MEMBERS PRESENT:
Lieutenant Governor Rick Sheehy, Chair
Lance Hedquist, City Administrator, South Sioux City
Dr. Dan Hoesing, Superintendent, Alliance Public Schools
Mike Huggenberger, Director-Netlink, Great Plains Communications
Doug Kristensen, JD, Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Kearney
Dr. Janie Park, President, Chadron State College
Trev Peterson, Attorney, Knudsen, Berkheimer, Richardson, and Endacott, LLP
Noelle Badeer representing Senator Tony Fulton (non-voting)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pat Flanagan, Information Services Manager and Dan Shundoff, Intellicom,

ROLL CALL, NOTICE OF MEETING & OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Lt. Governor Sheehy called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. There were six members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business. The public meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and the Public Meeting Calendar website on September 22, 2010. The agenda was posted on the NITC website on November 4, 2010. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was located on the meeting materials table.

APPROVAL OF JULY 12, 2010 MINUTES

Commissioner Hedquist moved to approve the July 12, 2010 meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Peterson seconded. Roll call vote: Hedquist-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Park-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Sheehy-Yes. Results: Yes-6, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

REPORT - EDUCATION COUNCIL, Tom Rolfes, Education I.T. Manager
(Due to another commitment, the Education Council report was moved up in the agenda.)

Network Nebraska and Digital Education Update. Mr. Rolfes distributed a summary of NITC Action Items, 2010 report which also identifies Education Council Work Groups and the other entities involved. Action Item topics highlighted included the following:

N2a-Network Nebraska Memorandum of Agreement. The Office of the CIO has been alerted that the Southwest Nebraska Distance Education Network participants will be reaching the end of their contract with no legal provision for continuation. The Office of the CIO may be asked to request bids for these services. In the Fall of 2011, the contracts for the Northeast Nebraska Network Consortium participants will be ending. The Office of the CIO may be requesting bids for these services as well.

N3a-Provide Internet1 Service. Within the last week, a Tier 1 provider out of Omaha has indicated the possibility of providing Internet 1 services as low as $1.25 per Mb. This has the potential for great savings or bandwidth increases for our Network Nebraska—Education participants. Mr. Rolfes also provided some statistics related to the amount of Internet being provided to each K-12 student on Network Nebraska in terms of kilobits per second across the five large consortia that purchase Internet, as well as the 30 separate districts that purchase Internet individually.
N4h-Review viability of NNAG (Network Nebraska Advisory Group). This group was chartered by the Education Council. The charter required that the purpose and goals of the group be evaluated after its first year. The advisory group has met over nine times this past year. A survey was sent to Education Council members and the CAP (Collaborative Aggregation Partnership) asking about the effectiveness of the NNAG. It was determined they were a viable group. There is still some confusion as to their role in relation to the roles of the Education Council and the Distance Education Council. The advisory group’s responsibilities include providing recommendations to the CIO relative to operations and strategic vision for Network Nebraska.

D3-Affordable plan to take LMS (Learning Management System) statewide; and
D5-Deploy statewide digital content repository.
Across the state, online learning is localized in each Educational Service Unit but it is not consistent across the entire state. The ESU Coordinating Council is tasked by the Legislature with providing statewide learning and content management. The Education Council had invited the ESUCC to submit an I.T. project proposal document at their October 28 meeting that would detail the acquisition and implementation of these services, but the document has not yet been submitted.

Commissioner Kristensen arrived at the meeting.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES - Brenda Decker, Chief Information Officer, State of Nebraska

OCIO Information Technology Services Annual 2010 Report. Commissioners received a copy of the most recent OCIO annual report. This year’s report focused on the Governor’s four technology goals and NITC’s strategic initiatives. Ms. Decker thanked each commissioner for contributing to the Meet the Commissioners section.

NITC Biennial Progress Report to the Governor and the Legislature. By statute, the NITC is required to submit a progress report to the Governor and Legislature by November 15 every two years. The report is currently in progress. Commissioners will receive a copy of the report when it is completed.

Joint Appropriations and Transportation and Telecommunications Committee Briefing, November 5, 2010. Brenda Decker provided a briefing on the NITC and Office of the CIO to the Joint Appropriations and Transportation and Telecommunications Committees on November 5, 2010. Committee members provided positive feedback regarding the activities and accomplishments of the Office of the CIO and the NITC.

NITC Commissioner Appointment January 2011 - Transportation and Telecommunications Committee. The NITC membership statute was amended to add an ex-officio non-voting member from the Legislature. This new member will be appointed by the Legislature’s Executive Council after January 5, 2011 and the appointee must be a member of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee.

