

MINUTES – FINAL
Health Information Technology Standards
Advisory Committee (HITSAC)
Thursday, February 20, 2014

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

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Rich Pollack

Others Present:

Fung, Anthony, Deputy Secretary of Technology
Wirth, Mike, Advisor to Secretary of HHR
Allen, Zacc, DOC
Bannister, Lynn, VITA
Barnes, Rich, VITA
Condrey, Debbie, VDH
Dixit, Prashant, VITA
Downer, Kristin, ICS
Gribbin, Mark, JLARC
Grubbs, Joseph, VITA
Helmantoler, Nicole, VITA
Laugerbaum, C.W., Advantus
Mix, Dave, DMAS
Reed, Larry, eHHR
Reynolds, Patrick, VITA
Wheatley, John, ICS

Call to Order:

Chairman Ruffin called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. in the VITA Multipurpose Room 1222 at the Commonwealth Enterprise Solutions Center in Chester, VA. Chairman Ruffin welcomed HITSAC Members, staff and attendees.

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=6442471115>

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes from the October 20, 2013, HITSAC Meeting

Chairman Ruffin called the item to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2013, meeting and asked HITSAC members if they had changes or corrections. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin called for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Quinn with a second by Dr. Cook. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Status Reports

Commonwealth Data Governance

Ms. Nicole Helmantoler, Commonwealth Data Governance (CDG) Consultant and HITSAC Administrator from the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA), gave the status report for the CDG team.

Ms. Helmantoler began her status report, noting the team's recent accomplishments since the October HITSAC meeting. Ms. Helmantoler reported that recent accomplishments include the Commonwealth Data Stewards group kickoff meeting. Ms. Helmantoler said that HITSAC endorsed the group comprising of data stewards from 30 agencies. The panel comprised of data governance thought leaders in academia, healthcare and public safety. CDG will be focusing on relationship building with Federal National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) Program Management Office (PMO). CDG will report to HITSAC ongoing progress and recommendations of the group. Ms. Helmantoler added that other recent achievements include amendments to Item 427/NIEM Core Person Standard to include alignment with Information Technology Investment Management (ITIM) standard, removal of references to initial review of in-flight projects and clarification of the terms "legacy systems" and "modifications to existing systems".

Turning to current work streams, Ms. Helmantoler said that the team is working on compliance reviews for active major IT projects for integration with Commonwealth IT strategic planning process and evaluating the Enterprise Information Architecture (EIA) content. Ms. Helmantoler added that other current work streams include the development of the Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN) geospatial data/map layer standards, coordination with the Enterprise Data Management (EDM) team on developing the Organization data standard and working with the Auditor of Public Accounts on their audit on data standards.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor for questions from HITSAC members and the public. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the Commonwealth Data Governance update item.

eHHR Program

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

Mr. Mix began by acknowledging the presence of eHHR team members, Mike Wirth and Larry Reed. Chairman Ruffin thanked Mr. Wirth and Mr. Reed for their good work. Mr. Mix said that the eHHR Program Management Office (PMO) has been working on continuing cleanup efforts on Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI), resolving residual issues, defects, enhancements, and contingencies, preparing for the April MAGI renewal cycle, preparing for conversion runs first week in March, planning to receive incoming account transfers,

presumptive Eligibility contingency, final solution in planning, working with the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) on the Enhanced Memorandum of Understanding and on eHHR program transition planning.

Mr. Mix mentioned that active projects under eHHR include eligibility and enrollment replacement with three projects in execution, namely, the MAGI project (implemented), the conversion project scheduled for a March 2014 implementation and the migration project. The June 2015 rollout will include Medicaid aid categories that have never been automated and the document management solution. The April 2016 rollout will include Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) programs. The care management projects are expected to be completed in 2014 and include the birth, death and immunization registries. Mr. Mix added that other new projects scheduled for a post June 2015 release include the Commonwealth Authentication System (CAS) Enhanced Credentialing capability (EC2) and remote ID proofing for the MAGI call center.

Mr. Mix then presented the different projects monitored by eHHR. The key dates for 2014 include – April 2014 to start migrating current Medicaid/FAMIS customers to the new VaCMS eligibility system during renewals and other key dates depending on Virginia General Assembly action(s). The key dates for 2015 include – June 2015 to go live on all remaining Medicaid aid categories, document management and central printing. End of 2015 to finish all eHHR development funded by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), as all federal funds need to be used by end of 2015. The key dates for 2016 include – April 2016 for all other programs (SNAP, TANF, LIHEAP, etc.) go live on new VaCMS system and to begin retirement of the Department of Social Services (DSS) ADAPT and CHAMPS software applications.

