

Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group Meeting #5
Thursday, January 28, 2010; 1:00pm-4:00pm CT

Remote 1: ESU 10 Videoconference Room, 76 Plaza Blvd., Kearney, NE
Remote 2: Varner Hall, Lower Level Board Room, 3835 Holdrege St., Lincoln, NE
Remote 3: Pope John XXIII DL Room, Elgin, NE
Remote 4: UNK, Kearney, NE
Remote 5: Peru State College, Peru, NE
Remote 6: Wayne State College, Wayne, NE
Remote 7: ESU 16, North Platte, NE
Remote 8: Office of the CIO, Lincoln, NE
Remote 9: ESU 6, Milford, NE

Meeting Notes

K-12 Attendance: John Stritt (Kearney), Gary Monter (Lincoln), Betty Getzfred (Elgin)

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

CAP Liaison Attendance: Brenda Decker, Walter Weir, Leona Roach, Ben Mientka

Absent: Bob Uhing, Dan Hoelsing, Scott Jones, Kirk Langer, Mike Danahy, Tip O'Neill

Staff: SuAnn Witt, Tom Rolfes

Guests: Arnold Bateman

1. **Welcome.** Co-Chair John Stritt convened the meeting at 1:02pm and welcomed nine videoconference sites to the meeting.
2. **Roll Call, Introductions.** Roll call found ten members and four CAP liaisons present to start the meeting. Co-Chairs Stritt and Linster asked that Agenda Item, History of CAP & Network Nebraska, be moved up earlier in the agenda before the NN Budget discussion.
3. **Review of 12/17/2009 meeting.** John Stritt reviewed the minutes from the December 17, 2009 Meeting. Charles Osteen and Ken Clipperton commented that the notes were helpful and thanked Tom Rolfes for the rapid posting of the meeting notes after the last meeting.
4. Update on Internet2 Commodity Peering Service (CPS). Michael Ruhrdanz reported that the Internet2 CPS has been “wildly popular” and is providing a substantial portion of Nebraska K-12’s and Higher Ed’s commodity Internet through bandwidth avoidance to the Kansas City Gigapop. The Great Plains Network, a consortium of states connected to the Kansas City Gigapop, have decided to charge a flat fee to offset the costs of providing the CPS service. Discussion has revolved around a flat fee of \$9,000 for 1 Gbps of bandwidth or considering a charge of \$1.50/Mbps, which is slightly less than the average Nebraska K-12 post-Erate cost (~\$1.92/Mbps) for contracted commodity Internet. For UNL, a second Gigabit link would have to be procured to Kansas City to provide for this CPS, which would be a substantial cost. For the time being (Spring 2010), Network Nebraska—Education entities can expect CPS to continue, but that an associated cost will be introduced for the future. The recommendation of CAP is for K-12 entities to budget and contract with Windstream for the

total amount of commodity Internet needed for 2010-11, and then monitor the CPS situation, in case this higher speed commodity Internet can be retained for future years. Michael Ruhrdanz reminded the Advisory Group members that the normal SEGP traffic routing to neighboring statewide networks is not affected by the discussion or billing around CPS.

5. **Network Nebraska Marketing Survey Report.** Arnold Bateman and SuAnn Witt gave a report on the Network Nebraska--Education Marketing Survey that was administered during December 2009. Arnold and SuAnn reported that the survey had a 70% completion rate from the 325+ individuals who attempted the survey. Once the recommendations are completed to include more granularity in demographic analyses (e.g. private vs. public, technical vs. administrative, geographic origin, K-12 vs. higher education) for 2011, the report will be ready for distribution to the CIO, CAP, and NITC Education Council. Arnold and SuAnn reported that student learning opportunities, reduced costs, reliability and collaboration were perceived as the strengths of Network Nebraska, with distance education coordination, lack of communication, and leadership/management perceived as weaknesses. Reduced costs appeared as the highest rated, single most compelling advantage of Network Nebraska—Education.
6. **LB 1069 Summary.** Tom Rolfes shared that a new bill, LB 1069, had been introduced by Senator Greg Adams and included 12 changes or modifications to ESU funding and NITC responsibilities, as originally stated in LB 1208. The ESUCC proposed three changes affecting ESUCC authority as a political subdivision and its ability to supervise employees. The other primary changes had to do with the technical review of hardware and equipment by the NITC Technical Panel. Brenda Decker and Walter Weir shared additional information with the Advisory Group about how the Technical Panel establishes standards and reinforces uniformity within the Network, without the use of additional statutes. The hearing on LB 1069 will be held on February 2, and neutral testimony will be presented by Ms. Decker and Mr. Weir. Members commented that Network Nebraska has been a great public-public partnership that has yielded ultra-reliable, low cost initiative that has brought great value to its members. Ken Clipperton shared that the Network Nebraska's comparison costs to the Iowa ICN are much lower and that several Nebraska independent colleges may be interested in joining to access lower priced Internet. Members suggested that with the advent of the Nebraska Virtual High School and statewide online assessment system, that the data and reliability of Network Nebraska is even more important for the future.
7. **History of CAP & Network Nebraska.** Since Rick Golden could not be present for the 1/28/10 meeting, Tom Rolfes presented an updated version of Rick's original May 2008 presentation to the NITC Education Council giving an overview of the Collaboration Aggregation Partnership and Network Nebraska since 1998. A viewable pdf of the presentation will be posted on the document archive of the NN Advisory Group. There was a request by the Advisory Group to also have the presentation be posted to the Network Nebraska website.

