

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

May 16, 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: Howie Architzel – Broadview Federal Credit Union, 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

Hixny Staff: Mark McKinney – CEO, Bryan Cudmore – Vice President, Account Management, 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 March 21, 2024 Board Meeting

Mr. Shippee made a motion to approve the March 21, 2024 Board Meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by Craig Dreher. With no further comments, no opposition, and no abstentions, the motion was unanimously approved.

III. Public Session

Mark gave an overview of progress on our product development efforts:

We are in partnership with Ellenville Regional Hospital to develop a model using artificial intelligence to predict opioid overdoses with the intention to try and ease workforce problems that providers have in targeting and triaging patients who have substance abuse disorder(s) with the goal to reduce opioid deaths. Ellenville Regional Hospital is in Ulster County which has the highest rate of opioid deaths or overdose deaths along with Sullivan County in the state.

We have developed an AI model that does a good job at predicting opioid deaths within the upcoming six months. Ellenville's CEO Steve Kelly presented at a recent Rx and Illicit Drug Summit in Atlanta. He discovered that nobody was currently focusing on the prediction components and doing what we are trying to do.

The AI model has given some basic output to Ellenville to have them start to use the model to figure out how the information can be meaningful and actionable to them.

We intend to refine and improve the model over the course of the year. We have submitted some grant applications to try and raise funds for this project and Mr. Kelley has also taken up the charge.

Hixny has met with the Center for Disease Control and the NYS Department of Health regarding the project, and both are impressed and interested in what we are doing. Hixny also met with the Lieutenant Governor who was also impressed and interested in the project.

As we look to accelerate the development of the project, we need to look at seating our Research Committee. Previously the committee did have a chair, but the individual resigned from their position and moved out of state. Dave and I have been actively working on finding individuals who might be interested in being a member and/or chair the committee. A SUNY School of Public Health Professor has expressed interest in joining the committee but not serving as chair. Dr. Rietsema suggested that Mark meet with the new Chief Medical Officer at the Adirondack ACO about joining the committee. Ms. Demaree expressed her interest in joining the committee and serving as chair. If anyone attending today's meeting is interested in participating on the committee or knows of someone who might be, please email Mark after the meeting.

Hixny is also working with the Ulster County Sheriff's Office to look at potentially being able to bring its law enforcement data into the above model. The hope is that we can expand the data between Ulster and Albany counties. This will help widen the population of patients to work from. Additionally, we will be reaching out to other organizations around the Capital Region who are involved in opioid overdose activities to gain their support.

Public Health Focus Groups

In the last three months, Hixny has met with 18 local health departments to identify how to better support their future needs. From those meetings, five or six common themes have emerged. The majority of the themes revolve around the everyday workflow, data systems and getting information from NYS systems. One area identified as "siloes" is the immunizations for adults. One benefit overtime of the SHIN-NY data lake is to make access to this type of data easier. Of particular interest are doctor's notes and information pertaining to fever, temperatures and post discharge instructions. Also needed is additional information on maternal/child health, pharmacy data, urgent care centers and reproductive health clinics.

Hixny is developing new reporting around STI (sexually transmitted infections) and emergency department utilization. Hixny is working alongside HealthConnections and Healthix on this to develop some consistency in the information delivered and to ensure that the SHIN-NY is meeting needs moving forward.

Provider Focus Groups

We are getting good feedback on how to improve the system and are working to make changes. One of the biggest changes recently made is that we've added Break the Glass capability directly to the Snapshot application. In doing so, access and utility for those in the Emergency department is more accessible. Another focus is on the Insights tile – this is to highlight information for the provider and make it easily available. Also identified is the gap in care and having a direct link for this type of information.

SHIN-NY Regulation

Hixny did submit comments on the proposed new SHIN-NY regulation. Our comments fell into three areas:

- The Regulation – lacks important detail
- Direct Connections – threaten the fabric of trust
- SDI – may have unintended consequences

From a process standpoint, DOH is responding to comments and that there weren't a tremendous number of them. The lack of comments may be due to the fact that the proposed changes were released during the budget cycle and largely went under the radar. It is generally assumed that there will be a vote on the proposed regulation changes in June.

A motion to adjourn the public session was made by Bill Duax and seconded by Paul Macielak.

Public Session Adjourned: 8:03 AM

Respectfully Submitted by:

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