Mr. Mix said that CMS feels that a major part 2014 will be spent on clearing/cleaning up contingencies and workarounds. Mr. Mix mentioned that he expects the same to be true for Virginia.

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

ConnectVirginia Health Information Exchange (HIE) Status Report

Debbie Condrey, Chief Information Officer (CIO), Virginia Department of Health (VDH) provided a status report on ConnectVirginia Health Information Exchange (HIE).

Ms. Condrey began by saying that the HIE grant funding ended on February 7, 2014. Ms. Condrey mentioned that a new company, ConnectVirginia HIE, Inc was established to assume responsibility for the statewide HIE and a new governing board was also selected, is now seated, and had their first meeting. The emphasis remains on sustainability. Ms. Condrey mentioned that Chairman Ruffin and Dr. Sallie Cook are on the governing board and thanked them for their contribution. Ms. Condrey added that Ms. McCleaf will serve as the Executive Director and Mr. Michael Mathews will serve as the CEO of the new company.

Ms. Condrey then talked about the Electronic Death Registration (EDR) project underway at VDH. EDR automates the death registration process through workflow and will be rolled out in the September-October period. Ms. Condrey said that VDH is collaborating with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) that would enable DMV to issue birth and death certificates. Ms. Condrey added that VDH has been collaborating with ancestry.com to scan, image and digitize 17 million of vital records since 1812 in Virginia. The records will be indexed and will be available to the public. Responding to a question from Chairman Ruffin, Ms. Condrey said that Virginia is the first state that ancestry.com has undertaken an endeavor of this magnitude.

Ms. Condrey said that All Payer Claims Database (APCD) project is also underway at VDH, allowing VDH to accept voluntary claims data from insurers and providers. The next steps will focus on combining clinical data from HIE with claims data from APCD.

Ms. Condrey concluded her presentation by saying that other projects at VDH include informatics, data warehousing, dashboards and application mapping.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor for questions from HITSAC members and the public. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the ConnectVirginia Health Information Exchange (HIE) Status Report item.

VITA MITA Program

Rich Barnes, VITA MITA Program Manager, from VITA gave a status report on the VITA MITA Program.

Mr. Barnes began by saying that the Enterprise Data Management (EDM) project is closed. Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is the sole source of data for EDM. Mr. Barnes mentioned that Department of Social Services (DSS) is developing interface specifications to on-board to the EDM platform. DBHDS is also a potential candidate to on-board to the EDM platform. Mr. Barnes said that EDM and Commonwealth Authentication Services (CAS) are working together to help prove a person's identity for Level 2 authentication. Mr. Barnes added that the project for implementing an Organization Hub in EDM is in the initial planning stage.

Turning to Services Oriented Architecture (SOA) and VITA MITA, Mr. Barnes said that the SOA infrastructure is in place and is being used by EDM and Commonwealth Authentication Services (CAS) and other new services for the Commonwealth. Mr. Barnes added that the SOA infrastructure is being augmented with Datapower hardware. Other tasks include the development of the business, security and technical control documentation, planning for transitioning CAS to VITA and building relationships with vendors.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor for questions from HITSAC members and the public. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the VITA MITA Program update item.

Presentations

Enterprise Data Management

Chairman Ruffin called for Carrie McDermott, EDM Specialist at VITA, to give a presentation on Enterprise Data Management.

Ms. McDermott began by updating HITSAC on the status for EDM. Ms. McDermott said that the funding was received over 2012 – 2013, the IBM Initiate software procured, project staffing assigned, and projects initiated and implemented. EDM went into Production in 2013. Ms. McDermott mentioned that the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is the current customer within the IBM Initiate platform.

Ms. McDermott then presented the value proposition for EDM - increased accuracy resulting from EDM's sophisticated logic used in bringing together data from multiple sources to provide a single, trusted view for any user or application to detect fraud and abuse of services, greatly reduced error rates in enrollment, improved fraud prevention and detection. Ms. McDermott added that in the past, the EDM tools have been too expensive for agencies to procure themselves. However, using EDM at the commonwealth level leverages the HHR investment resulting in greater reuse, greater agility, cost reduction, providing automated services versus manual processes.

Ms. McDermott mentioned that EDM's potential is best realized with the ability to share data. Data sharing will help with effectiveness, accuracy, reliability and security of business processes. However, one big challenge facing EDM revolves around the numerous restrictions that hinder data sharing among agencies. Common data sharing concerns include the misconception that the data might not be used for its original intended purpose. Common data sharing challenges include the need for agency business processes to change in order to support using data from other agencies. Ms. McDermott added that moving forward, EDM wants growth and new customers. Commonwealth Data Governance (CDG) conducted a survey of commonwealth data stewards and based on their responses to the survey, it was reported that 14 out of 32 think that data sharing is highest priority for agencies; 10 out of 32 think that Master Data Management is the solution that will best fit their agency data sharing and data governance efforts. Ms. McDermott said that HITSAC could help EDM by promoting the EDM message to improve data quality, reduce cost with reuse and greater agility.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor for questions from HITSAC members and the public. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the Enterprise Data Management item.