Public Safety. On October 19, 2010, a Phase 3 Go Live event was held in York, Nebraska for beneficial use of the public safety system. Governor Heineman, Lt. Governor Sheehy, the Nebraska Public Power District, and several agency partners were in attendance. It is anticipated that there will be full beneficial use by end of summer. By the end of December, it is anticipated that all statewide public safety agencies will be on the system. January 21st is scheduled to launch the final phase of the state system. The next piece of interoperability will also be an Enterprise Project that is currently on the NITC’s list. This project will enable local law enforcement to access the system. The RFP for this piece of the project is scheduled to be awarded soon.

Nebraska Federally Projects. Below is the list of Nebraska federally funded projects shared with the Commissioners. For more detailed information regarding the projects, click on above link.

NTIA Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP):
- NebraskaLink, NE $11,547,866 (announced August 2010). Connecting Nebraska Communities -- A High-Speed Broadband Network for All of Nebraska.
• Nebraska Library Commission, NE $2,416,403 (announced August 2010). NTIA Broadband Mapping Program
• Nebraska Broadband Mapping Project, NE, $2,100,000 (announced January 2010)

FCC Rural Healthcare Pilot Program:
• Rural Nebraska Healthcare Network, NE ~$20,000,000 (announced May 2010).

USDA Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP):
• Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc., NE, $11,285,367 (announced August 2010).

NSF Research Infrastructure Improvement Inter-Campus and Intra-Campus Cyber Connectivity program (RII C2):
• Nebraska University Regional Optical Network (NURON), NE, $1,170,000 (announced August 2010).

Walter Weir provided additional informational handouts (link above) and answered questions.

Microsoft Proposal. In late May, Microsoft approached the Office of the CIO with a proposal to host the State’s email in their cloud environment through the remainder of our existing contract, and to provide for an enterprise agreement for certain software. The Office of the CIO met with the State Government Council and other interested agencies to discuss the proposal. The proposal was rejected because it was too expensive for some agencies, primarily because of the enterprise agreement costs. Two weeks later, Microsoft brought back another proposal, but that proposal was still not financially feasible for agencies. A third proposal from Microsoft, which has been accepted, provided better pricing and the Office of the CIO was able to decouple the enterprise agreement from the BPOS (Business Productivity Online Suite) offering. BPOS provides the option to take email and storage to the cloud and offer it to agencies at a cost of $13.90 per 25 Gb mailbox that includes archiving and anti-virus software.

Lt. Governor Sheehy congratulated Brenda Decker for receiving the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) Meritorious Service Award.

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

On January 12, 2010, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration awarded the Nebraska Public Service Commission approximately $1.6 million for broadband data collection and mapping activities over a two-year period and nearly $500,000 for broadband planning activities over a two-year period in Nebraska, bringing the total grant award to approximately $2.1 million. On September 27, 2010 an additional $3.5 million was awarded to the Public Service Commission for mapping and planning activities in years 2-5 five of the project.

The Public Service Commission has been collecting data from providers to create a map of broadband availability. Data from states will be used to create a national map. Data from in-person, mail and telephone surveys was used to verify the data from providers. Drive-test data was also compiled for wireless broadband verification. Geocoding addresses—especially in rural areas—has been a challenge. The Public Service Commission is hoping that some mapping data will be available in the spring.

The Planning component includes multiple projects which will support the adoption of broadband. Planning activities will also support the development of regional technology plans and a statewide plan. (Click on “Report” link for detailed information on planning components.)

The Community Council met on July 19 to provide an update on planning activities and to discuss their role in the planning projects. A meeting will be scheduled in January or February to further involve the Community Council in an advisory role.

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

Membership. The eHealth Council approved the nomination of Marsha Morien to replace Keith Mueller at their September 13, 2010 meeting. Ms. Morien was also elected as co-chair of the eHealth Council. Biographical information on Marsha Morien is included in the meeting materials.
Commissioner Kristensen moved to approve the eHealth Council nomination of Marsha Morien as a new member. Commissioner Park seconded. Roll call vote: Sheehy-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Park-Yes, Kristensen-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, and Hedquist-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

State HIE Cooperative Agreement. On March 15, 2010, the State of Nebraska received a $6.8 million grant from the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health IT. The NITC/Office of the CIO is administering the grant. The strategic eHealth Plan developed by the eHealth Council was submitted with the state’s application in October, 2009. An operational plan was submitted in April 2010. Revised plans were submitted in July, September and October in response to feedback from the Office of the National Coordinator. The plans have been approved, and Nebraska will receive its implementation funding (approximately 90% of the grant) soon. At this time, only eight states (California, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, New Mexico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Utah) have their plans approved. The latest versions of the Nebraska plans are available from the NITC website (nitc.ne.gov). Even without implementation funding, considerable progress is being made.

