

**The Ohio Public Health Informatics Committee  
(TOPHIC)  
April 18, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Bill Burkhart	Public Health –Dayton & Montgomery County	Amy Andres	Ohio Hospital Association
Jim Coates	Cuyahoga Co Health Dept	Sam Chapman	ODH – Bureau Child and Maternal Health
Steve Englender	Cincinnati Health District	Ron Clinger	Defiance Co Health Dept
Brian Fowler	ODH - Prevention	Joe Ebel	Licking Co Health Dept
Kelly Friar	ODH – Vital Statistics	Doug Fisher	Hocking County Health Dist
Greg Halley	Wayne Co Gen Health Dist	Tim Hollinger	Huron Co Health Dept
Bruce Hotte	ODH – Office Mgmt Inf Sys	Eddie Mink	Summit County Health Dist
Richard Mukisa	ODH- Prevention	Joe Mazzola	ODH – Local Health
Gene Phillips	ODH – ODH – Env Health	Raymond Romero	Lorain County Health Dept
Tim Sahr	OSU	Pete Shade	Erie Co Health Dept
Chris Snyder	Clark Co Health Dist	Tim Snell	Lake Co Gen Health Dist
Roger Wren	Delaware Gen Health Dist	Jeff Webb	Champaign Co Health Dept

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## 1. WELCOME

Bruce Hotte and Jim Coates called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Bruce and Jim welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. CONSENSUS AGENDA.

- a) There were no items submitted for the consent agenda.

## 3. Informatics Update

- a) Jim Coates announced that he would be leaving the Cuyahoga County Board of Health effective May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- b) He also provided a few national updates and an opportunity to provide feedback. The opportunity to provide feedback is CMS and ONC are seeking feedback on “policies and programs that would further drive HIE to support more person-centered, coordinated, value-driven care”. The federal notice can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/03/07/2013-05266/advancing-interopability-and-health-information-exchange>.
- c) Jim also informed the group that NACCHO is drafting policy statements to encourage the CDC to get LHD input into a redesign of the National Notifiable Disease Surveillance (NNDDS) system. Finally Jim informed the group that in the proposed 2014 budget ONC’s funding could be increased.

## 4. EHR AND HIE STATUS UPDATE

- a) Brian Fowler updated the group on the current status of CliniSync’s hospital implementation and the public health core measures for stage 2 meaningful use (see attachments for details). ODH will have a stage 2 meaningful use policy in place by June 30, 2013. The policy will cover the public health core measures which include electronic laboratory reporting (ELR), immunization reporting, and syndromic surveillance. Discussion centered on the following policy questions:
  - i. Should hospitals and eligible professionals be required to report through one of the health information exchanges (CliniSync or HealthBridge) or should they be allowed to connect directly to ODH?
  - ii. Should facilities of a certain size be excluded (e.g. small hospitals that don’t do much laboratory work, facilities that only provide a few immunizations)?
  - iii. Would it make sense for the ELR policy to require reporting for the top 10-15 reportable conditions (by volume) in an effort to get the infrastructure built before expanding to all reportable diseases?
- b) There was some consensus by the group that limiting ELR to the top reportable conditions is a reasonable approach and that providers should have the choice to either connect directly to ODH or through CliniSync or HealthBridge. As ODH begins working through these policy issues, there will be additional discussions with local health departments in a variety of forums.

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## 5. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- a) Gene Phillips provided an update on EDHSI.
- b) ODH and local health districts are currently in the middle of User Acceptance Testing (UAT). The second round of test scripts has been distributed for review and testing. ODH is currently in the process of setting up Primary Administrative Contacts at the local level. A conference call will be established to discuss this with potential users of the system and to discuss further the PAC trainings that are scheduled for the weeks of May 6<sup>th</sup> and May 20<sup>th</sup>. We still anticipate release of the system during the Month of May. Epay functionality is part of the project but will be rolled out at a later date.

## 6. DATA WAREHOUSE UPDATE

- a) Kelly Friar provided an update on VS and the Data Warehouse
- b) VS – Kelly announced that the VS leadership met with leaders from The Ohio Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors (OFDA), the Ohio Funeral Director Association, the Buckeye Funeral Directors Association to discuss methods to improve the process for certifying death certificates. VS will attend quarterly Board meetings of the OFDA. VS will work closely with The Ohio Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors to verify funeral director licensure and affiliation with licensed funeral homes.
- c) Data Warehouse – The Ohio Public Health Information Warehouse Application is on track to be completed by the end of June. A release went into production on April 17 that improves the mapping function based upon user beta test feedback. Birth occurrence data, public birth and public cancer should also be available for use in June.

## 7. Ohio 2013 Training

- a) The 2013 Summer Program is securing funds and will be releasing the availability of sponsored slots on April 29, 2013. The funds make available course seats at the 2013 Summer Program in Applied Biostatistical and Epidemiological Methods for the period July 8-14, 2013, at The Ohio State University. A listing of available courses can be examined at <http://cph.osu.edu/practice/2013-course-schedule>. Availability of course sponsorship slots will be posted on the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center. For sponsorship enrollment, contact (614) 292-2790, or email [pratic@ph.osu.edu](mailto:pratic@ph.osu.edu).

## 8. NACCHO Video

- a) Jim was notified that NACCHO has decided to postpone the proposed video of TOPHIC so this will not be happening in June as planned.

## 9. TOPHIC Discussion

- a) The Data Committee began in the mid 1990's and has met monthly to address IT and data issues as it relates to LHD's. This committee completed many tasks during its history. The committee was renamed in 2011 to The Ohio Public Health Informatics Committee (TOPHIC).
- b) The committee believes that we have completed our tasks related to the 5 point plan, strategic plan, public health skills training, and the electronic enhancement of public health.

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- c) Given these accomplishments this committee has voted to sunset but is available to reconstitute it if deemed necessary by ODH and its Public Health partners such as AOHC. Accordingly the ODH will keep a viable network with the digital and electronic information expertise base at the local and state health department levels in Ohio.

<b>LINKS AND ATTACHMENTS</b>			
<b>Source</b>	<b>Attachment</b>	<b>Topic/Type</b>	<b>How to Access It</b>
Brian Fowler	Stage 2 MU Public Health Objectives	PDF	Stage 2 MU Objectives.PDF
Timothy Sahr		Web Link	<a href="http://cph.osu.edu/practice/2013-course-schedule">http://cph.osu.edu/practice/2013-course-schedule</a>

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