

New Mexico Health Information System (HIS) Act Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**May 12, 2020
Zoom Meeting**

HIS Advisory Committee Members present:

Jeff Dye – New Mexico Hospital Association
Mark Epstein – Health Insurance Provider (True Health New Mexico)
Kristina Fisher – Health Consumer Group (Think New Mexico)
Nadini Kuehn – Health Policy
Mike Landen – New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH), Chair
Bill Patten – Health Care Organization (Taos Holy Cross)
Todd Sandman – Health Care Provider (Presbyterian Health Services)
Russell Toal – Office of Superintendent of Insurance
Janice Torrez – Health Insurance Provider (BCBS)
Bonnie White – Health Care Organization (UNMH)
Judy Williams – Health Data

Members not present:

Robert Doucette – Office of Superintendent of Insurance
Ryan O’Connor – Human Services Department (HSD)
Anthony Yepa – Health Consumer

Other Attendees:

Ken Geter – Community & Health Systems Epidemiology Bureau, NMDOH
Ellen Interlandi – New Mexico Hospital Association (NMHA)
Dan Lanari – Health Care Organization (NMHA)
Tony Pedroncelli – Western Skies Community Care
Joseph Tighe – HSD

Review of Meeting Minutes from December 9 meeting

- Minutes approved.

Review Agenda

- Agenda Approved.

APCD Updates (Ken Geter)

- The APCD RFP is close to the end of the process
 - The main APCD vendor proposal review was submitted to the State Purchasing Department (SPD) and came back with comments. These comments have been addressed and the review has been resubmitted to SPD.
 - The APCD Proposal Evaluation Committee is currently reviewing cost proposals.

- There will likely be oral presentations from at least two of the vendors due to the proposed costs proposals being close in dollar amount.
 - DOH will send out a notice to this group with the schedule of oral presentations, hopefully next week.
 - HISA committee only allowed to listen, only the Proposal Evaluation Committee can ask questions.
 - The questions are required to be the same for each vendor.
- There will be a DoIT Project Certification Committee (PCC) meeting in late June for the APCD's entering its implementation phase.
- A contractor (Freedman Healthcare) is assisting DOH with the purchase of 2016-2018 Medicare data. This process is nearly complete.
- APCD Rules
 - These were reviewed by Mike Landen and have been sent to the DOH Office of General Counsel.
 - After that review, DOH will distribute the Rules to HSD, OSI, and Jane Wishner to get their input.
 - Then, the formal hearing will be scheduled, it may be a "virtual" hearing via Zoom or similar.
- Data Scientist position
 - This has been stalled because of the hiring freeze on non-federally funding state positions.
 - Jane Wishner is looking into getting an exception for state funding to get this position filled.
- Real Time Solutions contract
 - RTS will survey other APCD states on their websites to ask about lessons learned, what was effective/not effective, etc.
 - Six states will participate in the initial online survey, then there may be virtual interviews to ask more in-depth questions.
- Special legislative session in June
 - There is a lot of uncertainty about cuts to the state budget.
 - There is FY21 funding for APCD that could potentially be cut.
 - Special session can change funding for next fiscal year, sweep funding from monies that haven't been spent yet.
 - Is there any rule/law that mandates APCD to be protected from budget cuts?
 - Mike said that is doubtful. We can't make the case that the APCD is necessary for dealing with COVID.
 - Is there any problem in making a commitment to a vendor until the completion of the special session?
 - Mike said we will proceed until we can't proceed any further.
 - A contract is always dependent on adequate funds. There are clauses in the contract that address the contingency of lack of funding.
 - To clarify on the PCC process (see above): the PCC does not award or remove monies, but without certification the monies (C2 funds for APCD), the monies are not released.

Next Meeting

- Tuesday, July 7, 2:00-3:00pm via Zoom or similar.