

Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group Meeting #3

Monday, November 16, 2009; 1:00pm-4:00pm CT

Host site: NET Board Room, 1800 N. 33rd, Lincoln, NE

Remote 1: Mid-Plains Community College, McDonald Belton Room 143, North Platte

Remote 2: University of Nebraska-Kearney, Kearney

Remote 3: Wayne State College, Technology/Admin Building, Wayne

Remote 4: Alliance Learning Center, Alliance

Remote 5: Peru State College, Peru

Remote 6: Pope John XXIII, Elgin

Meeting Notes

K-12 Attendance: John Stritt (Lincoln), Bob Uhing (Wayne), Dan Hoelsing (Alliance), Gary Monter (Kearney), Scott Jones (North Platte), Betty Getzfred (Elgin), Mike Danahy (Lincoln)

H.E. Attendance: Debbie Schroeder (Kearney), Gene Beardslee (Peru), Dennis Linster (Wayne), Ken Clipperton (Lincoln), Lyle Neal (Lincoln), Charles Osteen (North Platte)

CAP Liaison Attendance: Rick Golden, Leona Roach

Absent: Kirk Langer, Mike Ruhrdanz, Tip O'Neill, Michael Winkle, Stacey Decker, Brenda Decker, Don Phares, Walter Weir

Staff: SuAnn Witt, Tom Rolfes, Steve Schafer

1. Co-Chair John Stritt convened the meeting at 1:04pm and welcomed attendees to the third meeting of the Network Nebraska Advisory Group.
2. Members introduced themselves at the seven videoconferencing locations. Roll Call found thirteen members and two CAP liaisons present.
3. The [Meeting Notes from 9/18/2009](#) were reviewed. There were no corrections from Meeting #2.
4. Co-Chairs John Stritt and Dennis Linster reviewed with the group the [Network Nebraska Participation Fee Budget Summary](#), item by item. Steve Schafer from the Office of the CIO and Rick Golden responded to questions about the various aspects of the budget. Tom Rolfes reminded the advisory group members that the 2006-07 operational deficit (\$70,000/year x 3) will be retired in June 2011 and then that difference can either be applied to additional spending authority on behalf of the network or a reduction in Participation Fees or both. Rick Golden highlighted that the hardware and software expenditures related to the network are being shared 50% with the University of Nebraska. The yellow highlighted items are new or changed since the 2008 budget and some of them (e.g. College Park remodeling) are one-time expenditures. Key distinctions of Network Nebraska versus other state networks were: Network Nebraska--Education is totally self-supported by members/participants; monthly cost is irrelevant of size of entity; the transport for the various sub-networks (e.g. telehealth, state government, K-20 education) are pretty much kept separate although there are price advantages being shared through cooperative purchasing agreements.
5. Co-Chairs John Stritt and Dennis Linster reviewed with the group the Network Nebraska Interregional Transport Fee Budget Summary, item by item. Although the interregional transport bandwidth and costs increased by 25% over 2008, the monthly costs remained the same due to the 49 new members joining Network Nebraska. If bandwidth and costs increase again in 2010, then the monthly cost may increase since very few new members are expected for 2010-11. Rick Golden reminded the advisory group members that the State and University disaster recovery transport between Lincoln and Omaha are being offered to Network Nebraska at no cost. If this wasn't happening, the monthly interregional transport costs would even be higher.

