# Technical Panel
## of the
## Nebraska Information Technology Commission
Tuesday, May 12, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
Varner Hall - Board Room
3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska
### PROPOSED MINUTES

**MEMBERS PRESENT**:
Walter Weir, CIO, University of Nebraska, Chair
Brenda Decker, CIO, State of Nebraska
Christy Horn, University of Nebraska (Jeremy Sydik was present at roll call.)
Kirk Langer, Lincoln Public Schools
Michael Winkle, Nebraska Educational Telecommunications

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

Mr. Weir called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. A quorum was present to conduct official business. The meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on April 15, 2009. The agenda was posted to the NITC website on May 8, 2009.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## APPROVAL OF APRIL 14, 2009 MINUTES

**Ms. Decker moved to approve the** April 14, 2009 **minutes as presented. Mr. Winkle seconded. Roll call vote: Decker-Yes, Sydik-Yes, Langer-Yes, Weir-Yes and Winkle-Yes. Results:  Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0.  Motion carried.**

## PROJECT REVIEWS NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - STATEWIDE ONLINE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM
Pat Roschewski, Brent Gaswick, and John Moon

John Moon was introduced as the Project Manager for the Statewide Online Assessment System project.  At the last report, the field testing had not started but it is currently underway.  Fifty-one percent (51%) which is just under 89,600 students grade 3-11 have gone through the field testing.  Of this number, seventy-two thousand (72,000) did online testing.  Since the beginning of the field testing, there have been only 169 phone assistance calls.  A consultant out of Oregon who was part of the first online testing has been hired to assist with the project.  The consultant informed the project that other states were receiving over 200 calls a day.

Ms. Horn arrived at the meeting.

Issues that were discovered during testing included:
- The sign-on tickets created a logistical challenge for larger schools like Lincoln Public Schools.
- Opportunities for testing and testing methodology.
- Testing students who are not part of the districts for purposes of AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress).  This is difficult to determine given the mobility of students.
- Ultra mobile devices did not have proper screen resolution.
- Policy issue:  Conduct one longer testing session versus two sessions

- Discussions need to occur with NDE and school districts regarding data warehouses and in what format will the information go back to the schools.
- Accessibility issues are still a major concern. The project completed the NITC accessibility checklist. These issues are being addressed by the vendor per the established NITC standards. The form was extremely helpful because it brought up issues that had not been considered. Horn stated that it would be interesting to see if the students testing online do better than students testing with paper.

The Governor and the Department of Education's Commissioner have been discussing the requirements and potential use of stimulus monies for the online assessment project.

Mr. Winkle recommended that the project complete the approved Project Status Reporting form that was developed by the Technical Panel. It would be good to acknowledge and address the risks involved and expected time frame.

Since the Project will have nothing new to report until August, Ms. Roschewski asked if the project could report in August. The Technical Panel agreed.

**PROJECT REVIEWS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – MMIS**
James Ohmberger

Panel members received an electronic copy of the report prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Ohmberger stated that communications continue with the project and vendor regarding issues identified in the report. The Project is still in "yellow" status. The Contract stipulates a 10-day cycle to report back to the vendor. Their deliverables document was not acceptable and the vendor was asked to revise and resubmit the document. The Vendor does not get paid until the deliverables have been accomplished. The Project must also signs off on the deliverable prior to payment. This is in mediation for review and acceptance.

The first year of the project was designed as a planning year with a year of testing. It is the first year deliverable that is currently being mediated.

**PROJECT REVIEWS NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGE SYSTEM AND UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM**
Rory Weaver, Project Manager

Panel members received an electronic copy of the report prior to the meeting for their review. A decision was made early in the project regarding the academic advising tool. Due to the special admissions requirements for some of their programs, the University of Nebraska-Kearney and The University of Nebraska-Omaha will be implementing their own academic advising tool. This was done in concurrence with the Chancellor Offices. Only the State College System will be using the advising module. Phase II (Student Information and Financial) IDPs are completed. The Summary of Project Status is in the yellow zone due to the uncertainty of the budget deficit request.

The online application piece is currently being developed but it is below expectation. Ms. Horn recommended the project take the accessibility checklist and go through it with the vendor.

The Project meets with the vendor and Provost on a regular basis. There is a group working on the development of post implementation governance. This business reporting tool product has not been selected. Three vendors are being evaluated and decision will be made soon. There are no "red" flags at this time in the risk register.

Mr. Winkle stated it has been beneficial to have the project reports prior to the meetings.

**REGULAR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND WORK GROUP UPDATES (AS NEEDED)**

*Accessibility of Information Technology, Christy Horn.* There was no progress to report. Ms. Horn stated that she was very pleased that the projects are using the Accessibility Checklist. The Panel needs to encourage other entities to use the checklist. She will take the form back to the work group and discuss methods of marketing the checklist.

*Learning Management System Standards Work Group, Kirk Langer.* There was no progress to report. Angel Learning is being acquired by Blackboard. There will be continued discussions within the learning community regarding neutrality of using the product. Ms. Horn stated there will be a possibility that the National Federation for the Blind will be contesting Blackboard and the Universities that use Blackboard because it is not accessible.

*Security Architecture Work Group, Brad Weakly.* Mr. Henderson reported that Mr. Weakly will be evaluating the meeting frequency and make-up of the Security Architecture Work Group. Rather than a large group working towards a solution, he'd like to have focus groups addressing issues. Mr. Winkle recommended that the work group develop a security checklist similar to the accessibility checklist. Mr. Henderson stated that the Office of the CIO and University of Nebraska have been working on a checklist for web site development.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of the NITC Technical Panel will be held on June 9, 2009, 9:00 a.m. at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street in Lincoln, Nebraska.

With no further business, Mr. Weir adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and review by Rick Becker of the Office of the CIO/NITC.