- NeHII now connects 15 hospitals in Iowa and Nebraska and over 1,000 health care providers. Approximately 20% of the state’s physicians are now participating in NeHII, and approximately 40% of the state’s hospital beds are covered by NeHII.
- The Electronic Behavioral Health Information Network (eBHIN) will be celebrating its kick off on Nov. 18. The celebration will include a demo of their system. eBHIN plans to go live with a pilot in Southeast Nebraska in early 2011.
- NeHII and the DHHS Division of Public Health have been meeting to plan connections between NeHII and Nebraska’s immunization registry. Connections will also be made to the Nebraska Electronic Disease Surveillance System and the state’s syndromic surveillance system.
- The E-Prescribing Work Group will reconvene on Nov. 30 to discuss issues related to e-prescribing, including e-prescribing Schedule II drugs and encouraging pharmacy participation.

The eHealth Council will meet in January to set implementation goals surrounding e-prescribing, electronic laboratory results delivery, and the exchange of patient care summaries.

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

Biennial I.T. Project Proposals – Recommendation to the Legislature* (Full text of project proposal)

There was only one request submitted this year, a satellite replacement project from NET. Pursuant to NITC policy, each request receives a technical review by three individual reviewers. Agencies are then provided an opportunity to submit a response or other clarifying information. The Technical Panel does a technical review and answers the following three questions:

1. Is the project is technically feasible?
2. Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project?
3. Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget?

For this project, the Technical Panel affirmed all three questions. The request then goes to the designated council to make a Tier recommendation. The State Government Council recommended the Satellite Replacement Project be prioritized as a Tier 1 project.

Mike Winkle, NET Assistant General Manager, was present to provide information regarding the project request and to answer questions. Although this is technically a new project, it is really a key on-going operations component to provide public broadcasting.

Commissioner Peterson moved to recommend NITC 47-01 NET, Satellite Replacement Project as a Tier 1 project. Roll call vote: Huggenberger-Yes, Kristensen, Park-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, and Hoesing-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

REPORT - GIS COUNCIL, Larry Zink, GIS Administrative Manager
Two years ago, the GIS Council had received two-year funding to develop a pilot project for a statewide GIS data sharing and web services network. The NITC providing approximately one-half of the pilot project funding. The project has been branded as NebraskaMAP and includes a portal, where entities have a centralized location to access data or be directed as to where to find the data. The University of Nebraska’s ESRI software licenses were used initially for the pilot project. Since then the Office of the CIO has purchased the required software licenses that are currently being installed at the OCIO.

The initial NebraskaMAP pilot project funding and project manager’s time will be ending December 31st. As required by the initial NebraskaMAP Project Charter, the NebraskaMAP Work Group has recommended that a minimum of one FTE is required to continue support for this collaborative effort. The GIS Council responded to this Work Group recommendation by recommending that the OCIO undertake support for the NebraskaMAP effort and that a GIS Service Bureau be created within the OCIO to provide support for the NebraskaMAP effort and to provide other GIS services to public agencies. The recommendation of establishing the GIS Service Bureau at the OCIO was brought to the NITC as an informational item at the July NITC meeting.

The Office of the CIO provided a response to the GIS Council regarding the Council’s GIS Services Bureau recommendation at its November 3, 2010 meeting. The OCIO proposal focused on providing a limited set of GIS shared services focused on providing support for the NebraskaMAP and assisting agencies to utilize this shared infrastructure, support for priority statewide GIS database efforts, and a commitment to work with the GIS Council and member agencies on short and long-term funding solutions as well as a study of the longer-term needs study for GIS shared services. All of these proposals were made contingent upon available funding. The GIS Council voted to rescind their earlier recommendation to establish a GIS Service Bureau and to accept the Office of the CIO’s GIS Shared Services proposal as a means to move forward with NebraskaMAP.

Douglas, Sarpy and Lancaster counties and other cities and counties have collectively acquired high resolution aerial imagery project through NIROC (Nebraska-Iowa Regional Orthophotography Consortium) project. Approximately 4,000 square miles of imagery have been acquired for Nebraska’s more urbanized areas. Updated aerial imagery data will be uploaded into NebraskaMAP.

