

**TECHNICAL PANEL
of the
Nebraska Information Technology Commission**
Tuesday, February 9, 2010, 9:00 a.m.
Varner Hall - Board Room
3835 Holdrege St., Lincoln, Nebraska
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Walter Weir, CIO, University of Nebraska, Chair
Brenda Decker, CIO, State of Nebraska
Christy Horn, University of Nebraska
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 9:05 a.m. The meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#) on January 11, 2010. The agenda was posted to the NITC website on February 5, 2010. The Open Meeting Act was posted on the south wall of the room.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 8, 2009 MINUTES

Ms. Decker moved to approve the [December 8, 2009](#) minutes as presented. Mr. Langer seconded. Roll call vote: Decker-Yes, Langer-Yes, Weir-Yes, and Winkle-Yes. Results: Yes-4, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

ENTERPRISE PROJECTS - DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING POSSIBLE ENTERPRISE PROJECT DESIGNATION OF NCOR-PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS

Pete Peterson is the NCOR Chair, North Central Region and the 911 Director for Keith County (via phone)
Bob Wilhelm, Grant Program Specialist in NEMA

Mr. Peterson explained that the Governor established NCOR (Nebraska Councils of Regions) by executive order. NCOR was created to provide oversight of the integration and interoperability of the eight local 911 centers for public safety communication regions in Nebraska and coordinate with the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network. An RFP has been released on their behalf. The grant is administered by NEMA. RFP requirement is for a 100 megabit IP/MPLS based network. The bids are ranging from 10 to 25 million dollars.

Ms. Horn arrived at the meeting.

No one source has enough monies to fund the whole project. NCOR is seeking partnerships to fund the project. There are some federal dollars available with a 20% state match. A PSIC (Public Safety Interoperable Communications) grant has also been submitted to the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The connectivity will be wireless point to point connectivity that can be branched off to provide other connection points for both data and voice. The end points can be a number of things – 911 centers, public safety communication resources, etc. Each infrastructure must meet the region's needs. Towers will have licensed microwave. The contractor would have to validate towers and support of vendor's technical design.

An RFP was released. Bids were evaluated and rejected. The RFP is being redone. The project will be going through another round of competition. Project management is handled in a variety of ways – The Office of the CIO coordinates the technical efforts. NEMA coordinates the work with the regional areas. NEMA has also hired two technical staff to work with regions and will be submitting grants for funding as well as submitting the grant reports. Mr. Weir stated that he would like to see the project coordinate efforts with Network Nebraska.

The project is now part of the Statewide Technology Plan. The project also has a detailed Statewide Interoperability Plan that details how the project will accomplish its goals. This project is a unique project that the state is doing on behalf of the local entities. Technical aspects are similar to other public safety projects.

After discussion it was determined that that project meeting the definition of an enterprise project: "Enterprise project means an endeavor undertaken over a fixed period of time using information technology, which would have a significant effect on a core business function or affects multiple government programs, agencies, or institutions. Enterprise project includes all aspects of planning, design, implementation, project management, and training relating to the endeavor." [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-506]

Mr. Winkle moved to recommend that the NCOR - Public Safety Interoperable Communications Project be designated as an enterprise project. Ms. Horn seconded. Roll call vote: Winkle-Yes Weir-Yes, Langer-Yes, Horn-Yes, and Decker-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

ENTERPRISE PROJECT REPORTS - Ryan Christensen

Network Nebraska and NeSIS are the only projects that submitted reports this month. The Office of the CIO will be discussing this issue to determine methods of getting reports submitted more timely.

Mr. Weir stated that NeSIS Project Manager plans to provide a report later in the meeting.

Mr. Henderson stated that Mr. Christensen will be presenting the Enterprise Projects Report Card to the NITC at the March meeting.

At the next Technical Panel meeting, Mr. Langer would like the Department of Education to report on the online testing. Lincoln Public Schools has been having technical issues at the work station level. Accessibility has also been an issue. Schools have been told that they will not receive testing results until August or September. At the present time, schools still have not received information on the file layout in regards to the data reporting. School need to know what is the expected time frame.

STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES REQUEST FOR WAIVER – HHSS, [WEBSITE DOMAIN NAME](#) Sue Spanhake and Greg Votava, Department of Health and Human Services

Ms. Decker provided a brief background about the request. Pursuant to the Governor's directive, state agencies have moved to domain names which are ne.gov and/or Nebraska.gov.

The Department of Health and Human Services has received federal funding for a special project to work with first time young mothers. The project is asking for a waiver to use the domain name "tunemylife.org" for their project.

Ms. Spanhake and Mr. Votava were present to provide more information on the project and to entertain questions from the panel. In 2008, the Department of Health and Human Services received one-time funding to work with first time young mothers to develop healthier lifestyles and promote self esteem and empowerment. Other stakeholders are involved that are not state agencies. Bailey Lauerman Marketing

Communications was awarded the contract to market the project. Ms. Hunzeker, President of Bailey Lauerman, provided correspondence with reasons as to the need for a different domain name.

After doing research, it was determined that a concept that has music as part of the efforts has been successful with the younger population. A musical competition requiring lyrics that incorporated healthy lifestyles, good choices and empowering women was held. This resulted in the domain name "tunemylife.org". In the future, the project would like to expand into social networks as well. An RFP has been released to further develop the promotional campaign. If the request for waiver is approved today, the project will move forward on the website. Funding for the project will end August 31, 2010. The project is looking for partners to sustain the project. Mr. Winkle suggested that the project consider non-profit partners for sustainability of the project. This would alleviate issues of domain regulations.

Currently, there is no NITC standard regarding state agencies domain names but there is a process in place to request a waiver

Mr. Winkle moved the following resolution: The panel, having reviewed the request for waiver from DHHS to the OCIO requirement that agency URLs be designated ne.gov and/or nebraska.gov, finds that the use of TUNEMYLIFE.ORG for the DHHS project website as described is not problematic and recommends that the OCIO allow an exception to the requirement. Ms. Horn seconded. Roll call vote: Decker-Abstained, Langer-Yes, Weir-Yes, and Winkle-Yes. Results: Yes-4, No-0, Abstained-1. Motion carried.

NeSIS (NEBRASKA STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM) UPDATE

Rory Weaver and Don Mihulka, University of Nebraska

As of February 4, there has been a change in the project manager. Rory Weaver is now Associate Manager and Don Milhulka is the new Project Manager. The vendor has added additional resources. There has not been a lot of change in project matrix. The IV & V warranted a closer look at implementation efforts. Bundle 16 is an Oracle upgrade and has to be upgraded before the financial portion could be implemented. The next 30-45 days are critical and the project will need to map out and breakdown critical tasks what needs to occur with the necessary staffing needing to accomplish these tasks.

Ms. Horn expressed concerns and feedback she is receiving regarding accessibility of the system and stated that there must be a process in place to test accessibility before it goes live. The Technical Panel has been informed of the issues but has not been informed about what is being done to fix the issues.

Ms. Horn left the meeting.

STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOLLOW-UP ON WAIVER GRANTED TO THE COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ADVOCACY - Brad Weakly

Mr. Weakly was not available to provide a report.

DISCUSSION: LEGISLATION - [LB1069](#) AND [AMENDMENT](#)

Members discussed LB1069 and a related amendment. Mr. Weir and Ms. Decker both testified in a neutral capacity on the bill. A letter to Senator Adams has been drafted which addresses some issues with the legislation.

REGULAR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND WORK GROUP UPDATES (as needed)

Accessibility of Information Technology Work Group – Horn. No report

Learning Management System Standards Work Group – Langer. No report. Mr. Winkle suggested that this work group begin meeting again especially now that the state has submitted a “Race to the Top” proposal as well as to coordinate with NET’s on-going learning services

Security Architecture Work Group – Weakly. Mr. Henderson stated that Mobile Device Data Security is the main issue the work group is currently addressing.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Rolfes alerted the panel members to LB 957 dealing with longitudinal studies of tracking students from Higher Education through Department of Labor. Clearly identifiable data is not accessible per FERPA regulations.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The next meeting of the NITC Technical Panel will be on Tuesday, March 9, 9 a.m. at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, in Lincoln, Nebraska

Ms. Decker moved to adjourn. Mr. Langer seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

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