealth assets and infrastructure using internal Commonwealth sourced information and data. It is also designed to protect Commonwealth applications that reside on Commonwealth infrastructure – a key distinction. The Commonwealth, eHHR, VITA and DMV have made significant investments in providing strong credentials to the citizens of the Commonwealth, but there is a gap in terms of Commonwealth business partners not being eligible for CAS credentials even though they do business with the state.

Due to the technical nature of Mr. Farnsworth's presentation, the user is advised to access the audio recording of the HITSAC meeting. The audio recording can be found at:

<http://www.vita.virginia.gov/ITAC/default.aspx?id=6442472907>

(Mr. Farnsworth's discussion of credentialing begins at the 52.44 timestamp.)

Mr. Farnsworth gave an overview of CSDII, a privacy enhancing layer that offers triple blinding between all participants. CSDII is a pilot program, the first to use a triple blinding protocol and solution in the marketplace. Mr. Farnsworth explained the challenges facing deployment, but was pleased to say that the project is in its deployment cycle. The planned onboarding of CAS and CSDII together is in progress. The workload and funding is carried under Federal instead eHHR funding, reducing the Commonwealth's financial burden.

Chairman Ruffin asked if eHHR would be an early adopter of CSDII, which Mr. Mix confirmed would be the case. Mr. Mix gave examples of potential beneficiaries. Dr. Cook inquired about the activities of the Commonwealth's surrounding states and how their initiatives would interact with this pilot. Chairman Ruffin asked for clarification regarding triple blind usage. Mr. Farnsworth discussed the non-traditional information exchange that occurs with CSDII, allowing isolation of the orchestrator between the provider and end user. In this system, the orchestrator, while possessing the information, does not know where the information is going, effectively identity proofing the information.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor for any additional questions from HITSAC members. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the CAS service update.

HITSAC Genomics Working Group Status Report

Dr. Joseph Grubbs, HITSAC Genomics Working Group (GWG) Research Coordinator, provided the GWG status report live from the Commonwealth Data-thon Challenge, located at the Patrick Henry Building in Richmond, VA. For more information about the Data-thon, the user is advised to visit the following website:

<https://governor.virginia.gov/news/newsarticle?articleId=5828>

Dr. Grubbs began with an overview of GWG and its recent achievements, transitioning to a brief overview of use cases currently under investigation. GWG was created by HITSAC in April 2014 and has since gained significant traction, strengthening partnerships with the CDC and HL7 while establishing the Commonwealth as a national testing ground due to its impressive level of maturity and interoperability. Dr. Grubbs gave a brief overview of GWG's members and their credentials.

Dr. Grubbs mentioned that there has been refinement to the purpose statement and the Charter as recommended by GWG during the initiation meeting held on July 10, 2014. Dr. Grubbs requested HITSAC action to be taken regarding these changes at the conclusion of the status report.

Dr. Grubbs walked through five candidate Use Cases under investigation. He intends to circulate a draft on the topic of Use Case #2 – Interoperability in Genomics for Cancer Registries by the middle of next week.

On August 6, 2014, Dr. Grubbs participated in an on-site work session at the CDC in Atlanta, GA. He has been asked to co-present at the CDC's 2015 Preparedness Summit with Dr. Nikolay Lipskiy and Dr. Anna Orlova, which reflects the great work going on within the Commonwealth and the global interest it has generated.

GWG will hold its next public meeting on Tuesday, September 23rd. The meeting, hosted by Inova, is scheduled to coincide with the FDA's public workshop on Next Generation Sequencing (NGS). Chairman Ruffin suggested that Dr. Grubbs extend an invitation to HITSAC members to attend the GWG meeting on September 23rd. Dr. Grubbs will forward the invitation to the HITSAC members.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor to questions from HITSAC members. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin turned to the GWG Charter and asked Dr. Grubbs to summarize significant changes. Dr. Grubbs explained that the primary changes were to the language in order to ensure that the focus of GWG centered around health IT standards and informatics. The second set of changes spelled out the final products and made clear that GWG would report back to HITSAC. The last set of changes involved removing specific references to the CDC and broadening the scope of GWG partnerships.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor to questions from HITSAC members. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin requested a motion to approve the changes to the GWG Charter. The motion was made and seconded by members of HITSAC and the changes were approved. Chairman Ruffin closed the HITSAC Genomics Working Group item.

Chairman Ruffin recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:11 p.m.

Chairman Ruffin called the meeting back to order at 1:00 p.m.