A statewide database of street centerlines and addresses is a priority dataset for many GIS applications. For some applications, such as the Nebraska State Patrol’s statewide computer aided dispatch system, this is a critical component. In Nebraska, and many other states, the development and maintenance of this key dataset has been a problem, in large part because there is no obvious agency that has overall responsibility. In Nebraska, quite a significant amount of public resources are spent developing different pieces and components of this data by multiple state and local agencies to meet their particular needs, with different standards, and with no agency having the responsibility to piece together or integrate this data into a composite, normalized statewide dataset. Because of the widespread need for this data, a significant portion of the NebraskaMAP Project Manager’s staff time was diverted to create a one-time statewide dataset by integrating the data from multiple sources. This statewide dataset is now available, but it is a one-time snapshot of dynamic data and there is no mechanism currently in place to maintain a current statewide dataset. The Nebraska Public Service Commission funds the development and maintenance of this type of data for a large portion of Nebraska to support E911 efforts. Unfortunately this NPSC data is maintained as separate county data files. This approach works for most E911 efforts, but it is difficult, costly, and repetitive to integrate these separate PSC-funded county datasets into a statewide dataset. A few months ago the PSC released a docket requesting information on the concept of statewide maintenance of E911 GIS data, instead of the current county-by-county effort. The GIS Council responded to that PSC docket by strongly recommending that the PSC consider a coordinated statewide effort. Since the last GIS Council meeting, the PSC has issued an order which determined “that it does not have the authority to enter into a statewide contract on behalf of individual public safety answering points for the provision of maintenance services for GIS data necessary for the provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service.” So the PSC’s decision will likely result in the adoption of an even more decentralized approach to maintaining this critical data. That decision will leave the state in a situation where a significant amount of public resources will continue to be expended by several different agencies on this type of data and yet the broader needs of the State Patrol, and other state agencies for a current,
statewide street centerline-address dataset will continue to be unmet, with no clear agency responsible for resolving this situation.

An RFP is being drafted to solicit the assistance of a vendor to help develop an integrated, statewide GIS strategic plan for the geographic area of Nebraska. This effort will be funded by a USGS-FGDC CAP (U.S. Geological Service & Federal Geographic Date Committee Cooperative Agreements Programs) grant awarded to the OCIO on behalf of the GIS Council.

The existing NITC Land Record Information and Mapping Standards are being reviewed and updated. It will be a likely action item at the next NITC meeting.

Public Comment. Mr. Tom Larsen, retired CPA and current Board Member of GIS Workshop, requested to make public comment about the GIS Service Bureau. He expressed the concerns of the proposal from his point of view and those of GIS Workshop as a provider of these services today.

REPORT - TECHNICAL PANEL, Walter Weir, Chair, Technical Panel

Membership. Steve Henderson was Brenda Decker’s alternate on the Technical Panel. Jayne Scofield, I.T. Administrator for Network Services had been nominated to replace Mr. Henderson.

Commissioner Kristensen moved approval of the Technical Panel’s nomination of Jayne Scofield as an Alternate Member. Commissioner Hedquist seconded. Roll call vote: Kristensen-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Hoesing-Yes, Hedquist-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, Peterson-Yes, and Park-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Standards and Guidelines – New: NITC 4-205 Social Media Guidelines. The standard was developed by the State’s webmasters work group to provide guidelines for use of social media by state agencies.

Commissioner Park moved approval of the NITC 4-205: Social Media Guidelines. Commissioner Hoesing seconded. Roll call vote: Hoesing-Yes, Huggenberger-Yes, Kristensen, Park-Yes, Peterson-Yes, Sheehy-Yes, and Hedquist-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Enterprise Projects - Status Report. The November 7, 2010 Enterprise Project Status Dashboard was distributed to Commissioners. A question was raised regarding the MMIS project status. When the agency determines next steps, it will be included. The Enterprise Content Management project is now with the Office of the CIO and not the Secretary of State’s office.

BATELLE STUDY: NEBRASKA COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE ASSESSMENT (Executive Summary), Richard Baier, Director, Nebraska Department of Economic Development

Batelle recently completed a study of Nebraska’s competitiveness. The report identified five industry clusters as current strengths, including financial services; transportation, warehousing and distribution logistics; precision metals manufacturing, biosciences, and renewable energy. Three clusters were identified as emerging strengths or opportunities: research and development and engineering services, health services, and hospitality and tourism. Agriculture and food processing, business management and administrative services, software and computer services, and agricultural machinery were identified as retention targets. Mr. Baier indicated that there are updated charts with 2009 data available on the department’s website. He informed the Commission that the Legislature has set up a long-term planning committee chaired by Senator Harms of Scottsbluff to follow-up with the proposed Nebraska innovation initiative. Commissioners had an opportunity to ask questions.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.
ADJOURN

The Office of the CIO will contact commissioners to schedule the next meeting.

Commissioner Hedquist moved to adjourn. Commissioner Park seconded. All were in favor motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Office of the CIO/NITC staff.