

## **NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

Wednesday, July 8, 2009, 1:30 p.m.  
Loup Power District, 2404 15th Street  
Columbus, Nebraska

### ***MINUTES***

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lieutenant Governor Rick Sheehy, Chair  
Linda Aerni, Chief Executive Officer, Community Internet Systems  
Pat Flanagan, Information Services Manager  
Lance Hedquist, City Administrator, South Sioux City  
Dr. Dan Hoelsing, Superintendent, Laurel-Concord, Coleridge, Wynot & Newcastle Public Schools  
Mike Huggenberger, Director-Netlink, Great Plains Communications

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Dr. Doug Kristensen, Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Kearney  
Dr. Janie Park, President, Chadron State College  
Trev Peterson, Attorney, Knudsen, Berkheimer, Richardson, and Endacott, LLP  
Senator Tony Fulton, Nebraska Legislature

#### **ROLL CALL, NOTICE OF MEETING, & OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION**

Lieutenant Governor Sheehy called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. There were six members present at the time of roll call. A quorum was present to conduct official business. The meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and the Public Meeting Calendar website on June 24, 2009. The agenda was posted on the NITC website on July 1, 2009. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was located on the front table.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

#### **APPROVAL OF MARCH 3, 2009 MINUTES**

**Commissioner Hedquist moved to approve the [March 3, 2009](#) minutes as presented. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. Roll call vote: Aerni-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Hoelsing-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, and Sheehy-Yes. Results: Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.**

#### **INFORMATIONAL UPDATES - LB 1208 IMPLEMENTATION**

Mr. Rolfes, Education, I.T. Manager

LB 1208 is in the middle of Phase III implementation. There will be 50 more entities joining Network Nebraska by August 3. By the start of school, 198 of 254 K-12 districts will have joined Network Nebraska. Seven providers are involved with Phase III implementation. Commissioner Hoelsing is the new Superintendent of Alliance Public Schools and his surrounding area (ESU 13) will be joining as well.

Schools districts in Southeast Nebraska have declined to be part of Phase III but they will be asked if they would like to be part of Phase IV. The Office of the CIO's Legislative charge is to have 100% of Nebraska school districts and colleges as participants of Network Nebraska.

#### **INFORMATIONAL UPDATES - PUBLIC SAFETY WIRELESS PROJECT**

Rick Becker, Government I.T. Manager

The Nebraska Statewide Radio Network project will begin in western Nebraska and move east across the state. It is anticipated that the system will be operational by 2010. Partners in this project include the Nebraska Public Power District, Nebraska State Patrol, Game and Parks Commission and the Office of the CIO. The Nebraska Public Power District and the Office of the CIO will be connecting their networks for this initiative.

A question was raised regarding radio frequency. Lieutenant Governor Sheehy stated that Nebraska's system will be a mixture of frequencies that will provide voice and data. Nebraska's system is a system of systems. The state system will overlay the local systems

### **INFORMATIONAL UPDATES - STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY PLAN AND ACTION ITEM UPDATES**

Anne Byers, Community I.T. Manager

Ms. Byers reported that every two years the planning cycle begins for the statewide technology plan. On every even-numbered year, the NITC approves revisions to the entire plan. On the odd-numbered years, the NITC approves revisions to the action items.

Lt. Governor Sheehy reported that there is still funding available through ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act). In order to apply for state health information exchange grants, states must develop a state eHealth plan. The eHealth Council has been developing Nebraska's plan. He also stated that the NITC will play a role in the state's broadband initiatives. NITC will utilize the councils and commissioners to review projects. No information has come out from the federal government about the applications, but states will only have 20 days in which to prioritize projects. August 14 is the application deadline for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) applications.

### **REPORT - COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Anne Byers, Community I.T. Manager

Information on ARRA broadband funding opportunities was published on July 1. The Developing Websites for Growth Program is completing its work with the 11 participating communities. An extension will allow the program to continue next year. The Community Council discussed action items at its March meeting. The Community Council plans to update its current action items.

At their last meeting, the Community Council approved the nomination of Matthew Williams to serve as a new member of the Community Council.

