NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION
Wednesday, June 18, 2008, 1:30 p.m.
Laurel High School
502 Wakefield, Laurel, Nebraska
Videoconference Sites [Neb Rev. Stat. §84-1411(2)]
Chadron State College, Burkhiser-Room 109, 10th & Main, Chadron, Nebraska
University of Nebraska-Kearney, Founders Hall-Business Services, Room 119, Kearney, Nebraska
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Lieutenant Governor Rick Sheehy, Chair
Linda Aerni, Chief Executive Officer, Community Internet Systems
Pat Flanagan, Information Services Manager, Mutual of Omaha
Lance Hedquist, City Administrator, South Sioux City
Dr. Dan Hoesing, Superintendent, Laurel-Concord, Coleridge, Wynot & Newcastle Public Schools
Mike Huggenberger, Director-Netlink, Great Plains Communications
Dr. Doug Kristensen, Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Kearney (Kearney)
Dr. Janie Park, President, Chadron State College (Chadron)
Trev Peterson, Attorney, Knudsen, Berkheimer, Richardson, and Endacott, LLP

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Senator Annette Dubas, Nebraska Legislature

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, NOTICE OF MEETING, & OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Lieutenant Governor Sheehy called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The meeting notice was posted to the NITC Web site and the Public Meeting Calendar Web site on June 6, 2008. The agenda was posted on the NITC Web site on June 12, 2008. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available on the table.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 4, 2008 MINUTES

Commissioner Peterson moved to approve the MARCH 4, 2008 minutes as presented. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. Roll call vote: Aerni-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Kristensen-Yes, Park-Yes, Peterson-Yes, and Sheehy-Yes. Results: Yes-9, No-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES
Brenda Decker, Chief Information Officer

LB 1208 Implementation

Map of Phases I, II, III. LB 1208 Phase II implementation will continue this summer and will include school districts and colleges in the following counties: Grant, Hooker, Thomas, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Arthur, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Valley, Sherman, Greeley, Howard, Nance, Merrick, Keith, Perkins, Lincoln, Dawson, Buffalo, Hall, Chase, Hayes, Frontier, Gosper, Phelps, Kearney, Dundy, Hitchcock, Red Willow, Furnas, Harlan, and Franklin. After three rounds of bidding, the Panhandle ESU 13 area schools elected to postpone their upgrade until Phase III (summer 2009). The Hastings ESU 9 area schools also elected to postpone their upgrade and live out the last year of their JPEG contract. The Phase I implementation was extremely successful with 100% participation in northeast Nebraska. Schools and colleges have generally been pleased with the quality of service.

Fees for participants. Correspondence has been sent to every Phase I and Phase II participant regarding the Network Nebraska Participation fee and the Interregional Transport fee. Participation fees were re-evaluated for this year and the monthly fee dropped below $200. The Interregional Transport (backbone) costs were originally a concern to the schools. The pre-E-rate monthly cost is $95.35 but will be below $35/month for eligible entities after E-Rate.

Qwest/Renovo Scheduling/Clearinghouse Contract Amendment. Through the Technology Refreshment Clause, an amendment was negotiated for this state master contract. Rather than a license fee per each and every codec unit, it was proposed to do an unlimited site license fee regardless of the number of units. This included the higher education entities in the original appendix of the RFP. The unlimited site license cost will be equivalent to the amount appropriated by the Legislature for such purposes.

This recommendation went before the Distance Education Council and it was approved. The Distance Education Council requested that the NITC's Scheduling Standard for Synchronous Distance Learning and Videoconferencing be reviewed and updated.

Dr. Hoesing stated that the unlimited site licensing amendment was very beneficial and was a significant cost savings to his districts.

NROC Statewide Content License. On June 6, the Distance Education Council submitted a proposal to the Technical Panel to purchase a three-year institutional site license for digital content from the National Repository for Online Courses (NROC). The approval was tabled until the Distance Education Council had an opportunity to address the Technical Panel's questions. On June 9, the Partnership for Innovation, a nonprofit consortium of K-12 and community colleges, approved their own multi-year institutional purchase of NROC. The Distance Education Council was able to withdraw its proposal.

Statewide Technology Plan Development. Commissioners were given a copy of the content for the Statewide Technology Plan. Vignettes and photos will be included in the final copy.

New State of Nebraska Web site. On June 11, Governor Heineman announced the new state Web site. It is designed to be viewed on mobile devices as well as personal computers. New features include adjustable text size, text only version, language options, feedback form. Accessibility has been enhanced with the new design.   Nebraska is one of only two states providing assistance with a live 24/7 chat feature. Within the first five days of redesign, the Web site received hits from viewers in 34 different countries.

IT Project Update - Student Information System - University of Nebraska and State College System

The Student Information System Project released a Request for Proposal. The Steering Committee has recommended two options with two different providers. Both providers appear to meet a great majority of the project's needs. Currently, the final vendor and solution costs are being negotiated. By late summer or early fall, the vendor and solution will go before the University of Nebraska Board of Regents and the State College Board for approval.