6. Co-Chair Dennis Linster reviewed the SWOT analysis and conclusions/recommendations from the [Network Nebraska Marketing Survey Report](#) with the advisory group members. The members commented that several of the weaknesses identified in the 2008 survey had been addressed (e.g. leadership/governance, membership, communication, help desk/support) but that more progress could be made. The members agreed that as the network matures that bandwidth, reliability, and reduced costs are still of paramount importance. Eventually, more advanced services will be able to be researched and deployed. Co-Chair John Stritt asked for each person's feedback on the Market Survey, which led to additional positive suggestions for the survey administration and new questions. Mike Danahy suggested gathering additional data from personal interviews, LAN manager meetings, and network reliability statistics.
7. Co-Chair Dennis Linster reviewed the recommendations and action items from the [Network Nebraska Marketing Plan](#):
 - a. Annually reissue the market survey (to be sent out on Dec. 1)
 - b. Conduct in-depth research of existing services and levels of satisfaction (market survey?)
 - c. Conduct focus group interviews and visits with nonmembers to determine challenges limiting their participation
 - d. Institute an electronic newsletter to current members
 - e. Update the Network Nebraska website
 - f. Develop marketing materials targeted at nonmember subgroups of Network Nebraska
8. Co-Chair John Stritt asked for a motion to Approve the [Charter](#)*. **Bob Uhing moved, and Ken Clipperton seconded, to approve the charter.** Mike Danahy suggested adding Desired Goal "h" as "Encourage CISSP-certified network design throughout Network Nebraska—Education." Dennis Linster asked that the terms of the co-chairs be defined under "Leadership". **With those changes included, the advisory group voted 13-0 using a roll call vote: Stritt-Yes, Uhing-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Monter-Yes, Jones-Yes, Getzfred-Yes, Danahy-Yes, Schroeder-Yes, Beardslee-Yes, Linster-Yes, Clipperton-Yes, Neal-Yes, Osteen-Yes.**
9. Co-Chair Dennis Linster added an agenda item to report the NITC Education Council action item discussion of 11/2/09. At this meeting, it was discussed that the advisory group will be reviewed for viability and efficacy starting before July 2010. The advisory group could become a standing committee of the Education Council. It may also be necessary to meet more frequently (i.e. monthly) until the major network decisions and recommendations have been made.
10. Updates (Staff)
 - a. Network Nebraska Internet RFP—Tom Rolfes reported that the Internet Access RFP would be released by State Purchasing by November 23 and be evaluated and awarded as quickly as possible. It asked for bids for Internet access out of Omaha, Grand Island and Lincoln.
 - b. Traffic Shaper RFP—Leona Roach reported that the Traffic Shaper draft RFP is being reviewed by UNL Purchasing for release in early December. It was modified to include bids for Omaha, Grand Island and Lincoln.
 - c. Phase IV New Membership—Tom Rolfes reported more new member outreach is needed and that only a few new higher education entities are expected to join Network Nebraska by July 2010. A number of nonprofit entities (e.g. museums and professional associations) have inquired about Network Nebraska participation but will be waiting to hear more about Affiliate Member categories and costs.
 - d. [Service Level Agreement](#)—Tom Rolfes reported that the Network Nebraska Service Level Agreement (SLA) is still in draft form but that the OCIO would like it finalized and signed by each entity in advance of the July 1, 2010 anniversary date. Co-Chair Dennis Linster suggested that the group entertain this discussion at the February meeting.

11. Discussion (Co-Chairs)

- a. Executive Director—Co-Chair Dennis Linster commented that the Marketing Survey indicated a lack of day-to-day leadership for Network Nebraska. Although the efforts of the CIO and CIO staff were laudable, most statewide networks have a full time executive director. Although the budget may not permit it at present, it is something to be discussed and considered again in the future.
- b. Membership Categories—The Co-Chairs asked that Membership Categories and Costs be held over until the next meeting and have staff send out models and costs worthy of consideration.
- c. Membership Costs—Postponed until a future meeting
- d. Helpdesk—Postponed until a future meeting
- e. Goal-setting—Postponed until a future meeting
- f. Strategic planning—Postponed until a future meeting

12. Next Meeting Date & Location—Co-Chair John Stritt announced that the next Advisory Group meeting would be held on the morning of Monday, December 14, unless a conflict arose. The meeting would be by videoconferencing over the ESU 10 bridge.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm by voice vote.

List of Supporting Documents (<http://nitc.nebraska.gov/NNAG/documents.html>) :

- Meeting notes, 9-18-2009
- Draft Internet Access RFP
- Draft Traffic Shaper RFP
- Draft Service Level Agreement
- Network Nebraska Participation Fee Budget
- Interregional Transport Fee Budget
- Diagram of Network Nebraska Backbone segments and costs