

**MINUTES OF THE
HEALTH SYSTEM REFORM TASK FORCE**
Wednesday, May 19, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. – Room 250 State Capitol

Members Present:

Speaker David Clark, House Chair
Sen. Wayne L. Niederhauser, Senate Chair
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Bradley G. Last
Rep. David Litvack
Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove

Members Absent:

Sen. D. Chris Buttars
Rep. Bradley M. Daw
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold

Staff Present:

Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Policy Analyst
Ms. Catherine J. Dupont, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Wendy Bangerter, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of any related materials can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Task Force Business

Speaker Clark called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Last moved to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2009 and April 23, 2010 meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

A letter to Ms. Dupont on the status of the Risk Adjuster Board and a slide presentation prepared by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, "Utah Health Reform: 2010 Legislative Update," were distributed to the task force members.

2. Electronic Clinical Health Information Exchange (cHIE)

Ms. Jan Root, Executive Director, Utah Health Information Network, distributed "UHIN cHIE Update" and a declaration of "Utah Medical Connectivity Day" by Governor Herbert. She reported that hospitals representing each of the major hospital systems have connected with one another or are actively working to connect with one another using new standards developed by Utah for the electronic exchange of clinical health information. She highlighted two policy issues related to cHIE—whether a data center should be moved to Utah and balancing patients' right to privacy with quality of care. She reported that Utah entities have been awarded \$7.2 million in federal funding for cHIE-related activities. Ms. Root answered questions of the Task Force.

3. Electronic Personal Health Records

Ms. Amy Rees Anderson, Chief Executive Officer of MediConnect Global, a medical record retrieval and delivery company headquartered in South Jordan that has gathered, digitized, and extracted millions of medical records, reported that MediConnect would like to integrate data from the state's new all payer database with MediConnect's existing medical records database as part of an attempt to help people take greater interest in their health before they are sick and to help them after they become sick.

Mr. Barry Nangle, Director, Center for Health Data, Utah Department of Health, expressed his desire that Medicare would allow its data to be used as part of the state's all payer database.

4. Payment and Delivery Reform Demonstration Projects

Ms. Christie North, Vice President of Utah Programs, HealthInsight, reported that by August HealthInsight should have data from the obstetrics demonstration project it is helping to develop. She also reported that HealthInsight has been awarded a \$15.8 million federal Beacon Community Grant. In part, the grant will be used for the state's diabetes demonstration project.

Mr. Scott Barlow, CEO, Central Utah Clinic, reported on efforts to develop a diabetes demonstration project. He noted that this has been difficult to do simultaneously across providers due to provider data systems. Instead, what is evolving are lots of little private-based projects. Mr. Barlow reported that everyone is cooperating in the development of the projects.

Speaker Clark noted that the urgency to develop these demonstration projects has only increased.

5. Future Task Force Work

Ms. Dupont distributed and reviewed "Potential Roles and Tasks for the 2010 Health System Reform Task Force." Speaker Clark indicated that the Task Force will plan to follow the direction outlined in that document and invited task force members to provide additional input.

6. Other Business

Speaker Clark referred to information distributed at the meeting.

Speaker Clark spoke about the new universal small employer health insurance application. A sample was distributed to the task force members. He indicated that if the form is going to ask for information about over-the-counter medications, then a more specific definition is needed so that a trap is not created for the applicant.

Ms. Tanji Northrup, Health Division Director, Utah Insurance Department, explained that she has met with consumers and insurers in an effort to simplify the application. She agreed that an area of contention is whether the request for information regarding over-the-counter medications should be included on the application. She said that her inclination is to remove the question from the form.

Mr. Jeff Hartley, America's Health Insurance Plans, indicated that his organization would not resist removal of the over-the-counter question.

Ms. Korey Capozza, policy analyst for Voices for Utah Children, said that the onerousness of the uniform application was a barrier to enrollment in the Utah Health Exchange.

7. Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Last moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Niederhauser, Sen. Davis, and Sen. Knudson were absent for the vote.

Speaker Clark adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.