**Commissioner Hedquist moved to approve the nomination of Matthew Williams as a new member of the Community Council. Commissioner Hoelsing seconded. Roll call vote: Sheehy-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Hoelsing-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Aerni-Yes. Results: Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.**

### **REPORT - EHEALTH COUNCIL**

Anne Byers, Community I.T. Manager

#### **Draft – Nebraska eHealth Plan**

*ARRA Update:* The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allocated \$2 billion to the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology for efforts relating to health information technology. Of this allocation, a minimum of \$300 million is to support "regional or sub-national efforts toward health information exchange." Section 13301 (amending Section 3013 of the Public Health Service Act) requires the Secretary of Health And Human Services to establish a grant program to facilitate and expand the exchange of health information in states. Grant funds may be used for:

- Enhancing participation in the exchange of health information

- Identifying state or local resources available to promote health IT
- Complementing other Federal grants, programs, and efforts towards the promotion of health IT
- Providing technical assistance to address barriers to the exchange of health IT
- Promoting effective strategies to utilize health IT in medically underserved communities
- Encouraging clinicians to work with HIT regional extension centers
- Supporting public health agencies use of electronic health information
- Promoting the use of electronic health records for quality improvement

In order to apply for State Grants for Health IT, states must complete a state plan. More information on State Grants for Health IT is expected this summer.

*State Plan Update:* The eHealth Council's State Plan Work Group has completed an initial draft of a state eHealth Plan for review and comment by internal stakeholders. The plan lays out the state's vision, goals, and objectives. The draft plan will be revised and distributed for public comment by mid-July. A more detailed plan with action items will be developed later. The draft plan is included in the meeting documents. Members of the State Plan Work Group include Deb Bass and Chris Henkenius, Bass and Associates; Ken Lawonn, Alegent Health; Dr. Harris Frankel, NeHII; Wende Baker, SNBHIN; Dan Griess, WNHIE and Box Butte General Hospital; Joyce Beck, SENHIE and Thayer County Health Services; David Lawton, HHS; Nancy Shank, Nebraska Public Policy Center; Jenifer Roberts-Johnson, Dept. of Health and Human Services; Keith Mueller, UNMC; Vivianne Chaumont, Dept. of Health and Human Services; and September Stone, Nebraska Health Care Association. Lieutenant Governor Sheehy commended Ms. Byers on her efforts and the tremendous job she's done in getting the groups together to address this issue.

*Updates on Community Technology Fund Grants*

- *The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center* conducted a deliberative discussion and survey on sharing health information electronically on Nov. 17, 2008.
- *NeHII (Nebraska Health Information Initiative)* completed its pilot project June 30. A virtual ribbon cutting was held April 2.
- *The Southeast Nebraska Health Information Network (SNBHIN)* purchased a server with their grant funds.
- *Western Nebraska Health Information Exchange* is moving ahead with a pilot. Grant funds were used for software for the pilot project.
- The *Health Information Security and Privacy Committee (HISPC) Website and Consumer Education Materials* are being developed. Through Nebraska's National HISPC contract with the Office of the National Coordinator, additional funding has been made available for consumer and provider education efforts. Creighton University has been contracted to provide assistance.

*Update on Action Items:* The eHealth Council discussed action items at its March meeting. The eHealth Council's action items will focus on the development of the state plan and also on health information security and privacy.

*Membership Updates:* Henry Zach, HDC 4Point Dynamics; Jim Krieger, Gallup, and C.J. Johnson, SNBHIN and Region V Systems have resigned. At the last council meeting, the council forwarded the two nominations for the NITC's approval - Wende Baker, Executive Director of SNBHIN and Joyce Beck, CEO, Thayer County Health Services.

**Commissioner Flanagan moved to approve the nominations of Wende Baker and Joyce Beck as new eHealth Council members. Commissioner Aerni seconded. Roll call vote: Hoelsing-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Aerni-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Hedquist-Yes. Results: Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.**

**REPORT - EDUCATION COUNCIL**

Tom Rolfes, Education I.T. Manager/SuAnn Witt, Nebraska Department of Education

The Education Council established task groups to work on the statewide technology plan action items. The council will be proposing new action items dealing with Network Nebraska and Digital Education.

