

EDUCATION COUNCIL

Nebraska Information Technology Commission
Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. CDT

Host Location:

Sharp Building 8th Floor SW Conference Room
206 S. 13th, Lincoln, Nebraska

Remote Locations:

- #1: ESU 10, 76 Plaza Blvd, Kearney, Nebraska
#2: Chab Weyers Education Hixson Lied Art Building, Room 134-3, 1014 Boswell Avenue,
Crete, Nebraska
#3: Palmyra High School, Room 102, 425 F St., Palmyra, Nebraska

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Bret Blackman, University of Nebraska-Omaha (awaiting NITC approval)
Mr. Burke Brown, Palmyra School District (Zoom)
Mr. Mike Carpenter, Doane University (Zoom)
Dr. Ted DeTurk, ESU 2
Mr. John Dunning, Wayne State College
Mr. Steve Hamersky, Gross High School of Omaha
Mr. Steve Hotovy, Nebraska State College System
Mr. Trent Kelly, Hastings Public Schools (awaiting NITC approval)
Mr. Greg Maschman, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Mr. Gary Needham, ESU 09 (Zoom)
Ms. Mary Niemiec, University of Nebraska
Mr. Tom Peters, Central Community College

LIAISONS/ALTERNATES PRESENT: Mr. Chuck Lenosky, Creighton University (Zoom); Dr. Mike Baumgartner, CCPE; Mr. Chad Davis, NET;

MEMBERS/LIAISONS ABSENT: Mr. Derek Bierman, Northeast Community College;
Mr. Matt Chrisman, Mitchell Public Schools; Dr. Dan Hoelsing, Schuyler Public Schools
Mr. Alan Moore, ESU 3; Mr. Ed Toner, OCIO; Ms. SuAnn Witt, NDE

CALL TO ORDER, ELECTRONIC POSTING, LOCATION OF OPEN MEETING LAW DOCUMENTS, ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS

Co-Chair, Mary Niemec, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Roll call was taken. There were 10 voting members present. A quorum existed to conduct official business. The meeting notice was posted to the [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#) on February 16, 2018. The meeting agenda was posted to the [NITC Web site](#) on February 16, 2018.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 MEETING*

Mr. Dunning moved to approve the February 21, 2018 meeting agenda as presented. Mr. Hotovy seconded. Brown-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Hotovy-Yes, Maschman-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemiec-Yes, Peters-Yes; 10-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstain. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE 10/20/2017 MEETING*

Mr. Hotovy moved to approve the October 20, 2017 minutes as presented. Mr. Dunning seconded. Brown-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Hotovy-Yes, Maschman-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemiec-Yes, Peters-Yes; 10-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstain. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

New members, Trent Kelly, Hastings Public Schools, and Bret Blackman, University of Nebraska-Omaha, introduced themselves. The NITC will be meeting on March 8, 2018 to consider new member approvals. Ms. Niemec provided a brief explanation of the Education Council for the new members.

NETWORK NEBRASKA UPDATE

Tom Rolfes

RFP 5761 for WAN circuits and UNL RFP 2926-18-8116 for Internet access.

Eight bids were opened on February 15 for State RFP 5761 involving 29 WAN Circuits. Evaluation of bids is underway. UNL is bidding for statewide internet access out of Omaha using eBid 2926-18-8116. One commodity Internet provider will be selected to provide service, based on lowest overall cost. Nebraska's commodity Internet unit rate is among the lowest in the country. Bids will be opened on March 1.

NNAG Report and Zoom Update. Scott Jones, Network Nebraska Advisory Group (NNAG) co-chair informed the council that the NNAG group is comprised of 16 members – eight members from K-12 and eight from higher education, with intent to represent urban and rural membership. Arbor security software is being utilized on the network. Network Nebraska has 15,000 Zoom accounts across the state. Zoom is offered to Network Nebraska participants at a greatly reduced rate through aggregated purchasing. Mr. Lenosky stated that Creighton University is utilizing Zoom quite a bit. Learning Management Systems were discussed. There is a big difference between higher education and K12's use and pricing for learning management systems but Education Council members expressed interest in exploring a statewide contract.

Other

Network Nebraska created an informational listserv (NN-INFO) to share informational items about Network Nebraska. Within 24 hours, there were 72 registrants. Members can also post informational items that will be approved through moderators.

Telehealth update. The Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network (NSTN) was implemented in 2005. In 2018, it is possible that the network will be sunset. Early discussions suggested that there could be a network merger similar to what has happened in other states. The NSTN now involves major hub hospitals and critical access hospitals through a consortium structure.

Much of 2018-2019 will be spent collecting demand information from all entities for Network Nebraska's future. There is quite a bit of interest from independent schools to become partners: Creighton Prep High School, Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary, Omaha Public Libraries. At the next NNAG meeting on March 21 the 2018-19 budget preparation will begin. The Center for Digital Education has mentioned doing a feature story on Network Nebraska in May 2018. Mr. Rolfes thanked the Council members for their collaboration and support of Network Nebraska.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Rolfes provided a list of legislative bills that the Nebraska Information Technology Commission has been tracking. Council members were invited to monitor the legislation.