8. Network Nebraska—Education 2010-11 Budget.

- a. Interregional Transport Fee—Tom Rolfes reported that the Network Nebraska—Education backbone is projected to increase by approximately \$46,000 for 2010-11 over 2009-11, based on the bandwidth needed to carry the increased Internet purchases. This will net an estimated additional \$34,000 in E-rate discounts, and cause the higher education backbone charge to increase by about \$15/month and the K-12 backbone charge to increase by about \$5/month. Tom Rolfes presented the proposed backbone transport and aggregation circuits for review and recommendation to CAP and the CIO for purchase. **Action: Dennis Linster moved, and Lyle Neal seconded, to recommend the 2010-11 Network Nebraska—Education Interregional Transport segments for purchase by the Office of the CIO. All were in favor 10-0. The motion passes.**
 - b. Participation Fee—Ben Mientka presented the results of the traffic shaper RFP that was bid by the University of Nebraska for use by Network Nebraska as part of their 2009-10 budget. By purchasing the first three years of maintenance in the first year, the cost will only be about \$91,000, which would save Network Nebraska about \$29,000 over three years. The one large device will be deployed at Peter Kiewit Institute for the 1.2 Gbps of Qwest Internet as soon as it is available. On July 1, a second smaller device will be installed at PKI for the new 600Mbps of Windstream Internet and the larger device will be moved to Nebraska Hall in Lincoln to take care of the second, but larger, aggregation point of 1.3Gbps of Windstream Internet. **Action: Gary Monter moved, and Dennis Linster seconded, to recommend the purchase of the Traffic Shaper devices from Procera, Inc. by the State of Nebraska for installation on Network Nebraska—Education in the 2010 performance year. All were in favor 10-0. The motion passes.**
 - c. Affiliate Member Category and Associated Fees—Tom Rolfes shared the intent from the Grand Island Public Library that indicated that they would be asking for Network Nebraska access for the 2010-11 performance year from College Park in Grand Island. This, together with the possibility of many rural libraries applying for ARRA funding for public computing centers makes it an appropriate time to consider another class of membership for Network Nebraska—Education other than full membership. **Dennis Linster moved, and Gary Monter seconded, to recommend to the CAP to allow the Grand Island Public Library to join Network Nebraska—Education for the 2010-11 year as an Affiliate Member at no cost, and then to review the rate for their second year's Affiliate membership at some nominal cost, with the provision to offset or discount the fees based on the amount of content or programming that is offered to other Network Nebraska members. All were in favor 10-0. The motion passes.** SuAnn Witt expressed an interest in convening a task group to more fully examine Affiliate Membership services, criteria, and fees for the future.
9. **Draft Charter Language.** Co-Chairs Stritt and Linster asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group charter, as drafted

and shared at the November 16, 2009 meeting. There were none. **Ken Clipperton moved, and Dennis Linster seconded, to recommend approval of the Charter for the Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group to the State CIO. All were in favor 10-0. The motion passes.**

10. **Other Agenda Items/Future Agenda Items.** Co-Chairs Linster and Stritt asked if there were any suggestions for future agenda items or special comments from any of the members. Comments were offered from:

- a. Dennis Linster suggested that we use the Network Nebraska Advisory Group Agenda as a “filter” to review the content of the Network Nebraska website.
- b. John Stritt announced that on February 18, the Distance Education Council and the ESU-NOC will be co-hosting a Videoconferencing/Distance Education Idea Sharing Event at ESU 10. The meeting will run from 9:00am to 3:30pm. ESU 10 is located at 76 Plaza Boulevard in Kearney.
- c. Debbie Schroeder commented that she thought the Network Nebraska project has been exceptional, from UNK’s perspective.
- d. Gene Beardslee commented that he liked the results from the Network Nebraska Marketing survey and that he looks forward to a more assertive Network Nebraska marketing plan for 2010.
- e. Betty Getzfred thanked the Network Nebraska organizers for allowing Pope John XXIII high school and St. Boniface Elementary the opportunity to participate in Network Nebraska.
- f. Lyle Neal agreed that Network Nebraska has been a positive benefit for Southeast Community College and offered his services and support to recruit the Southeast Nebraska schools into Network Nebraska.
- g. Dennis Linster asked that the State and the University of Nebraska RFP process be explained in an upcoming meeting; especially how constituent participation is handled.
- h. Several members asked that a future agenda item be devoted to deciding Network Nebraska basic and premium services, with their associated fees, and to explain how items get added to the Network Nebraska Participation Fee budget.
- i. Ken Clipperton suggested that the Advisory Group members could use Google Groups to create a collaborative space for document exchange and task group discussions.
- j. Dennis Linster requested a Network Nebraska Communication Work Flow diagram to notify people of committee opportunities, volunteer opportunities, and use of subordinate staff.
- k. Leona Roach asked for assistance in determining which Network Nebraska services would be considered “basic” and which would be considered “optional” or “premium”.

11. **Next Meeting Date & Location.** John Stritt said that he would send around another Doodle Poll to determine the best time and date for the Advisory Group’s next meeting.

Meeting notes recorded by Tom Rolfes and reviewed by John Stritt and Dennis Linster.

