

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
WESTERN NEW YORK CLINICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE, INC.
(HEALTHeLINK or HeL)**

Date of Meeting: December 14, 2023

Time of Meeting: 7:30 a.m.

Location: 2475 George Urban Blvd – 2nd Floor - Board Room
and Via Teams videoconference

Members Present: Anthony Billittier, M. D. (IHA)
Allison Brashear, M.D. (University of Buffalo)
Lauren Bruckner, M.D. (Roswell Park) (as indicated)
Michael Edbauer, M. D. (Highmark)
Michael Galang, M.D. (CHS) (as indicated)
Michael Mineo, M. D. (Kaleida)
Pastor George Nicholas (P2 Designee/RHIC)
Paul Pettit (Commissioner of Health – Genesee & Orleans County Health
Departments)
Art Wingerter (Univera)

Others Present: Sarah Cotter (HEALTHeLINK)
Peter Elkin, M.D. (University of Buffalo) (Research Committee)
Herbert Glose (HEALTHeLINK/Barclay Damon LLP) (Counsel)
Karen Kinley (HEALTHeLINK)
Jennifer Lane (HEALTHeLINK)
Drew McNichol (HEALTHeLINK)
Michael Pease (Advisory Council Chair) (as indicated)
Dan Porreca (HEALTHeLINK)
Steve Timmel (Audit and Finance Committee/IHA)
Jackie Welsch (HEALTHeLINK)

Chair of Meeting: Anthony Billittier

Secretary of Meeting: Herbert Glose

Call to Order/Agenda Review

Dr. Billittier opened the meeting at 7:33 a.m. He welcomed Lauren Bruckner, the new RPCCC designated Board member. She gave a brief summary of her background. Tony then reviewed the Agenda and asked if anyone had any questions or additions to the Agenda; no one did.

Review/Approval of Minutes

Dr. Billittier then referred to the Minutes from the September 14, 2023 meeting and asked if anyone had any comments, questions or revisions; no one did.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Board Meeting of
September 14, 2023 were unanimously approved.**

Technology Update

Jen Lane was introduced to give the Technology Update. She reviewed the materials contained in the Technology Update slide packet dated December 14, 2023, copies of which were included in the Board materials sent in advance of the meeting. Highlights included a review of the tech Architecture and Roadmap, as well as updates on projects, including data quality improvement and SHIN-NY shared services. Drew McNichol, who will be heading the new shared services entity for the SHIN-NY, gave some additional details on current initiatives. Herb Glose and Dan Porreca outlined discussions for governance of the new entity and next steps. This might include a special meeting of the Board in Q1, 2024 to review and vote on governance for the new entity and HEALTHeLINK's role in same.

Community Dashboard

Sarah Cotter was introduced to review the materials contained in the Community Health Dashboard (HEALTHeWNY), dated December 14, 2023, copies of which were included in the Board materials sent in advance of the meeting. There was a brief Q&A on possible additional data analysis to be considered in the future. [Dr. Bruckner and Dr. Galang left the meeting due to prior commitments.]

Committee Reports

Executive -

Dr. Billittier summarized the matters discussed at Executive Committee and also contained in the Executive Committee Minutes (included in the Board materials).

RHIC –

Pastor Nicholas gave the Regional Health Improvement Committee report. He highlighted the continuing challenge to gather data for individuals not in the healthcare system, including significant portions of the African American and rural populations.

Audit and Finance

Dr. Billittier introduced Steve Timmel and Jackie Welsch to give the Audit and Finance Report. (The 2023 Finance Review materials as of October 31, 2023 and year end forecast were included in the Board packets.)

Steve reviewed the financial statements as of October 31, 2023. Steve then reviewed the forecast for the balance of the year, noting that current indicators were that HEALTHeLINK will end up with financial results quite close to the 2023 Budget.

Jackie commented on certain expense items that were expected to be incurred in 2023, but instead will be incurred in 2024.

Physicians Advisory

Dan Porreca reported on discussions at the recent meeting, which focused on Artificial Intelligence and on advanced care planning.

Advisory Council

Mike Pease reported on the Advisory Council (AC) meeting at which many of the topics already covered at this meeting were discussed. In general, he noted that the AC is pleased with the direction HeL is taking on many fronts.

Research Committee

Dr. Elkin applauded the work on data quality and the Community Dashboard, and reported on Committee actions and approvals further detailed in the Committee minutes.

Operations/Business Update

Dan Porreca gave the Operations Committee/Business Update Report. (Slide deck included in the Board materials.)

Dan reviewed the YTD status of the 2023 Business Objectives, noting that results and numbers have either been met or are tracking positively.

Dan then presented proposed categories for the 2024 Business Objectives. After a brief Board discussion it was determined that no additions were needed. Dan indicated that he and the HeL team would flesh out the details for each category for final review by the Executive Committee in Q1 2024.

Dan reviewed the update of discussions relating to the interplay of local, State and national HIEs. He also gave an overview of a federation of HIEs opportunity (currently 5 – geographically diverse across USA) lead by the Sentinel Project out of Harvard, which tracks progress on various national metrics, but with all data remaining local. He reviewed the statement of purpose of the initiative with the Board and indicated he would report on additional developments as the project unfolds.

Dan concluded his report by noting that this was Sarah Cotter’s last Board meeting, as she would be leaving HeL to pursue another opportunity. The Board applauded Sarah for her excellent work on behalf of the organization.

There being no other business, at 9:00 a.m. the Board Meeting was adjourned. There was no Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Herbert J. Glose
Herbert J. Glose, Secretary of the Meeting