

NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

Thursday, November 14, 2019, 9:00 a.m.

Varner Hall - Board Room

3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Toner, Chief Information Officer, Chair
Senator Bruce Bostelman, Nebraska Legislature
Shane Greckel, Greckel Farms, LLC
Dr. Terry Haack, Bennington Public Schools
Dorest Harvey, US Strategic Command/J84
Tom Nutt, Phelps County Commissioner
Gary Warren, Hamilton Telecommunications
Walter Weir, University of Nebraska

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dan Spray, Precision Technologies, Inc. and LaShonna Dorsey, Mutual of Omaha

ROLL CALL; MEETING NOTICE; OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

The Chair, Ed Toner, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. There were eight members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted on the south wall of the meeting room. The meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on October 4, 2019. The agenda was posted to the NITC website on November 8, 2019.

APPROVAL OF JULY 25, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Harvey moved to approve the July 25, 2019 minutes as presented. Commissioner Weir seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Haack-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Warren-Yes, and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM THE ADVISORY COUNCILS AND TECHNICAL PANEL

TECHNICAL PANEL REPORT

Kirk Langer

Enterprise projects

Project closure: Oracle Fusion project, Dept. of Administrative Services. At the July NITC meeting, the Commission postponed a decision to close the project until the Commission had received the lessons learned report from the project. Commissioner Weir reviewed the project history and lessons learned.

Commissioner Warren moved to designate the Oracle Fusion Project as a closed project. Commissioner Nutt seconded. Roll call vote: Weir-Yes, Warren-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Haack-Yes, Greckel-Yes, and Toner-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Project update and project closure: Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) project, Dept. of Education

Jeremy Heneger

The Department of Education was not present to discuss the project. Action was postponed until the next meeting.

Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) project

Sue Krogman and Tim Hofbauer

Project Description: The Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) is a project that will connect a majority of the Public Safety Access Points (PSAPs) across the State by means of a point to point microwave system. The network will be a true, secure means of transferring data, video and voice. Speed and stability are major expectations; therefore there is a required redundant technology base of no less than 100 mbps with 99.999% availability for each site. It is hoped that the network will be used as the main transfer mechanism for currently in-place items, thus imposing a cost-saving to local government. All equipment purchased for this project is compatible with the networking equipment of the OCIO.

At the July NITC meeting, the Commission requested an update from the project sponsors regarding the build out status. Ms. Krogman and Mr. Hofbauer were present for the requested update. Once the system is built, the local entities maintain control and are responsible for governance and sustainability. The project is currently federally funded by Homeland Security grants with approximately \$500,000 awarded annually. There is a sustainability plan in place which will be a fee structure system. The Governance Board has researched what service providers would charge customers and are attempting to charge less.

The goal for the completion date is August 31, 2021 and it is possible that parts of the Sandhills areas in Central Nebraska may not be covered. The current build outs are already being used by the local entities for 911. Platte Valley Communications is currently doing any needed repairs and is available 24/7 for maintenance. Recently, the Tri-County area has decided to be part of NRIN.

A funding request was made to hire a Network Engineer. Since the project is utilizing many of NPPD's towers, NPPD may be hiring staff dedicated to the project.

The Commissioners requested a coverage map showing 1) current coverage, 2) what is left on the build out, 3) current coverage projects, and 4) timelines. The NRIN Governance Group meeting dates will also be sent to Commissioners. Ms. Krogman thanked the Office of the CIO for their assistance.

Draft Report on the Status of Enterprise Projects. A copy of the draft report was included with the meeting documents. The report is submitted annually by the CIO.

Technical standards and guidelines: Proposal 12, amend the accessibility policy

The revised standards will align the state with the federal accessibility standards. Proposal 12 was posted for the 30-day public comment period. No comments were received.

Commissioner Weir moved to approve Proposal 12. Commissioner Nutt seconded. Roll call vote: Haack-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Warren-Yes, Weir-Yes, Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

GIS COUNCIL REPORT

John Watermolen

Membership nominations. The GIS Council is submitting the following names for approval by the commission and to forward to the Governor's Office.

Nomination for Council member to represent GIS related industry (2 seats):

- Nominee- Don Linquist, Precision Agriculture Support Specialist, Mitchell Implements
- Nominee- Matt Tinkham, Surveyor Lamp Rynearson

Nomination and Approval for Council at large position (vacated this year):

- Nominee- Bailey Gibson, GIS Coordinator, Hall County

Commissioner Haack moved to approve the GIS Council's membership nominations. Commissioner Greckel seconded. Roll call vote: Nutt-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Haack-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Toner-Yes, Weir-Yes, and Warren-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Watermolen highlighted the following activities from his council report:

- Department of Revenue. The OCIO continues to visit with state agencies every few months to continue discussions and any GIS needs. The OCIO worked with the Department of Revenue to release a sales tax rate finder tool. Revenue project focused due to time. Municipal boundary set is much more robust NSGIC.
- Presented summary of pilot project at the GeoElection Summit in Washington DC and the National State Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) in Utah.
- NSGIS Geospatial Maturity Assessment (GMA). This is a self-reported survey collected by NSGIC to see how states are utilizing GIS. The 2019 GMA will be the first one that has been graded. NSGIC is looking at giving states a single grade, when the final report is published.

Senator Bostelman discussed a legislative committee's work on a study of Nebraska's levees. The committee is discovering that there is not one resource to go to for this information. He asked if GIS could assist on this study. Mr. Watermolen will follow up with Senator Bostelman.