Presentations

The eHealth Exchange Model (DURSA)

Chairman Ruffin called for Steve Gravely of Troutman Sanders (TS), LLC, to give a presentation on Establishing Trust in Health Information Exchange: the eHealth Exchange Model.

Mr. Gravely gave a high level orientation to trust frameworks in relation to data sharing and then moved on to the DURSA, the document used for the eHealth Exchange and a document which he helped author.

Mr. Gravely explained that the issue of trust is foundational to the ability of Health Information Exchanges (HIEs) and other data sharing networks to survive, especially as there are steep penalties when there is a breach of trust. Mr. Gravely posed the question: what must you have in order to have trust? The Universal Components of Trust, which highlights five core elements of trust, were then reviewed.

Mr. Gravely explained that the DURSA is a multi-party trust agreement that supports data exchange within the eHealth Exchange. Point-to-point interfaces are not sustainable, thus bringing about the DURSA as an alternative. It is a legally binding contract, requiring those who sign it to abide by its terms and conditions; there are consequences in place for not following these terms and conditions. The DURSA is a living contract and has been revised twice since its adoption. Each time it undergoes a revision, the changes must go through federal clearance.

Chairman Ruffin asked about the ownership of the DURSA. Mr. Gravely replied that the Coordinating Committee for eHealth Exchange owns the agreement. As of August, there are 75 participants in the eHealth Exchange. By the end of the year, the number of participants is expected to rise to over 100, representing 100 million patients.

Mr. Gravely quickly outlined the DURSA's underlying assumptions. He explained that the Coordinating Committee (CC) is the governance authority of the eHealth Exchange. One of the 16 possible members of the CC is Health eWay. Health eWay is a Virginia non-profit organization that provides the infrastructure of the eHealth Exchange and holds all of the federal contracts. Mr. Gravely reviewed the responsibilities of the CC, its main responsibility being oversight of the eHealth Exchange.

Mr. Gravely shifted the conversation to specific rules codified in the DURSA or in the operating policies and procedures that drive the eHealth Exchange. Due to the expository nature of the discussion and the subsequent question and answer session, the user is advised to access the audio recording of the HITSAC meeting. The audio recording can be found at:

<http://www.vita.virginia.gov/ITAC/default.aspx?id=6442472907>

(Mr. Gravely's discussion begins at the 19.25 timestamp.)

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor to additional questions from HITSAC members. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the Trust Framework action item and welcomed Belinda Willis from the eHHR Program Management Office to talk about the Enhanced Memorandum of Understanding (E-MOU).

Ms. Willis offered a high level summary of the E-MOU process. Her presentation covered what the E-MOU is and what it is not, the purpose of the E-MOU and how it relates to HIPAA requirements, how it interfaces with HITSAC and VITA, how it is organized and how it works.

Based on the DURSA, the E-MOU is a single process for sharing data securely under a reasonable secure agreement that is sustainable. It is broad enough to encompass the needs of multiple stakeholders, which as of now include all of the agencies within the HHR Secretariat. The E-MOU creates partnership, synergy and transparency across agencies. Chairman Ruffin asked who the Coordinating Committee is for the E-MOU. Ms. Willis answered that the CC are the agency heads or their proxies.

Ms. Willis continued listing the benefits of the E-MOU, such as the elimination of multiple point-to-point MOUs. The E-MOU is not designed to require new laws as it is designed to work with applicable law. It is also designed to work under HIPAA requirements.

Ms. Willis then briefly compared the E-MOU to the DURSA, the document from which it was based. Ms. Willis recognized that the E-MOU is still in its infancy, so she hopes for continued guidance from HITSAC as the E-MOU matures. The main E-MOU includes 19 sections, defining the reusable framework and administration of the eHHR data exchange. In addition to the main E-MOU, six appendixes provide specific process detail. Ms. Willis concluded with a brief summary of how the E-MOU works and key terms.

Due to the extended question and answer session, the user is advised to access the audio recording of the HITSAC meeting. The audio recording can be found at:

<http://www.vita.virginia.gov/ITAC/default.aspx?id=6442472907>

(The question and answer session begins at the 57.32 timestamp.)

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor to additional questions from HITSAC members. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the E-MOU action item.

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Taxonomy, Data Model and Potential Health IT Standards

Chairman Ruffin called for Ernie Steidle from the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to present HCBS services and the data model for them.

