



Rhode Island Longitudinal Data System Executive Governing Committee DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 – 2:00 PM
Department of Administration, 4th floor, Executive Conference Room
1 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

DCYF – Ashley Deckert

DLT – Matthew Weldon

DOA (co-chair) – Jonathan Womer

ETSS – Brian Tardiff

OHHS – Richard Charest

OMB – Brian Daniels

RIDE – Drew Echelson (*delegate*)

RILDS – *Absent*

RIOPC (co-chair) – Shannon Gilkey

RISOS – Rob Rock

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kim Pierson (remote).

GUESTS:

Jess Cigna (SOS); Scott Gausland (ETSS); Rebecca Lebeau (OHHS).

1. WELCOME –

Co-Chair **Womer** opened the meeting at 2:01 PM, welcomed attendees, and confirmed a quorum.

Lebeau announced that Rhode Island secured Medicaid APD match funding for IDS infrastructure investments.

Gilkey provided updates on the search for a new RILDS Center Director and upcoming cybersecurity audits for CCRI, RIC, and RIOPC.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Womer requested a motion to table the September 24, 2024, minutes. **Gilkey** motioned, **Rock** seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. Action Items from Integrated Data System (IDS) Report

a. Data Mesh and IDS

Gausland outlined the statewide IDS initiative, which will facilitate inter-agency data collaboration while ensuring agencies retain control. The legal framework is expected to take longer to develop than the technical components.

Lebeau pointed out that sharing PII remains a challenge. Lebeau emphasized that without sharing PII, the systems cannot link data, delaying project initiation on the two pilot projects proposed by the Executive Governing Committee in May.

Womer requested that Lebeau and Pierson select a pilot project and coordinate with AISP and DISC for technical support. **Charest** stressed the importance of HIPAA and FERPA compliance expertise.

b. Shared Data Infrastructure

Gausland reported that 24 responses were received from the summer RFI, with 8 vendors invited to propose solutions for the Data, Analytics, and AI Center of Excellence, statewide data governance, statewide IDS and the ethical use of AI.

In response to **Deckert's** inquiry about the timeline, **Gausland** noted that the RFP is in progress, with release expected in January and work to begin by the end of the fiscal year. Full system rollout is projected over 10 years.

c. GIS report

Gausland shared that the legislature requested a feasibility report on a statewide Geographic Information System (GIS). Currently, DOT, Statewide Planning, and RIGIS maintain separate GIS efforts.

Gilkey asked if the state's GIS efforts were decentralized; **Cigna**, chair of the RIGIS Executive Committee, confirmed they were.

Gausland, mentioned that participation in RIGIS is voluntary, with no enforcement of technical standards.

Cigna inquired whether the GIS report would extend beyond the scope proposed by the legislature which focused primarily on housing.

Gausland confirmed that it would recommend datasets beyond housing for inclusion in the statewide GIS.

4. RILDS Center Updates

Pierson reviewed RILDS project requests, including those approved, denied, or in progress. Six projects were approved by the RILDS Data Governance Committee in September, spanning RIDOH, RIDE, RIOPC, and third-party researchers.

Pierson noted that staffing limitations and funding constraints were impacting capacity. Hiring efforts are underway to expand staffing and improve capacity.

Pierson noted that RILDS cannot charge indirect costs to state agencies. **Womer** suggested that RIOPC consider indirect cost recovery from partner agencies to enhance RILDS Center capacity and service delivery. **Gilkey** suggested that the new Director bring a proposal before the Committee.

Daniels inquired about the FY24 backlog. **Pierson** confirmed that the reported project figures included these outstanding requests, correcting an earlier statement that all were from FY25.

5. Approval of CY25 Meeting Schedule

The committee reviewed the proposed bi-monthly 2025 schedule, meeting on the fourth Tuesday of February, April, June, August, October, and December at 2:00 PM.

Womer called for a motion to approve the schedule. **Rock** motioned, **Gilkey** seconded, and the schedule was unanimously approved.

6. Adjournment

With no further business, **Womer** adjourned the meeting at 2:54 PM.