

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2023

4:00-6:00 pm

Special Meeting

[Zoom Recording](#)

### **Directors Present:**

Sumit Sajnani, Dr. Allen Davis Lisa Stump, Stacia Grosso, Mark Raymond, Commissioner Andrea Barton Reeves, Jose Crespo. Absent: Pat Charmel, Claudio Gualtieri

### **Welcome:**

Sumit Sajnani welcomed the Board and called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. Mr. Sajnani thanked the board members for being able to accommodate this meeting and reminded everyone that the deadline for providers to connect is May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Sajnani indicated that this special meeting was scheduled due to last month's regular meeting not occurring, there being a significant increase in activity in Connie, and a trade secret matter that needs discussion during the executive session. Mr. Sajnani went on to provide commentary regarding the efforts made to engage with providers in a variety of ways and the types of feedback received from them. Mr. Sajnani also commented on Connie's transparency and work relating to data privacy and security.

### **Roll Call:**

Gwen Reyes called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

### **Meeting Agenda:**

Sumit Sajnani requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Mark Raymond created a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Allen Davis seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed.

### **Public Comment:**

None.

### **Executive Director Update:**

Jenn Searls informed the board that Innsena has been engaged to support efforts to inform the public that Connie is the state designated HIE and is an asset for the state and its citizens. The intent is to build a positive market perception and refine value propositions and marketing messages. Jenn Searls provided a general timeline of the engagement tasks as well as Innsena's background and qualifications.

Jenn Searls informed the board that Connie is working with Mr. Sajnani and OHS on establishing community discussions with behavioral health providers to enable dialogue and collaboration. The intent of these sessions is to give providers information about Connie, its technology, and how it can benefit them as well as their patients.

Mr. Sajnani added commentary relating to some providers asking for an extension of the May 3<sup>rd</sup> date and how OHS has responded to providers clarifying that the deadline is met by submitting a completed Commitment to Connect form. Mr. Raymond inquired if an effort to revisit the timing of the statute is being made since the legislative session is currently underway. Mr. Sajnani responded that he is of the opinion pushing for an extension is not reasonable due to the low effort needed by providers to meet that May 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline. Further discussion took place with commentary provided by Mark Raymond and Lisa Stump. Mr. Sajnani asked Jenn Searls to provide

information around where Connie is in the process of receiving the forms to which Jenn Searls responded with an overview of the process as well as how Connie has clarified to providers that completing the form does not result in data being provided, rather, it's an information gathering initial step so as to inform Connie of who they are and what types of services they provide.

Lisa Stump inquired what happens if an organization does not meet the May 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline to which Jenn Searls deferred to Mr. Sajnani to provide OHS' position on this. Mr. Sajnani responded that some discussions have occurred around providing transparency, perhaps via Connie's website, listing providers that are and are not in compliance, but no definitive decision has been made in this regard. He also added no discussions have been had relating to organizations' licenses being affected by non-compliance. The focus, at this time, is to encourage organizations to comply and communicate inquiries and/or concerns. Mr. Sajnani indicated the legislative session runs through June so requests that we allow for the time to see how the planned engagement and communication that is occurring affects provider compliance with the May 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline. He further emphasized that the Commitment to Connect Form allows for informed engagement to occur between Connie and providers relating to any barriers or concerns, if any.

Further discussion took place regarding what the status is of organizations connecting and the types of barriers providers are experiencing. Dr. Davis asked what is being done to publicize what needs to be done to comply with the May 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline. Jenn Searls indicated that efforts to inform the public have included webinars conducted by Connie, informational sessions and messaging conducted by OHS, Connie connecting with professional organizations for their help in getting the word out, social media marketing efforts, and Connie calling organizations directly telephonically. Mr. Sajnani emphasized that it has been clarified to organizations repeatedly that the deadline is simply to have the Commitment to Connect form submitted to Connie and that there will be ample opportunity to discuss individual concerns and/or have specific questions addressed.

**Executive Session:**

Sumit Sajnani requested a motion to enter executive session to discuss corporate strategy pertaining to trade secrets with Connie management. Commissioner Reeves motioned to enter executive session. Mark Raymond seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed. The board entered executive session at 4:47 pm.

**Adjournment:**

The board exited executive session and adjourned at 5:14 pm.