Mr. Steidle briefed HITSAC on some of the activities DARS has been working on relative to developing standards for HCBS and the potential for exchanging services using HIE down the road.

Mr. Steidle framed his presentation around the following question: why does DARS care about the exchange of health information? The E-MOU is very important to DARS because it models the types of relationships that could be brokered among DARS's many partners.

DARS came up with a set of business goals that they believe make sense for the inclusion of HCBS as a participant in the HIE. Mr. Steidle reviewed these business goals in addition to mentioning HCBS data standards.

Mr. Steidle deferred to Kathleen Vaughan so that she could talk about some of the challenges of multiple entry points into HCBS. Ms. Vaughan expressed that multiple entry points serve to confuse individuals seeking services. As a result, people fall through the cracks between the referral point and actually accessing the service. Additionally, information is duplicated by providers as there is no way to share information already shared with one provider. There is also no community network to assess what kind of support the individual will receive.

Ms. Vaughan noted that the Commonwealth has taken more of an approach that emphasizes the importance of HCBS. Part of that process has been the development of the Uniform Assessment Instrument (UAI). Ms. Vaughan gave an overview of the UAI's history and explained a few of its uses.

Ms. Vaughan deferred to Katie Roeper for her presentation on HCBS service taxonomies and referral transactions. Once the needs of the patient are recognized, there must be a determination of who provides that support. While the concept is simple enough, the problem that arises relates to taxonomies – services may mean different things to different people. There are four taxonomies that play a role: 211 Virginia, VirginiaNavigator, HCBS for Medicaid waivers and Health Care Provider for Medicaid billing, the latter two being federal standards.

Ms. Roeper described the attributes of 211 Virginia and VirginiaNavigator, the former of which looks to families and children in the community and focuses on immediate community needs. VirginiaNavigator, on the other hand, looks at the long-term needs of the community. DARS is attempting to align these two taxonomies.

Due to the technical nature of the presentation, as well as the subsequent question and answer session, the user is advised to access the audio recording of the HITSAC meeting. The audio recording can be found at:

<http://www.vita.virginia.gov/ITAC/default.aspx?id=6442472907>

(The discussion begins at the 1:35:51 timestamp.)

Mr. Steidle requested help from HITSAC regarding how DARS could do a better job of getting other stakeholders involved in developing these standards. DARS already has a plan in place, but they need more people involved. Mr. Steidle estimates that it will take about a year to finish gap analysis and revise the taxonomy. DARS is currently waiting to hear back regarding a potential grant to move this project forward.

Chairman Ruffin was impressed by the presentation and admired DARS's vision. There was a subsequent discussion between Chairman Ruffin and Mr. Quinn regarding the

usage of the term taxonomies.

Chairman Ruffin requested a motion to endorse Commonwealth Data Governance's continued engagement with DARS on discovery, harmonization and adoption of external standards to support HCBS. A motion was made by Mr. Pollack with a second by Dr. Harrison. Chairman Ruffin asked HITSAC members for modifications. Seeing none, the motion passed unanimously.

Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Update

Chairman Ruffin called for John Quinn of HL7 to give a brief presentation on FHIR.

Mr. Quinn began with the history of FHIR and what it is. FHIR is an open standard that can be downloaded and modified. If republished, it cannot be called FHIR because it is a registered trademark.

Version 2 of HL7 was passed 25 years ago. It is old and limited by its own rules, so the content of Version 2 of HL7 will be transferred to FHIR.

Due to the technical nature of Mr. Quinn's presentation, as well as the question and answer session, the user is advised to access the audio recording of the HITSAC meeting. The audio recording can be found at:

<http://www.vita.virginia.gov/ITAC/default.aspx?id=6442472907>

(The discussion begins at the 2:19:02 timestamp.)

Chairman Ruffin requested a motion to endorse staff's continued monitoring and support for HL7's development of FHIR specifications. The motion was made and seconded by HITSAC. Chairman Ruffin closed the agenda item.

New Candidate for HITSAC Genomics Working Group

Chairman Ruffin introduced David Fenstermacher to HITSAC and asked Dr. Fenstermacher to expand upon his background in addition to discussing his interest in the GWG. Chairman Ruffin requested a motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Fenstermacher to the GWG and the motion was made and seconded by members of HITSAC. Chairman Ruffin thanked Dr. Fenstermacher for his interest and enthusiasm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Ruffin called for public comment. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the public comment item.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ruffin opened the meeting for any final comments from the HITSAC committee. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin adjourned the meeting with consent from HITSAC members.