



Healthix Board of Director Meeting Minutes
October 6th, 2021 | 4:00pm-5:30pm

Board Attendees via telephone

- David Cohen, MD, Healthix Chair
- Michael Bouton, MD, NYC Health+Hospitals
- Robert Chaloner, Southampton Hospital
- Louise Cohen, Primary Care Dev. Corp.
- Thomas Early, Nassau Queens PPS
- Art Gianelli, St. Luke's Hospital
- Michael Guarino, IPA of Nassau/Suffolk Counties, Inc.
- Albert Izaguirre, Ph.D., MBA, NYC Health+Hospitals
- Charles King, Housing Works
- Irene Koch, Esq., Hospital for Special Surgery
- David Leventhal, Pfizer
- Larry McReynolds, NYU/Lutheran Family Health Centers
- Marc d. Paradis, Northwell Health
- Donna Rey, 1199 SEIU Benefit and Pension Funds
- David Schimel, New York Medical Staff Leadership Council
- Fred S. Sganga, Long Island State Veterans Home

Absent:

- Anup Vidyarthi, The Stepping Stones Group
- Matthew Siegler, NYC Health + Hospitals
- Paul Casale, MD, New York Quality Care ACO

Healthix Management:

- Todd Rogow, President and CEO
- Vivienne Destefano, SVP Corporate Affairs
- Tom Moore, SVP, Innovation
- John Guastella, SVP, Finance & CFO
- Nick VanDuyne, SVP, CIO
- John Chow, CISO
- Magdalena Mandziewska, Privacy Officer, Senior Director of Compliance
- Maureen O'Connor
- Kathleen Kahn
- Kaitlin Flaherty, Executive Assistant

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:05pm.

Action Items: Approvals

- **Minutes from June Board Meeting:** The meeting minutes of June 2021 were approved.
- **Renewal of Chase Credit Line, effective October 15, 2021:** Board Members approved renewal of the credit line
- **Healthix Policy Updates:** Board Members approved the revisions to Healthix policy.
- **Term Renewal for Board Members Irene Koch, Donna Rey, Paul Casale, Robert Chaloner, and Michael Bouton:** Board Directors/Members approved the renewal of additional term of service for these Board Members
- **Special Waiver for Anup Vidyarthi and Dr. David Cohen to Serve an Additional Term:** Board Directors/Members approved the Special Waiver.

Report of the Chairperson

Dr. Cohen presented his report, summarizing the 1115 Waiver Demonstration, the details of which were discussed at a previous meeting. The goals of this program are meant to be consistent with the direction of the new administration in

Washington, dealing with social determinants of health and health disparities, incorporating health information exchange as a means of affecting programmatic change and supporting new programs.

Dr. Cohen stated that it's time to plan a 2022 Board retreat, using it as an opportunity to determine Healthix's role in respect to the waiver and determining how Healthix services can provide value. The goal is to host the event at the beginning of the new year, with further details to follow. Mr. Rogow requested that any Board members working on plans regarding the waiver at their organization should reach out and ensure Healthix is included.

Committee Reports

Mr. Early presented the Finance Committee report from the September 9, 2021 meeting. Healthix received approval of the PPP loan forgiveness on June 28, 2021. The Finance Committee approved the new Healthix Investment Policy The Chase credit line was approved for renewal, effective October 15, 2021. This line of credit is renewed every 12 months. Mr. Early noted that this exists for emergencies and has never been used by Healthix. The committee also discussed potential new revenue opportunities.

Dr. Cohen presented the renewal of the Chase Credit Line to the Board, which was approved unanimously.

Mr. Guastella discussed the financial results for the first half of 2021, referring to the financial schedules presented. This included NYeC contract revenue and assumptions put into the 2021 budget. He also described variances in revenue, expenses and staffing as well as PPS Loan Forgiveness. Healthix is still waiting to receive funds from NYeC on the current year's contract for April-August.

Mr. Rogow covered the I&I grants which Healthix was awarded. The current ongoing grants are Hospital HERDS, Flu Surveillance, Uniform Assessment System, and COVID-19 Patient Registry (SCDR). In addition, NYeC allotted about \$5 million to be distributed for the All-in Consent Technical Architecture. This new consent model allows for consent to apply across the entire state as well as outside of state boundaries. Most recently Healthix, working with Bronx RHIO, was awarded a grant for Referral Management for Social Determinants of Health. There were additional questions and discussion amongst the Board Members about the All-in Consent and discussion about the options available as well as the systems needed to operationalize the process. This particular model was chosen by the state due to privacy concerns. Additionally, there were concerns about the role of the patients and how to effectively convince them to choose All-in. Dr. Cohen, through his role on the NYeC Policy Committee, will represent the opinion of the Healthix Board, which favors an Opt-out model.