As a result of the council's efforts these past few months, two major events have occurred:

- A Network Nebraska Advisory Group comprised of K-12 and higher education technical representatives has been established. The purpose of this group is to provide strategic direction to the Office of the CIO for Network Nebraska. The advisory group will be conducting its first meeting on July 10.
- [Marketing Plan for Network Nebraska](#) – The Marketing Task Group conducted a user survey in December. A Marketing Plan for Network Nebraska was developed. One of the recommendations in the plan was to establish a Membership Committee to recruit new members. Mr. Bob Uhing offered to assist with the committee. The Education Council would like the NITC's endorsement of the Marketing Plan for Network Nebraska.

**Commissioner Aerni moved to approve and endorse the Education Council's Marketing Plan for Network Nebraska. Commission Huggenberger seconded. Roll call vote: Hedquist-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, Aerni-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, and Hoelsing-Yes. Results: Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.**

Ms. Witt stated that she and Mr. Rolfes both attended a national education technology conference last week in Washington, D.C. Nebraska has one of the most envied networks in the country.

[Membership Approval](#). At their last meeting, the Council voted to forward the following slate of nominees for the Commission's consideration and approval:

HIGHER EDUCATION (2009-11 term): Yvette Holly, UN System; Chuck Lenosky, Independent Colleges & Universities; Mike Chipps, Community College System; and Ed Hoffman (new), State College System.

K-12 EDUCATION (2009-11 term): Bob Uhing, Educational Service Units; Craig Pease, Administrators; Leonard Hartman (new), Public Teachers; Stephen Hamersky, Nonpublic Teachers; and Kent Gydesen, Board Members (2008-10 term).

The Nebraska Information Technology Commission wishes to recognize Mr. Art Tanderup for his many years of distinguished service to the Education Council, in the interest of advising the Commission on matters of education technology initiatives, funding, and policy. We congratulate Art on his retirement from education.

**Commissioner Hedquist moved to approve the Education Council's nominations for membership renewals and new Council members. Commissioner Hoelsing seconded. Roll call vote: Aerni-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Hoelsing-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, and Sheehy-Yes. Results: Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.**

#### **REPORT - STATE GOVERNMENT COUNCIL**

Rick Becker, State Government I.T. Manager

The State Government Council has been discussing the following standards for revision and updating:

- 5-301: Use of Computer-based Fax Services by State Government Agencies
- [LB 626](#) and the Acceptable Use Policy
- Standards for Social Networking Websites / Web 2.0

NASCIO (National Association of State CIOs) has an annual competition for innovation state I.T. projects. Nebraska submitted four projects – State Enterprise Email System, Nebraska’s Budget Reporting System, Supreme Court e-Filing System, and the Legislature’s Bill Tracking System.

## **GIS COUNCIL REPORT**

Larry Zink, GIS Coordinator

### Update on GIS Projects

- Aerial Imagery. The USDA effort to collect aerial imagery is scheduled to occur this year. The Office of the CIO was successful in raising the \$50,000 contribution from local, state federal entities. The data should be available by next spring.
- The NIROC (Nebraska-Iowa Regional Orthoimagery Consortium) project (6” and 12” resolution) is a concentrated effort in Lincoln and Omaha area to collect more detailed imagery. There is approximately 8,000 square miles that will be done. The RFP is scheduled to be released within the next few days.
- LIDAR is a collaborative effort in south central Nebraska to collect data (elevation, surface, water) and is being processed. This will support the NIROC project.
- Street Centerline Data project. Currently, this information is available at the county level in different formats. This project is an effort to collect and merge street address information into a statewide database. An RFP is being developed.
- NebraskaMAP - A Geospatial Data Sharing and Web Services Network. The project will create a one-stop place to go for agencies to access information. There is a prototype on the web (nebraskamap.gov) that is just being developed. The University of Nebraska is a project partner. The project manager has been hired and the project is moving forward.

