

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

May 7, 2025

4:00-6:00 pm

Regular Meeting

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Meeting ID: 838 5251 0543

Passcode: 575469

Meeting agendas and minutes can be found [here](#).

I. Opening

- a. Welcome - Sumit Sajnani, CT Health Information Technology Officer
- b. Roll Call
- c. Approval: Meeting Agenda

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the Board approve the meeting agenda.

- d. Approval: Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the Board approve the February Annual Meeting minutes.

II. Public Comment

III. Reports

- a. Board Chair
- b. Executive Director
- c. Finance & Audit Committee
- d. Privacy, Confidentiality, and Security Committee
- e. CSS Board

IV. Executive Session

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the Board enter executive session to discuss corporate strategy.

V. Adjournment

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2025

4:00-6:00 pm

Regular Meeting

[Zoom Recording](#)

Directors Present: Sumit Sajnani, Patrick Charmel, Mark Raymond, Adam Prizio, Dr. Allen Davis, Stacia Strouss.
Absent: Claudio Gualtieri, Commissioner Andrea Barton Reeves.

Opening

Welcome: Sumit Sajnani welcomed the Board and called the meeting to order at 4:04pm. Sumit Sajnani welcomed Deputy Commissioner Shantelle Varrs Patrick, who was attending on behalf of Commissioner Reeves, and Dr. Allen Hsiao, Connie's CSS Board Representative, to present during the business agenda portion of the meeting.

Roll Call: Aryan Anthony called the roll and confirmed quorum.

Meeting Agenda: Sumit Sajnani requested a motion to accept the meeting agenda. Mark Raymond created a motion to accept the agenda. Stacia Strouss seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Meeting Minutes: Sumit Sajnani requested a motion to approve the February meeting minutes as submitted. Adam Prizio created a motion to approve the minutes. Stacia Strouss seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Public Comment: None.

Reports

Board Chair Report: Sumit Sajnani indicated he had a couple of topics to report on. The first item was the Advance Planning Document (APD) which is done annually and submitted to CMS for the federal share of the HIE funding. OHS, DSS, and Connie have been working collaboratively to develop the APD, which currently reflects the approved 56% cost allocation. The newer one the team intends to submit reflects a 58% cost allocation. The Chair pointed out that this cost allocation percentage has significantly increased since 2021, which had a 26% cost allocation, to the current approved 56% and the now requested 58%. This is a substantial achievement and a benefit for the state. The other part of the funding comes from insurance funds. The APD will be presented to HITAC next week, and after that review and receipt of comments, it will be submitted to CMS for approval. The next item relates to activity in the current legislative session that directly impacts Connie. Public Health Committee Bill No. 1331 An Act Concerning the Exclusion of Patient Health Information and Opt-In and Opt-Out Procedures Relating to the State-Wide Health Information Exchange originally started out as being a study looking at a variety of opt-in/opt-out options and whether either of these options should be the default. There have also been discussions surrounding providing certain providers waivers and/or protections as well as perhaps not implementing participation fees. Additionally, whether the insurance funds should be used to fund Connie was also a topic. Another bill of note is Senate Bill 2 An Act Concerning Artificial Intelligence which would require the creation of a computer cluster and support of academic and medical research. Then, the third, Substitute Bill No. 7158 relates to safety and discharge plans for minors by providing HIPAA compliant information to schools after minors have received at least 14 days of behavioral health treatment. Sumit Sajnani thanked the Public Health Committee for their engagement during this legislative session as they have had a series of meetings to address the concerns they have heard from

advocates, lobbyists, and others, around the HIE, with OHS. The Chair also wanted all to be aware the legislative session is still underway so language and outcomes may still change.

Executive Director Report: Jenn Searls began her presentation with an onboarding update indicating that in the current fiscal year, Connie has onboarded 5 new EHR hubs and that 96 organizations went live. Jenn Searls went on to inform the Board that Connie continues to see growth in utilization with key statistics relating to repeat users increasing by 48% as well as an increase of 148% for patient records accessed, since October 2024. Jenn Searls also updated the Board on the data quality improvement work Connie is doing. Key milestones in that work were filling the Director of Data Quality role with Russell Dexter, who established the Data Governance Committee, began a variety of data quality initiatives, and pursued the CT Health Foundation Grant which was recently awarded to Connie. Jenn Searls went on to relay indicators of Connie's impact on organizations by sharing anecdotes and an article about how the CT Poison Control Center uses Connie to access real-time clinical data to support response accuracy and improvement of outcomes in toxic exposure cases. Jenn Searls then presented information relating to new features by providing an overview of the Logic-Based Alerts and the My Patient Summary which allows patients to build a customized view for themselves. Sumit Sajnani agreed to inviting Heidi Wilson to update the Board about the HCBS Program which is intended to enable a holistic view of patient data to decrease avoidable hospitalizations, increase the probability of members going home after hospital discharge, and increasing the number of members meeting their personal goals. Onboarding of organizations began in March and there are already 29 organizations that are active users. Jenn Searls then reported that Connie has completed 75% of their FY25 milestones.

F&AC Report: Claudio Gualtieri was not present for this agenda item.

PC&S Report: Mark Raymond updated the Board that the PC&S Committee had a couple of recent meetings of which key topics, such as the possible impacts of proposed HIPAA rule changes that are out for consideration, an update on the HITRUST certification process, and compliance program activities, were covered. In general, there has been good, open discussion by all of the parties around synchronizing efforts relating to disclosures, for example, how different policies affect one organization versus another. Mark Raymond expressed appreciation for the candid and productive discussions had by all who participated.

CSS Board: Dr. Hsiao informed the Board that CSS has won the HIE technology contract for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, is going to again pursue offering services in Puerto Rico, and that Florida is a contract that has been won, but due to a formal protest, there are hearings underway. Dr. Hsiao also reported that CSS has updated some of their features to allow for patient consent relating to sensitive information. Dr. Hsiao reminded the Board that CSS was chosen by the CDC for the Public Health Data Modernization Program and that work is in progress for this initiative.

Executive Session: Sumit Sajnani requested a motion to enter executive session to discuss corporate strategy and invited Jenn Searls and Michelle Puhlick into the session. Patrick Charmel motioned to enter executive session. Mark Raymond seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Adjournment: Sumit Sajnani requested a motion to adjourn. Adam Prizio created a motion to approve adjourning. Pat Charmel seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:49p.