COMMUNITY COUNCIL
May 22nd, 2008
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM CT
Video Conference Locations:

Lincoln-Executive: Lincoln Executive Bldg.-Suite 103, 521 S 14th St.
Columbus: Columbus Public Library-Columbus Rm., 2nd Fl., 2504 14th St.
Kearney: Public Library and Info. Center-2nd Fl., 2020 First Avenue
Omaha-SOB: State Office Bldg., Rm. 207 (2nd Fl.) 1313 Farnam St.
Scottsbluff: Panhandle Research & Extension Center –High Plains Rm., 4502
Ave. 1
Wayne: Wayne State College, Conn Library, Rm. 15, 1111 Main St.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT
Chris Anderson, City of Central City
Rod Armstrong, AIM Institute
Jason Barelman, Wayne State College
Linda Fettig, Rural Development Commission
Norene Fitzgerald, Economic Development Professional
Darla Heggem, Twin Cities Development, Scottsbluff-Gering
Lynn Manhart, Central City Public Library
Joan Modrell, Department of Labor
Tim O'Brien, Nebraska Department Economic Development
Dan Shundoff, Intellicom
Gene Hand, Alt. for Jerry Vap

MEMBERS ABSENT
Mitch Arnold, Preferred Partners, LLC; Scott Bovick, City of Nebraska City; Don
Costello, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Dean Folkers, Department of
Education; John Jordison, Great Plains Communication; Angie Ramaekers,
Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce; Rivkah Sass, Omaha Public Library;
Ted Smith, Norfolk Public Library

Staff and Guests: Anne Byers, Community Information Technology Manager,
Steve Henderson, IT Administrator; Ryan McCabe, eHealth Intern

**ROLL CALL, NOTICE OF POSTING OF AGENDA, NOTICE OF NEBRASKA
OPEN MEETINGS ACT POSTING**

The meeting was called to order by Norene Fitagerald.

The meeting announcement was posted on the Nebraska Public Meeting
Calendar and NITC Web site on May 14, 2008. The agenda was posted on May

15, 2008. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available with the meeting materials.

Members present at roll: Chris Anderson, Rod Armstrong, Jason Barelman, Linda Fettig, Norene Fitzgerald, Darla Heggem, Lynn Manhart, Joan Modrell, Tim O'Brien, Dan Shundoff, and Gene Hand

Gene Hand moved to approve the February 6th minutes as presented. Mr. Armstrong seconded. Roll call vote: Anderson-Yes, Armstrong-Yes, Barelman-Yes, Fettig-Yes, Fitzgerald-Yes, Heggem-Yes, Manhart-Yes, Modrell-Yes, O'Brien-Yes, Shundoff-Yes, Hand-Yes. Results: Yes-11, No-0. Motion carried.

Joan Modrell moved to approve the April 18th minutes as presented. Mr. O'Brien seconded. Roll call vote: Anderson-Yes, Armstrong-Yes, Barelman-Yes, Fettig-Yes, Fitzgerald-Yes, Heggem-Yes, Manhart-Yes, Modrell-Yes, O'Brien-Yes, Shundoff-Yes, Hand-Yes. Results: Yes-11, No-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

Advancing Community Council Action Plans and Community Technology Fund
Community Technology Fund Update
Anne Byers informed the Council that $40,000 is available in the Community Technology Fund that must be expended by June 2009. Proposals must be developed prior to the Technical Panel's June 10 meeting.

Web Site Development for People Attraction Proposal
Tim O'Brien gave an overview of the proposal. He expressed his concern for continual growth and marketing to the community as key components for the project. Mr. O'Brien also mentioned four important steps for the success of the project: creating a universal process, training individuals, selecting of 8-12 communities, and continuing research. A competitive application process will be used for selection of the communities who are ready to embrace the project. Linda Fettig informed the Council of LB#609, which helps communities with the creation or improvements of Web sites. LB#609 has an August funding cycle. Chris Anderson informed the Council of BECA state funds. It provides funds to communities in coalition. The deadline for application of BECA funds would be in August.

Rod Armstrong moved to approve the proposal to the NITC. Gene Hand seconds the motion. Roll call vote: Anderson-Yes, Armstrong-Yes, Barelman-Yes, Fettig-Yes, Fitzgerald-Yes, Heggem-Yes, Manhart-Yes,

Modrell-Yes, O'Brien-Yes, Shundoff-Yes, Hand-Yes. Results: Yes-11, No-0. Motion carried.

Community Needs Assessment Update

Tim O'Brien updated the Council on the drafting of questions to use on the Web survey. The questions will be developed in a comprehensive way to address everyone in the community. The goals of the Web survey are to find strengths, weaknesses, and levels of technology in communities. The survey will help by giving us a future idea of how communities are positioning themselves and using technology.

NEW BUSINESS

Tim O'Brien recommended education for economic developers. The education would include public awareness and speakers that can act as a resource for technology. Linda Fettig and the Rural Development Commission have resources and offered to help partner and promote quarterly speakers. Dan Shundoff, Rod Armstrong, Norene Fitzgerald, and Tim O'Brien expressed their willingness to help.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURN

The next meeting will be in early Fall.
With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:48 PM.