

RHINO
Routine Health Information Network, Inc
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Boston, MA 02210
<http://www.rhinonet.org>

Minutes

Board of Directors' Meeting
Conference call
January 10, 2014

RHINO Board of Directors' Meeting January 10, 2014

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Theo Lippeveld, Nancy Pielemeier, Sian Curtis, Jean-Pierre Delamalle, Vincent Shaw, Ann Lion, Peter Speyer, Barbara Turner, Sally Stansfield

Board Members Unable to Attend: EJ Ashbourne

RHINO Secretariat Present: Evis Farka Haake

The Board of Directors' Meeting was held over a conference call on January 10, 2014. Every board member called in and everyone was jointed together in a conference call. The meeting was led by Theo Lippeveld, Chairman of the Board of Directors and the notes were taken by the secretariat.

1. Welcome

The Board Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all the members and wishing them a Happy 2014.

2. Agenda

The Board Chairman presented the agenda and invited the Board Members to suggest other topics and issues that they wanted to discuss. The proposed agenda was structured to ensure a quorum for decisions.

Board Members approved the proposed meeting agenda and agreed the voting on new Board Members terms of extension would happen via phone.

3. Minutes of last Board Meeting of January 4th 2013

Some action points had not been followed up and will be part of the action points of this meeting.

4. Discussion of the Annual Report 2013

Below is a list of topics that were discussed and the key points made for each one.

RHINO online forums

Only one online forum was held last year due to limited availability of potential facilitators, of the secretariat, and of funding coming from MEASURE Evaluation. The Forum on “Innovating Applications of Mobile Technologies with RHIS” was held on April 2-7, 2013.

The extensive participation of RHINO members in this forum (300+) reflects the existing demand by RHINO members for more Forums. One of the board members suggested to the

secretariat to look more carefully to the organizations that are represented in the RHINO board in order to diversify the facilitators and ensure that if possible we can come back to quarterly forums. Getting facilitators committed for a RHINO forum is a lot of work because moderating a forum is time consuming. Board members are welcome and encouraged to assist the RHINO secretariat with identifying possible facilitators for forums. There are many interesting topics relevant to RHINO such as mHealth, Financial RHIS, and Community RHIS. In the future, RHINO is planning to discuss a bigger variety of topics in its forums.

Secretariat Action: Barbara Turner of URC has proposed to write a couple of pages on RHIS and mHealth that can be circulated around Academies of Science in some African countries that might be interested in working with RHINO and funding activities.

Secretariat Item: RHINO secretariat to send the minutes of the last forum to all the board members.

Website

RHINO has transferred its website to World Press which allows for more control over the glitches and updates. However, documents in PDF format are not displayed because they do not comply yet with 508 Compliance law provision. The Secretariat is working on this.

In addition, the bibliography has been up to date and the secretariat has posted all the articles sent to her. The bibliography is up to date.

RHINO Funding

The RHINO Secretariat has temporarily stopped fund raising activities, given the lack of staff and the difficulties encountered in mobilizing new donors. RHINO still gets some funds from MEASURE to keep up with knowledge management. The recently issued MEASURE Evaluation RFP has renewed hope for additional funding by USAID, given the focus of the RFP on RHIS. It will take another six months before this RFP will be awarded.

Secretariat Action: It was suggested that a two page written up report on the status of funding would be beneficial to circulate to potential donors. The RHINO Secretariat can draft this report and circulate it to the Board Members.

RHINO Financial Situation

The RHINO NGO balance sheet shows that little money has been spent in 2013. Most operational costs for knowledge and management activities were paid by the MEASURE Evaluation contribution. So, at the end of 2013, the balance was at \$ 50,609.64.

5. Re-election of the Board Membership

It was agreed at the beginning of the meeting that the re-election of the Board Members would happen via phone calls. The Board Member terms of Vincent Shaw, Sally Stansfield and Barbara

Turner were extended unanimously to January 2016. Ms. Ann Lion from Abt Associates was approved as a new board member and her term also expires on January 2016.

Next, the chairman proceeded to introduce Juan Eugenio Hernandez representing RELACSYS network, the Latin American equivalent of RHINO as a possible candidate for the RHINO board. All the board members noted and agreed to this addition. The chairman invited all board members to suggest possible candidates from Africa and Asia as new board members.

Board Member	Organization	Board Term Expiration
Theo Lippeveld	<i>John Snow, Inc</i>	December 2014
Sian Curtis	<i>University of North Carolina</i>	June 2015
Jean-Pierre Delamalle	<i>AEDES</i>	December 2014
Nancy Pielemeier	<i>Independent</i>	January 2016
Vincent Shaw	<i>Health Information System Program (HISP)</i>	January 2016
Sally Stansfield	<i>Deloitte</i>	January 2016
Barbara Turner	<i>University Research Corporation (URC)</i>	January 2016
Elizabeth J. Ashbourne	<i>World Bank</i>	June 2015
Peter Speyer	<i>Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME)</i>	June 2015
Ann Lion	<i>Abt Associates</i>	January 2016

Observer:

Najeeb Al-Shorbaji, Director Knowledge Management and Sharing, WHO

Ex Officio:

Evis Farka Haake, *RHINO*

Secretariat Action: One board member suggested to the chairman to delegate specific tasks to each board members so they can better assist with the future planning of activities and strategies for RHINO.

6. Next steps

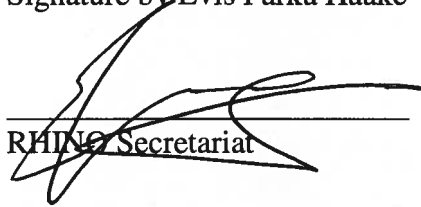
The chairmen invited the board members to share their ideas on how best to spend the money in the bank. While some of that money is needed for operational expenditures of the RHINO Secretariat, other activities could be funded.

The chairman brought up the idea of organizing an international workshop at the end of 2014 or in early 2015. Experiences from the past show that such a workshop will probably need additional funding.

7. Closure

The Board Chairman closed the meeting at 12:07 pm, thanking the Board members for their active participation. He also promised to invest more time in RHINO as soon as his assignment in Liberia will end.

Signature by Evis Farka Haake



RHINO Secretariat