

North Carolina Health Information Exchange Authority Q4 2024 Advisory Board Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 15, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM – 5:05 PM

Location: SAS Institute Executive Business Center 7, 100 SAS Campus Drive, Cary, NC, 27513

Attendees:

Vice Chair Brent Lamm

Board Member Ryan Wilkins

Board Member Christie Burris

Board Member ClarLynda Williams-DeVane

Board Member Ryan Craig

Executive Director Sam Thompson

Board Member Cherie Givens (designee)

Speaker Christy Revels

Board Member Laura Gruebel

Speaker Dylan Frick

Board Member Mike Robinson

Speaker Jessie Tenenbaum

Board Member John Meier

Speaker Trip Stallings

Board Member Greg Moore (designee)

Board Member Tanya Thompson

2:02 PM - Welcome and Call to Order

Vice Chairman Lamm

Vice Chair Lamm called the meeting to order and reviewed the draft meeting minutes from October 24, 2024, board meeting. Board Member Meier motioned to approve the minutes which were seconded and passed unanimously.

2:10 PM - Advisory Board Business

Sam Thompson

Voting Items

NC HIEA Advisory Board Chair

- Director Thompson moved to open nominations for the Advisory Board Chair
- Board Member Meier: Nominated Vice Chair Lamm
- Board Member Wilkins: Seconded nomination
- Director Thompson announced Vice Chair Lamm was nominated for chair and moved to close the nominations
- Regina Cucurullo, Deputy General Counsel, asked each voting member for their vote by roll call

- Board Members Criag, Lamm, Meier, Robinson, Thompson, Wilkins and Gruebel all voted for Vice Chair Lamm and Board Member Moore abstained
- Director Thompson declared Vice Chair Lamm as the new Chair of the Advisory Board

New Advisory Board members

Board Member Laura Gruebel: Patient Representative, trained as a physical therapist. Volunteers as Guardian Ad-Litem. President of a non-profit.

Board Member Mike Robinson: Representative of Technical Expertise in Data Analytics, BCBS Payer. Robinson grew up in Cary, NC, and worked outside of NC, now back in NC. Robinson has worked in IT for the last 10 years on workflow-driven systems focused on data exchange.

2025 NC HIEA Advisory Board Meeting Schedule

Q1 – Wednesday, March 19

Q2 – Tuesday, June 17

Q3 – Tuesday, September 30

Q4 – Tuesday, December 9

2:12 PM - NC HIEA Operations Updates

Sam Thompson

Metrics – Handouts

- Clinical Portal utilization represents the usage of the system. Large changes recently have been driven by LME/MCOs (Tailored Plans).
- Data Connections by Month: Note pent-up demand as a result of HealthShare upgrade that was relieved after the upgrade completed in Sep 2024.
- Research post Helene medical encounters (findings as of Nov 8, 2024)
- Testimonials reflect usage of HIE and impact on their business.

Budget and Contracts

- General fund appropriation = \$19.4 M
- Two APD documents approved by CMS: IAPD-U \$19 M (with federal match) and OAPD \$5.4 M (based on proportion of state population served by Medicaid - 30%).
- Annual SAS amendment executed in December: \$16 M calendar year.

NC*Notify changes for CY 2026 – Moving to a new approach starting in 2026, with development in 2025.

Staffing

Seven staff have started at HIEA since the beginning of December with heavy investment in project management, Medicaid administration, and quality improvement:

- Medicaid Program Administrator (Contractor; APD-funded)
- Data Quality Project Manager (Contractor; APD-funded)
- Medicaid APD IT Project Manager (Contractor; APD-funded)
- Analytics and Outbound Services Project Manager (Contractor; APD-funded)
- Business Relation Project Manager (Contractor; APD-funded)
- Data Quality Analyst (Permanent)
- Quality Improvement Analyst (Contractor)

Vacant positions with candidates identified for four positions. Many of the positions fall under operations and data quality and provider outreach.

- Budget Officer (Contractor)
- Compliance Specialist (Contractor)
- Solution Architect (Permanent; Candidate identified/hiring in process)
- Data Quality Analyst (Permanent; Candidate identified/hiring in process)
- Data Integration Lead (Permanent; Candidate identified/hiring in process)
- Provider Relations Specialist (Permanent; Candidate identified/hiring in process)
- Business Development/Outreach Specialist (Permanent)
- Provider Relations Specialist (Contractor; APD -Funded)
- Analytics and External Services are fully staffed

HIEA Priorities

- Manatt Health partnership is focused on identifying and executing strategies based on ability to perform scans across the landscape and policy analysis.
- Currently engaged in a two-step process for roadmap development: Strategic Priority Setting and Implement Plan Development. This will be followed by implementation plan development.

2:28 PM – Roadmap 2030*

Christy Revels

- Message from the Director regarding work ahead
- Introduction to the NC HIEA for the lay person
- Four overarching goals and purpose
- Nine-year history with a list of accomplishments and a landscape description and fast-moving data standards.

Chair Lamm: Motion to approve Roadmap which was seconded

- Roadmap approved unanimously by the board members

3:25 PM – Health Data Utility Update**Jessie Tenenbaum**

HDU is an HIE plus social determinants data, benefit enrollment data, all with additional cross-sector, shared governance.

- The HIEA has identified multiple key stakeholders across government (DHHS, DAC, DPI, GA) and non-government entities (providers, payers, patients, CBO/HSOs, SAS, EHR vendors).
- Stakeholder-supplied use cases include food scarcity and SNAP enrollment, pediatric autism service utilization from clinical and non-clinical sources.

3:55 pm – Break**4:09 PM – Legislative Update and Priorities****Dylan Frick**

- General Assembly begins Jan 29, 2025
- Waiting on bill filing deadlines (General Assembly is working on simplifications)
- The crossover deadline is May 8, 2025
- Revenue estimates: Mid-April Early May
- Expecting good revenue report, combine with Treasurer and SHP, and Hurricane Relief
- Hurricane Helene relief bill expected in February
- House committees' reformation in progress
- Senate committees will remain the same

Legislative Priorities for Long Session**Sam Thompson**

- Revised Compliance Framework for HIE Act
- Why PA's Decreased from 2023 to 2024, which is also reflected in the volume of data received, but clinical portal utilization has increased.
- Perception of a relaxed or delayed deadline led to a loss of urgency to connect with certain providers. This requires that we put a compliance framework back in place to annually exempt smaller state-funded providers based on claims volume and revenue but requires larger provider to participate in through financial penalties separate from claims.
- HDU Legislation
- Disaster Response
- Patient Access Enablement

4:15 PM – NC Longitudinal Data Service**Trip Stallings**

- NCLDS is not a data warehouse. Users of data warehouses are often concerned with where their data is going. NC LDS just provides a service, not an attempt to populate our warehouse.
- NCLDS is a process for retrieving, linking, deidentifying, packaging, securely delivering data in a common space. Most states do not have this approach. Security, privacy, and data quality are critical aspects of the framework.

5:05 PM – New Business

Vice Chair Lamm

The next meeting, Q1 is scheduled for March 19, 2025, SAS.

5:05 PM – Adjourn

Vice Chair Lamm

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Lamm adjourned the meeting.



03/21/2025