



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

March 21, 2024

7:30 AM

Microsoft Teams

Draft Meeting Minutes

Directors, Officers, and Trustees: David Shippee – Whitney M. Young, Jr. Health Centers (Chair), Brian O’Grady -CDPHP (Vice Chair), Bill Duax – Albany Medical Center (Secretary), Joan Hayner (Treasurer), Julie Bazell – Hometown Health Centers, Jeremiah Benoit, MD – Highmark Western and Northeastern NY, Ashima Butler – Ellenville Regional Hospital, Scott Cohen, MD – Bassett Health Care Network, Julie Demaree – St. Mary’s Amsterdam, Craig Dreher – Community Care Physicians, Patty Fusco – Fusco Personnel, Inc., Kevin Gallagher, MD – Hudson Headwaters Health Network, Eric Linzer – New York Health Plan Association, Scott Momrow – MVP, Brian Murray – The Medical Society of the Counties of Ulster & Albany, Charles Welge – Albany County Department of Health

Invited Members of the Public: Lyndon Allen – Canton Potsdam Hospital & Gouverneur Hospital, Mackenzie Boushie – Adirondack Medical Center, Scott Guisinger – Price Chopper Supermarkets, Lyndsay Macagg – Community Health Center of the North Country, Mihir Raval, MD – New York Oncology Hematology, Josh Retell – St. Peter’s Health Partners

Trustee Emeritus: Paul Macielak, Esq., Wouter Rietsema, MD

Guests: Karen Sosler, Esq. – Rivkin Radler, Travis Smith, CPA – Dermody, Burke & Brown

Hixny Staff: Mark McKinney – CEO, Debra Hamway – Vice President, Finance, Taiymoor Naqi – Chief Compliance Officer & Vice President, Privacy & Security

Meeting Commenced: 7:32 AM

I. Welcome & Chairperson Remarks

Mr. Shippee welcomed all to the meeting.

II. Adopt Minutes from January 18, 2024 Board Meeting

A motion to approve the January 18, 2024 Board Meeting minutes was made by Bill Duax and seconded by Craig Dreher. With no further comments, no opposition, and no abstentions, the motion was unanimously approved.

III. Public Session

Mark began with a few announcements:

- Hixny’s 2023 Annual Report has been posted on the website and folks should be receiving it via email within the next couple of days.
- The most recent weekly report from NYeC shows that Hixny continues to outperform the other QEs in terms of the volume of SHIN-NY related queries.
- Hixny was the first QE to go live with data submission to the data lake production system.



The proposed new SHIN-NY Regulation was presented to PHHPC on February 8th and then released by DOH on the 14th. The proposed regulation looks to consolidate SHIN-NY responsibilities under DOH and its contractors (NYeC).

Key elements of the proposed regulation include:

- Create a statewide data infrastructure (SDI)
- Implement a statewide common participation agreement
- Change QE core service requirements
- Aggregation of all SHIN-NY participants data
- Allows providers to connect directly to the SDI and not a QE

NYeC has formed a new organization called “Technology by Design” to develop and run the SDI. Its Board includes four QEs (Bronx, HealthLink, Rochester, HealthConnections), NYeC and an independent Director who is a former colleague of David Horrocks in Maryland. This organization is developing plans to replace all existing technology in the SHIN-NY instead of building upon existing capabilities. QEs will be required to connect and use the technology to support the aggregation of data and all SHIN-NY participants will also be required to supply their data to the SDI.

Concerns about the proposed regulation include:

- Lack of detail, particularly in the common participation agreement. Depending on the terms and conditions placed into this agreement by DOH, participants required to participate in the SHIN-NY could be forced to agree to unfavorable terms.
- It appears that the regulation intends to slowly eliminate or at least significantly minimize the role of the QE and place NYeC as the SHIN-NY service provider.
- Shift in ownership of the infrastructure from the QEs to DOH. Under the regulation, the SDI will be provided, implemented, and overseen by DOH and/or its contractor. This will create an environment where DOH will set policy on how it releases data from the SDI to itself for public health purposes.
- Allowing providers to connect directly to the SDI and bypass the oversight requirements that are imposed on the QE through the QE Certification process, will create two-tiers of participants, and could weaken the trust across the SHIN-NY.

At the conclusion of Mark’s presentation, there was a brief discussion on the proposed regulation.

A motion to adjourn the public session was made by Joan Hayner and seconded by Wouter Rietsema, MD.

Public Session Adjourned: 8:01 AM

Respectfully Submitted by:

**Linda Mensching-Quinn
Human Resource & Board Relations Administrator**

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 16, 2024 at 7:30 AM