Mr. Sganga covered the Privacy Committee updates. The Privacy Committee approved several policy revisions. Clarification on how these revisions would be approved, as some came through Healthix, and others came directly from NYeC was raised by the members. Cohen agreed that the Board should vote on the revisions in two groups, starting with those that are consistent with state policy changes.

Dr. Cohen brought the Break the Glass, Death Investigators, and Patient Engagement, Patient Portal and Access revisions up for approval by the Board. The Board unanimously approved these the revisions.

Dr. Cohen then moved onto the remaining revisions. Mr. Gianelli asked for more information on the Omnibus One-to-One Exchange. Mr. Rogow clarified that these agreements allow for more sharing of data. The Board then unanimously approved the revisions.

Members Meeting/Vote

Dr. Cohen discussed the current Board Class whose terms are up for renewal.

As protocol requires, the meeting of the Board was suspended, and a meeting of the Members was called to order. Both groups unanimously voted to approve the renewals as well as a waiver for Dr. Cohen, and another member of the Board, to remain in their roles. The Board unanimously voted to approve the renewal of an additional term

Following the voting, the Board meeting resumed. Mr. Rogow then discussed a new Committee assignment, with Dr. Rey joining the Finance Committee.

NYeC Goals & Funding

Mr. Rogow provided some updates on statewide goals. Healthix is close to meeting its participation goals, recognizing Mr. King's efforts to help us achieve this goal. Healthix is working arduously to close the gap on "data fields and formats" or DFF. For this deliverable, the focus has been placed on closing the gap to goal related to physicians. After starting with a gap of 27,000, Healthix is down to 7,000, with an expectation of +3,000 by December. Mr. Rogow expects Healthix will receive about half of the allotted audit-based funding, which is a better result than prior years.

New Services to Health Plans

Healthix has engaged with Helgerson Solution Group and an outside vendor to explore how it can provide more value to Health Plans. Events in 2021 have presented an opportunity for Healthix to provide valuable services to Health Plans, that they will pay for, as the importance of value-based care is on the rise. Recent changes in NYS DOH policy removes consent restrictions on sending data to plans for calculating quality metrics such as HEDIS and QARR. Also, Healthix hopes to have NCQA accreditation for supplemental data. Healthix can also leverage existing services to plans, specifically Clinical Information Updates, which together with alerts, have been important services for our Health Plan customers.

A new revenue stream would be beneficial for Healthix. It provides the ability to invest in improving Healthix services and infrastructure, as well as both human and technical resources, to better serve our customers' needs. This new approach aligns with Healthix's four pillars of funding strategy to strengthen HIE services and value.

Discussion ensued regarding consent policies, data restrictions and other considerations, including vendor management, and its impact on the core business of information exchange. Mr. Rogow felt that core operations would continue and would not add to the workload of the staff as partnership with an outside vendor would cover much of the extra effort required. Several Board members volunteered to serve as a sub-committee/advisory board to address this process and the development any new revenue opportunities.

Data Quality Initiatives

Mr. Rogow covered the NCQA certification process. He also discussed the progress of the Terminology Mapping Service. Healthix has done analysis on labs to ensure that standardized LOINC codes are received. Currently, 8 are complete and 31 are in process, with 5 sending some data combined with local codes. However 33 are not sending standardized codes. On the Diagnosis side, 27 are complete with 34 in progress. Healthix has made a commitment to enhance the quality of its data in 2021.

Company Updates

Mr. Rogow briefly covered some Healthix company updates. The NORC Survey is ongoing through November and based on results so far, response rates seem to be on track. Healthix passed the HITRUST assessment with 25 gaps, which is a good outcome for the organization. Finally, Healthix had a Pen Test (penetration into systems) performed by our HITRUST facilitators at Meditology. Meditology reports that it was unable to access Healthix Systems, which was the ideal outcome.

Before the meeting concluded, Mr. Schimel relayed a story of a patient being transferred between two Healthix facilities, however the facilities struggled to transfer the patient's information between them, likely because they did not understand the role that Healthix can play in these cases. Dr. Cohen added that while Healthix has spent a great deal of time focused on connectivity, perhaps a focus should be on ensuring users understand the services available to them. The members discussed this issue and how to educate and engage on this issue. Mr. Rogow discussed potential partnerships that may be leveraged to benefit patients in New York, empowering them to access their own records. Ms. DeStefano added that as a patient advocate, it is often difficult to demonstrate this concept at the point of care as it may not be part of their workflow. Dr. Cohen felt these important issues should be discussed at a Board Retreat in early 2022.

The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 5:42pm.