EDUCATION COUNCIL REPORT

Tom Rolfes

Membership nominations. The Education Council would like to recommend the following Higher Education membership nominations to serve on the council for 2019-21:

- Chuck Lenosky, Independent Colleges & Universities
- Carla Streff, Community College System
- Dr. Paul Turman, State College System

Commissioner Haack moved to approve the Education Council's membership nominations. Commissioner Harvey seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Haack-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Warren-Yes, and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

The Council met in August and in October. A Teacher Homework Gap Survey was conducted and results shared with the Council. The survey indicated that homework is done mostly digitally. Equity of access is a concern. Teachers are making accommodation for students who do not have internet at home by making study areas available before and after school, providing printed copies, or allowing more days to complete assignments. Education is considered lifelong so the Homework Gap could affect all learners. In October, Executive Director Jim Smith of Blueprint Nebraska gave a presentation to the Council. Mr. Rolfes offered to present Network Nebraska information at one of their future Education Attainment Industry Council meetings.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

Anne Byers

Membership nomination. The Community Council met on September 26, 2019. They recommended the nomination of Allison Hatch to represent the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

Commissioner Nutt moved to approve the Community Council's membership nomination. Commissioner Warren seconded. Roll call vote: Warren-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Haack-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Toner-Yes, Nutt-Yes, and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

County Broadband Fact Sheets. The NITC Community Council is partnering with the Nebraska Library Commission to develop broadband fact sheets for counties in Nebraska. A sample fact sheet was included in the meeting materials. The fact sheets will help engage community leaders and local libraries in efforts to address digital inclusion and/or broadband planning.

EHEALTH COUNCIL REPORT

Anne Byers

Membership nomination. The eHealth Council met on September 26, 2019. They recommended the nomination of Dr. Laura Petersen to represent the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care on the eHealth Council.

Commissioner Weir moved to approve the eHealth Council's membership nomination. Commissioner Haack seconded. Roll call vote: Greckel-Yes, Haack-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Warren-Yes, Weir-Yes, and Toner-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

STATE GOVERNMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Ed Toner

Amendments to the council charter. As amended, section 7 of the charter provides for meetings of the council to be held at the call of the chairperson with at least 30 days prior notice. The other changes to the charter are clean-up in nature.

Commissioner Weir moved to approve the State Government Council Charter Amendments. Commission Greckel seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Haack-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Warren-Yes, and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Toner discussed the OCIO's application portfolio management project.

RURAL BROADBAND TASK FORCE REPORT

Anne Byers

Ms. Byers thanked Commissioner Bostelman, Commissioner Toner and Commissioner Spray for their work on the Rural Broadband Task Force. The Task Force has met 10 times and the task force's five subcommittees have met 30 times. The report to the Legislature was submitted on Oct. 31, 2019. The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee has scheduled a hearing on December 4, 2019 to review the findings and recommendations of the Task Force.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions.

APPROVAL OF UPDATE TO THE STATE BROADBAND PLAN

In 2014, the Nebraska Information Technology Commission approved the state broadband plan, *Broadband in Nebraska: Current Landscape and Recommendations*. The 2014 plan was developed in collaboration with the Nebraska Broadband Initiative. Current Nebraska Broadband Initiative partners include the Nebraska Public Service Commission, University of Nebraska, Nebraska Information Technology Commission, Nebraska Library Commission, and USDA. The initiative was formed to implement the planning component of the Nebraska Public Service Commission's broadband mapping and planning grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The state broadband plan is now five years old. Last year, USDA awarded bonus points to ReConnect grant applicants if their state had a broadband plan that had been updated in the last five years. Staff has proposed updating the state broadband plan by affirming the vision, objectives, goals, and recommendations included in the 2014 broadband plan and appending the Rural Broadband Task Force report. A draft of an updated broadband plan was in the meeting materials.

Commission Harvey moved to approve the update to the State Broadband Plan. Commissioner Warren seconded. Roll call vote: Harvey-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Spray-Yes, Warren-Yes, Weir-Yes, Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, and Haack-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY PLAN UPDATE

The Statewide Technology Plan will need to be updated in 2020. The process begins with the commission's approval of strategic initiatives for the plan. Once these are approved, the councils will begin to work on developing action items. The proposed strategic initiatives are as follows:

- State Government IT Strategy. The objective of this initiative is to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for the use of information technology by Nebraska state government.
- IT Security. This initiative will define and clarify policies, standards and guidelines, and responsibilities related to the security of the State's information technology resources.
- Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure (NESDI). The objective of this initiative is to develop and foster an environment and infrastructure that optimizes the efficient use of geospatial technology, data, and services to address a wide variety of business and governmental challenges within the state.
- Network Nebraska. In order to develop a broadband, scalable telecommunications infrastructure that optimizes the quality of service to every public entity in the state of Nebraska, the Office of the CIO and the University of Nebraska engaged in a collaborative partnership that used existing and new resources to aggregate disparate networks into a multipurpose core backbone extending from Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island to Scottsbluff.
- Digital Education. The primary objective of the Digital Education Initiative is to promote the effective and efficient integration of technology into the instructional, learning, and administrative processes and to utilize technology to deliver enhanced digital educational opportunities to students at all levels throughout Nebraska on an equitable and affordable basis.
- Rural Broadband and Community IT Development. Broadband availability, widespread adoption of broadband technologies, and a skilled IT workforce have become requirements for communities wishing to grow their economies.
- eHealth. Electronic health information exchange (HIE) allows doctors, nurses, pharmacists, other health care providers and patients to appropriately access and securely share a patient's vital medical information electronically—improving the speed, quality, safety and cost of patient care.

Commissioner Haack move to approve the strategic initiatives for the Statewide Technology Plan update. Commissioner Harvey seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Haack-Yes, Harvey-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Warren-Yes, and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-7, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Nutt moved to adjourn. Commissioner Greckel seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by the IT Managers of the Office of the CIO.