IT Project Update - MMIS and LIMS - Department of Health and Human Services

LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System). LIMS is a $365,500 project. A Request for Proposal was released. A total of four proposals were received.   The contract was awarded to Kenware.

MMIS (Medicaid Information Management System). MMIS is a $53 million project. The project released a Request for Proposal. ForeThought was awarded the contract. The kick-off meeting was scheduled for today. Project staff moved into the Gold's Building in Lincoln on June 16th. The project go-live date is scheduled for July 1, 2011.

IT Project Update - PIONEER Transition Project - Retirement System

Retirement System – Phase II & III testing has been combined to make more efficient use of agency personnel and to avoid needing agency staff resources during a busy time for the agency. The project is using project management software provided by the Office of the CIO.

Budget Review Process – Commissioners were reminded that this is a budget year. Agency budgets, as well as I.T. project requests, are due by September 15th. Agency I.T. budget requests will be an action item for the November NITC meeting.

REPORT - COMMUNITY COUNCIL [REPORT](#)
Anne Byers, Community I.T. Manager

Community Technology Fund Grant: Web Site Development for People Attraction - University of Nebraska

The reports of the Community and eHealth Councils focused on proposals for funding from the NITC's Community Fund. The fund has $311,922 available. All grant funds must be expended by June 2009.

The Community Council was asked to submit a proposal requesting no more than $40,000 which would advance its action plan. The balance of the fund was allocated to eHealth projects.

Ms. Byers explained that communities are finding it difficult to recruit new employees and residents. The Web Site Development for People Attraction project will help communities create more effective Web sites to enhance community growth. The project addresses one of the Community Council's action items. Community Council members contributed feedback throughout the development of the proposal and are very supportive of this project.

Commissioner Hoesing moved to approve the [Community Technology Fund Grant](#): Web Site Development for People Attraction - University of Nebraska in the amount of $34,483. Commissioner Kristensen seconded. Roll call vote: Sheehy-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Park-Yes, Kristensen-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Aerni-Yes. Results: Yes-9, No-0. Motion carried.

REPORT - EHEALTH COUNCIL REPORT
Anne Byers, Community I.T. Manager

At this time, $277,439 is available for eHealth projects. [Seven proposals](#) requesting a total of $388,414 were received:
- o Nebraska Health Information Initiative—UNO & NeHII
- o Medicaid Electronic Billing for Long-Term Care project
- o Western Nebraska Health Information Exchange Implementation—Panhandle Public Health District
- o Public Input on Sharing Electronic Health Records—University of Nebraska Board of Regents on behalf of the Nebraska Public Policy Center
- o Behavioral Health Information Exchange Network Development—Region V Services
- o Health Information Security and Privacy Consumer Education—NITC eHealth Council Health/Office of the CIO
- o Health Information Privacy and Security Website—eHealth Council-HISPC#2 Workgroup

Some Council members had questions and some concerns regarding the following projects: Public Input on Sharing Electronic Health Records, eHealth Medicaid Electronic Billing for Long-Term Care, and the Nebraska Health Information Initiative.

Commissioner Hedquist moved to approve full funding for the first four eHealth Projects (Western Nebraska Health Information Exchange Implementation–$100,000, Behavioral Health Information Exchange Network Development-$40,000, Health Information Security and Privacy Consumer Education-$8,600, and HISPC Web Site-$8,037) totaling $156,637 and to give the Nebraska Health

Information Initiative (NeHII) and the Nebraska Public Policy Center an opportunity to resubmit their proposals. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. Roll call vote: Aerni-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Park-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Kristensen-Yes, and Huggenberger-Yes. Results: Yes-9, No-0. Motion carried.

REPORT - EDUCATION COUNCIL REPORT
Tom Rolfes, Education I.T. Manager

LB 1208 Phase II should have 89 new entities added to Network Nebraska by July 11, 2008.

For a $150,000 investment by the Partnership for Innovation, the NROC implementation went from a K-12, two-year contract to a K-20, three-year contract. There are a total of 30 Advanced Placement, high school, and college classes available. It allows entities unlimited server deployments. An ad hoc technical work group was formed to discuss technical options for deployment on the statewide network. There is collaboration among all involved entities.

The Education Council established four task groups to further develop and make progress on their action items: Marketing, Funding/E-rate, Governance of Network Nebraska, and Services of Network Nebraska. The Marketing task group is working on a catalog of services for those entities not on the network and hopes to reach non-public schools. The Funding and E-rate task group is exploring the following tasks: 1) making free and reduced lunch information more available and accessible; 2) changing the definition of Pre-K to make them eligible for E-rate in Nebraska; and 3) working on a web-based formula to determine the costs and fees for ineligible use of K-12 facilities.

