

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2021

4:00-7:00 pm

Regular Meeting

[Zoom Meeting Recording](#)

Directors Present: Mark Raymond (Presiding Chair), Dr. Allen Davis, Stacia Grosso, Mike Gilbert (Commissioner Gifford Designee). Claudio Gualtieri joined at 5:15 pm.

Opening, Roll Call, Opening Statement:

Mark Raymond called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. Since there was no quorum established, non-action items were reviewed.

The Board recessed until 5:15 pm when quorum was established.

March Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion: Mark Raymond asked for a motion to approve the March regular meeting minutes. Stacia Grosso created the motion. Mark Raymond seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. **Motion carried.**

Meeting Agenda

Motion: Mark Raymond asked for a motion to approve the April 7, 2021 meeting agenda. Claudio Gualtieri created the motion. Stacia Grosso seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. **Motion carried.**

I. Reports

a. Board Chair Report

Mark Raymond announced that we are thrilled to have Claudio Gualtieri, Undersecretary for Health and Human Services at The Office of Policy and Management on the Connie Board of Directors. Claudio is filling the vacated seat, John Vittner retired from earlier this Spring.

Regarding other Connie Board vacancies, there have been recent conversations and positive movement with the Office of the Governor pending the Consumer Advocate appointment. There are also pending statute changes to add a designee from the Department of Social Services (DSS) to the Board. Additionally, once a Health Information Technology Officer (HITO) is hired at the Office of Health Strategy (OHS), the HITO will be appointed to serve on the Board.

b. Executive Director Report

Jenn Searls recalled at the previous Board meeting in March, the contract with OHS and Connie was finalized and approved with the Attorney General's Office on 3/2/21. Connie has been working diligently with their partners at OHS and DSS to complete the milestones. Funding for Connie is released upon achievement of reaching the milestones in the contract.

Connie is continuing work with stakeholders from OHS and DSS on the transition from the HITECH Act fund and the 90/10 funds. Connie will remain funded through these funds until the end of this fiscal year, and then transition over to the Medicaid Management Information Systems (MMIS) or the Medicaid Enterprise System (MES) funding.

Jenn shared there have been productive conversations with DSS to legally onboard them to Connie. Connie is working closely with the DSS team to help identify ways for DSS to meet the Centers of Medicaid Services (CMS) interoperability requirements around patient access and provider directory.

Jenn reported Connie hired and welcomed three new staff members to the team this month. This is great since there have been conversations with many signees every week to Connie and the more staff, we have to process this, the better we are able to meet this demand.

As of March, SOHO Health signed on to the Quality Data Sharing Organization Agreement (QDSOA) and a technical meeting was held earlier today.

Participants continue to onboard from the CT Children's Care network through partners at CT HealthLink. There are approximately 28 pediatric practices that we are hoping to onboard to Connie through CT HealthLink.

A kick-off technical onboarding meeting is scheduled for tomorrow (4/8) with ProHealth Physicians.

Regarding education and outreach efforts, Connie has been organizing a number of webinar series to play out over the next few months. Connie is finalizing a plan with the CT Association of Health Plans to develop a two-part series webinar to meet with all of the payers in state in May. Former Connie Interim Executive Director, Michael Matthews will facilitate this discussion with payers to help understand how a health information exchange and payer partnership can work.

Connie is also partnering with SOHO Health members on education and outreach and what it means to be connected to Connie.

Jenn recalled that the Fairfield and Hartford Medical society is working on a target of May to provide education and outreach sessions. A 90-minute demonstration and introduction to Connie is scheduled for April 29 hosted by UConn Health.

Additionally, a panel is scheduled at the New England HIMSS Chapter discussion on May 11 and will include David Horrocks of CRISP, Vicki Veltri, Executive Director of OHS and Jenn Searls to talk through HIEs, and how HIEs can benefit Covid-19 and immunization responses.

Connie is in discussion with the CT Medical Group (CMG) to plan for onboarding their more than 1,000 providers to the Connie network.

c. Finance & Audit Committee Report

Mark Raymond reported that a Finance and Audit Committee meeting is in process of being scheduled for later this month.

II. Business Agenda

a. Board Treasurer and Secretary

Motion: Mark Raymond asked for a motion that the Board table the election of the Board Treasurer and Secretary until May. Stacia Grosso created a motion. Mark Raymond seconded. There was no further discussion. **The motion carried.**

b. Update on Onboarding and Operations

Jenn Searls provided an update on onboarding and operations process for legally and technically connecting participants to Connie. To date, 44 participants are connected to Connie.

c. Second Read Policy: Use Case Development and Approval.

Motion: Mark Raymond asked that the Board accept the amended proposed policy. Dr. Allen Davis created a motion. Stacia Grosso seconded. There was no further discussion. Claudio Gualtieri abstained. **The motion carried.**

d. First Read Policy: Consent

Motion: Mark Raymond asked that the Board accept the draft proposed policy as amended for first read. Stacia Grosso created a motion. Dr. Allen Davis seconded. There was no further discussion. **The motion carried.**

IV. Adjournment

Motion: Mark Raymond asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Allen Davis made a motion to adjourn. Stacia Grosso seconded. **None opposed.** The meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.