## **REPORT - TECHNICAL PANEL**

Walter Weir, Chair

Mr. Weir commended the NITC for their support of Network Nebraska.

## **STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES - [NITC 7-403](#): SCHEDULING STANDARD FOR SYNCHRONOUS DISTANCE LEARNING AND VIDEOCONFERENCING (Revised)**

Purpose: The purpose of this standard is to establish and define the needs for scheduling to be addressed when purchasing and maintaining scheduling coordination systems.

Objective: The objective of this standard is to enable all existing and future synchronous distance learning and videoconferencing facilities in Nebraska to achieve interoperability and maintain an acceptable scheduling of services through recurring and ad hoc event coordination.

This document lists the five components and accompanying features - hardware control, event logging, facilities coordination, people coordination and support, and event clearinghouse (planning – catalog) - that must be available in any software system that is developed for use in scheduling of synchronous events using videoconferencing technology.

The University Medical Center did request that the wording in 3.0 Applicability be expanded to include the wording University of Nebraska (relating to the university’s academic research and patient care mission). The Technical Panel decided to not change the wording but instead requires the Medical Center and any other entity to request a waiver pursuant to NITC 1-103

Mr. Michael Winkle from NET was commended for his work with the work group and his efforts in revising the standard.

**Commissioner Hoelsing moved to approve Standards and Guidelines - [NITC 7-403](#): Scheduling Standard for Synchronous Distance Learning and Videoconferencing. Commissioner Hedquist seconded. Roll call vote: Hedquist-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, Aerni-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, and Hoelsing-Yes. Results: Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.**

[Enterprise Project Designations](#)\* - The NITC had directed staff to contact the agencies and inform them of their projects status. All agencies have been contact and have agreed to the enterprise status of their projects and have agreed to provide reports.

**Commissioner Hedquist moved to approve the Enterprise Project Designations. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. Roll call vote: Hoelsing-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Aerni-Yes, Flanagan-Yes, and Hedquist-Yes. Results: Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.**

*Project Reporting Update.* The panel had decided to have all projects submit a standardized reporting form. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Office of the CIO are now utilizing Clarity as a project management tool. It was decided to use Clarity to provide a report for the NITC.

*Enterprise Projects Update:* Data Recognition Corporation has been selected as the vendor for the Department of Education's statewide online assessment system.. The month of March has been spent mostly in training. The computer systems and hardware supporting this environment are located in Minnesota. The project has been undergoing field testing from April until May of this year using both online and paper methods. Math standards are currently being reviewed and revised with an anticipated completion date of September 2009.

Health and Human Services' MMIS project has just recently completed its first year. The main activity during this first phase was planning. Issues have come up during this year related to the extent that the system is a transfer of another state system or a totally new system. This project will likely require additional staff to be completed on time. The project is a fixed-price contract with 90% of the funding coming from the federal government. The deliverables in the first phase of the project were not considered acceptable by HHS and the agency has been in communications with the vendor

The NeSIS project has two major components. The first component involves bringing the State College System into the SAP environment for finance and human resource management. The second component involves replacing the student information system of all seven University and state college campuses. The State College System went live with SAP on July 1 for both finance and HR. This was a very smooth implementation with a great deal of support and cooperation between the state colleges and the University of Nebraska System. The student information system component of the project is proceeding on time and on budget with the first go-live module scheduled for August of this year in the area of admissions. Chadron State will be the first campus to go live.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

For Future Discussion – NITC 1-204: I.T. Procurement Review Policy. Currently, agencies need the Office of the CIO's approval for I.T. procurement. The standard has an attachment of items that do not need approval from the Office of the CIO. The OCIO will be working with the State Government Council on revisions to the standard to provide an enhanced review of server purchases by agencies, including communications between the agencies and the OCIO to examine options and determine the most efficient approach.

Commissioner Hedquist commended NITC staff on their efforts with the stimulus monies. Lieutenant Governor Sheehy commented that all the work has been done without hiring new positions.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT**

The Office of the CIO will tally the Commissioners availability for a late September meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Informational Session:

Ken Curry, Nebraska Public Power District, Technology and Power Grids