Membership - Higher Education members whose terms are up for renewal include Arnold Bateman, Clark Chandler, Eileen Ely, and Dennis Linster. K-12 Education members whose terms are up for renewal include Ron Cone, Terry Haack, Jeff Johnson, and Linda Richards. The Education Council has recommended approval of the membership renewals, with the exception of the representative of the Nebraska Association of School Boards, who had not responded with nomination for renewal.

Commissioner Hoesing moved to approve the Education Council's recommendation for membership renewals. Commissioner Peterson seconded. Roll call vote: Kristensen-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Park-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Aerni-Yes. Results: Yes-9, No-0. Motion carried.

The Nebraska Association of School Boards has been contacted and will be considering the nomination of a new voting member on the Education Council.

REPORT - STATE GOVERNMENT COUNCIL REPORT
Rick Becker, Government I.T. Manager

The State Government Council has met twice since the last NITC meeting. The council has recommended standards and guidelines to the Technical Panel for review approval and has been discussing the agency I.T. plan format and project proposal form.

REPORT - GIS COUNCIL REPORT
Larry Zink, GIS Coordinator

The GIS Steering Committee/Council is recommending approval of the GIS Council charter. Much of the information contained in the introduction, purpose, mission, responsibilities and membership are in state statute. In regards to membership, the council agreed that it would be beneficial to include other agencies that have become involved with GIS since the previous statutory update. The most recent statutory change retained the previously outlined 19 members of the GIS Steering Committee. In addition to those 19 members, the revised statutes allowed for the NITC to add additional members. All members would be nominated by the Commission and appointed by the Governor. The draft charter recommends a maximum of 26 members. In addition to those memberships specifically outlined in the statutes, the draft

charter includes seven additional members representing NEMA, PSC, GIS professional association, Omaha-area, Lincoln-area, and two at-large. The membership terms are proposed to be staggered three-year terms.

Commissioner Peterson moved to approve the GIS Council Charter. Commissioner Hedquist seconded. Roll call vote: Kristensen-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Park-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Aerni-Yes. Results: Yes-9, No-0. Motion carried.

The GIS Council received funding from the Government Technology Collaboration Fund for an enterprise-level Geospatial Data Exchange and Web Service Network. This project is still underway, but it has been slowed by the difficulty of hiring someone with what is turning out to be rather scarce high-end GIS Server expertise. Efforts are still underway to recruit someone with these skills. The Street Centerline-Address Database is another priority project of the Council. There is a lot of interest in this project at the local level and at the State Patrol, Dept. of Roads and Public Service Commission. Previously, there had not been any clarity as to what state government agency would take primary responsibility for developing, maintaining and distributing an integrated statewide road centerline-address database. Recently the Public Service Commission and the Department of Roads have both indicated that they do not want this responsibility and have encouraged the OCIO to take on this project. As the project progresses, the GIS Council will be developing database standards, as well as developing tools and processes whereby data maintained by other state agencies and local governments can be integrated to maintain a statewide dataset.

Annual Report. The Council has recently completed its annual report and it is available to the Commission as a more complete reference to the GIS Council's activities.

REPORT - TECHNICAL PANEL REPORT
Brenda Decker, Chief Information Officer

Standards & Guidelines - NITC 1-201: Agency Information Technology Plan. With the adoption of LB 823, agencies are required to submit an information technology plan every two years. The NITC is responsible for adopting the format to be used for the plan.

Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve NITC 1-201: Agency Information Technology Plan. Commissioner Aerni seconded. Roll call vote: Kristensen-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Park-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Aerni-Yes. Results: Yes-9, No-0. Motion carried.

Standards & Guidelines - NITC 1-202: Project Review Process. The recommendations from the Legislative Performance Audit and requirements of LB 823 have been addressed in the document. The Office of the CIO has worked with the Budget Office to include project proposals as part of the Budget System.

Commissioner Kristensen moved to approve NITC 1-202: Project Review Process. Commissioner Hedquist seconded. Roll call vote: Kristensen-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Park-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Aerni-Yes. Results: Yes-9, No-0. Motion carried.

Standards & Guidelines - Waivers Granted by the Technical Panel:
  o Department of Correctional Services - NITC 8-301: Password Standard
  o Laurel-Concord Public Schools, et al. - NITC 7-403: Scheduling Standard for Synchronous Distance Learning and Videoconferencing
  o Educational Service Unit #10 - NITC 7-403: Scheduling Standard for Synchronous Distance Learning and Videoconferencing

Membership. The Technical Panel is recommending Jeremy J. Sydik to serve as Christy Horn's alternate on the Technical Panel, replacing Lance Perez.

Commissioner Hoesing moved to approve Jeremy J. Sydik to serve as the alternate for Christy Horn on the Technical Panel. Commissioner Hedquist seconded. Roll call vote: Kristensen-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Park-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Aerni-Yes. Results: Yes-9, No-0. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Flanagan moved to adjourn. Commissioner Kristensen seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by the staff of the NITC.