Chairman Ruffin recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:02 p.m.

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

ConnectVirginia Update and Relevance of EHR/HIE Working Group

Chairman Ruffin called for Sandy McCleaf, Executive Director, ConnectVirginia, to give a presentation on ConnectVirginia Update and Relevance of EHR/HIE Working Group.

Ms. McCleaf began by presenting the basic ConnectVirginia services for public health reporting and third party Health Information Systems Program (HISP). Ms. McCleaf then proceeded to provide a sustainability update saying that ConnectVirginia is entering a 30-month 'bridge' funding period for sustainability. The 'bridge' funding period will run from February 2014 through August 2016 based on the approved sustainability framework.

Ms. McCleaf said that ConnectVirginia is working on establishing an Electronic Health Record (EHR) and Health Information Exchange (HIE) interoperability workgroup. The goal of the EHR - HIE Interoperability Workgroup is to create an integrated marketplace of EHR capabilities in which the interfaces between EHRs and HIEs are consistent across multiple states. Ms. McCleaf added that the workgroup has developed a set of specifications that will ultimately allow "out-of-the-box" EHR connectivity, to simplify and align the process of EHR and HIE development.

Chairman Ruffin opened the floor for questions from HITSAC members and the public. Seeing none, Chairman Ruffin closed the ConnectVirginia Update and Relevance of EHR/HIE Working Group item.

HITSAC 2013 Annual Report & 2014 Work Plan Priorities

Chairman Ruffin called for Joseph Grubbs, Data Governance Contractor, VITA, to give a presentation on the 2013 HITSAC Annual Report. Chairman Ruffin added that even though the presentation was titled the 2013 HITSAC Annual report, the presentation included a report on everything that HITSAC has done since its inception.

Dr. Grubbs began by saying that the development of the Annual report was a direct outcome of conversations between the Chief Information Office (CIO) for the Commonwealth of Virginia and HITSAC Chairman, Dr. Ruffin.

Dr. Grubbs said that HITSAC was created in 2009 and codified under § 2.2-2458.1, Code of Virginia and was established to advise Virginia's IT Investment Board (ITIB). Chairman Ruffin added that the then Secretary of Technology, Aneesh Chopra working with then legislator Sam Nixon who is now the CIO to the Commonwealth led to the creation of the code responsible for creating HITSAC. Subsequently when ITIB was dissolved, HITSAC was moved under the IT Advisory Council (ITAC), the CIO and the Secretary of Technology in 2010. The current statutory authority for HITSAC is codified under § 2.2-2699.7, Code of Virginia. HITSAC advises ITAC, and in turn the CIO of the Commonwealth and the Secretaries of Technology and Health & Human Resources.

Dr. Grubbs said that to date, HITSAC has made recommendations for adoption of 125 health IT standards, including HL7 Clinical Document Architecture (CDA), Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC), Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine (SNOMED) and ASC X12 for health claims and payments. Some of the major accomplishments for HITSAC include health IT interoperability, health information exchanges, enterprise architecture, governance, and the commonwealth government gateway.

Dr. Grubbs said that some of the major milestones include the first review of the ConnectVirginia implementation guide standard & onboarding experience for the first node – Inova, the commonwealth EIA strategy & EIA domain report requirements, NIEM core person data exchange standard, emerging trends in health IT standards and interoperability, including genomics, genetic research and personalized medicine, and the amendments to the HITSAC charter.

Dr. Grubbs said that for 2014, HITSAC priorities include establishing a genomics and bioinformatics working group, developing the commonwealth EIA domain report, the Enterprise Data Management (EDM) Organization data exchange standard, a compliance monitoring strategy for data standards, the ConnectVirginia implementation guide (IG) standard and ensuring that the commonwealth stays current on all the national and international health IT standards. Chairman Ruffin acknowledged the presence of Tony Fung, Deputy Secretary of Technology and Mike Wirth, Special Advisor to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources. Chairman Ruffin added that their presence itself is an indicator of the support for HITSAC and the close collaborations between the offices of the Secretaries of Technology and Health and Human Resources.

Chairman Ruffin called for a motion to approve the HITSAC 2013 Annual Report and the 2014 Work Plan. A motion was made by Dr. Harrison with a second by Dr. Cook. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Ruffin called for a motion for HITSAC to recommend developing a list of names and a charter for genomics and bioinformatics working group. The motion passed unanimously.

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.