LR 176 Rural Broadband Study.

Three hearings were held and they were heavily attended. OCIO staff also attended. There is a transcript available on the Unicam's website. There is much concern about the level of service of rural broadband. Some communities have fiber to the premise but many communities do not. LB 994 was created as a result of LB 176. This coincides with the Council's Digital Education action item. It would be beneficial if the Education Council had representation on the task force.

LB 994 Create the Rural Broadband Study Task Force and alter Public Service Commission duties.

As introduced, a task force of 12 appointees will be established with at least one representative from rural K-12 and one from higher education. The NITC was named as supporting the task force and the State CIO has been named to the task force. If LB 994 passes, the first report will be due in late 2019. Appointments will be made by the Governor. The Council members were concerned that Nebraska's digital divide involves 35,000-50,000 Nebraska students who go home every evening not being able to have Internet connectivity to do their homework.

LB 856 Net Neutrality.

FCC posted their input regarding states' involvement in neutrality. Several other states are considering net neutrality legislation.

LB 966 Sales and use tax exemption for dark fiber.

Council members were encouraged to read this bill.

LB 1113 Provide an exception for leasing dark fiber or providing Internet services by an agency or political subdivision.

Council members were encouraged to read this bill.

IMLS SPARKS GRANT--NEBRASKA SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES: BREAKING THE ICE AND IGNITING INTERNET RELATIONSHIPS

Tom Rolfes

Grant Abstract and Application. The Nebraska Library Commission and the Office of the CIO have partnered in submission of a \$25,000 grant proposal to the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to implement five pilot projects. Rural public libraries and public school districts would collaborate to provide internet to the public library via microwave transport. Relays between schools and libraries could use the grain elevator or tower. The Internet will be an augmentation to the existing Internet Service Provider. The Office of the CIO will know in April if the grant is funded. The pilot study would run through fall of 2018. Then for the 2019 E-

rate cycle, each school district and public library can form a consortium and cooperatively apply for E-rate. Network Nebraska Internet would be shared from the school to the library and the circuit between the two would be competitively bid. Mr. Rolfes encouraged smaller communities of 25,000 and less population to apply for the pilot project.

NETWORK NEBRASKA AND DIGITAL EDUCATION ACTION ITEMS

2018-2020 Action Items

Network Nebraska, Gary Needham. The Network Nebraska task group has not met since the last Education Council meeting. They will be working on developing marketing materials for targeting specific populations – administrators, teachers, higher education, K12, etc. The Task Group has not had an opportunity discuss security and cloud technologies. The NITC approved the Council's action items in November. At the March 8 meeting, the NITC will approve any updates to the plans.

Digital Education. The Task Group will meet to determine measureables for the March NITC meeting. Bret Blackman volunteered to serve on the task group. Mr. Brown commented that Network Nebraska helped reduce costs by \$400/month for his school.

OTHER BUSINESS AND REPORTS

EDUCAUSE. Mr. Dunning reported that he has been working with Susan Graseck from Educause, about possibly doing a survey to address the Digital Education action items. Several survey questions were discussed, including the possibility of engaging graduate students from various colleges/schools of education to facilitate the research. The Midwest Higher Education Consortium (MHEC) is also interested in this information. MHEC is considering holding a meeting in Colorado with Educause to further discuss the survey. Other members will be invited once the meeting has been scheduled.

Nebraska Broadband Today! Conference, 10/26/2017. Since the federal government funded broadband mapping to states, this conference has been an annual event. This last conference was smaller than in the past. There were lots of vendors present. The conference planners are discussing future conferences that would perhaps be more community focused. The planning committee will wait to see what happens with LB 994.

Nebraska State Telehealth Network Update. An updated was provided earlier in the meeting.

Subsector Updates.

State college systems are focusing on security. Security audits are being conducted to enhance security profiles. College I.T. staff are learning that processes must be documented. More collaboration is needed among higher education entities. MHEC is organizing a security work group. A regional security audit contract will be discussed.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE APRIL 2018 MEETING

The following agenda items were suggested for the next Education Council meeting.

- Broadband Task Force
- Security Audits - UNL offered a speaker
 - Include a public document share for members as well, use NN list serve
- Future Ready Nebraska Initiative
- MHEC Security Group Update

CONSIDER LOCATION(S) FOR THE 2018 APRIL MEETING

Ms. Niemec will check on Varner Hall for the next meeting location. The April 18 date will need to be rescheduled to April 25 to avoid the NETA conference in Omaha. Mr. Rolfes will remind the Council members to adjust their work calendars.

The Digital Education task group will meet after the meeting adjourns.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dunning moved to adjourn. Mr. Hotovy seconded. All were in favor, 10-0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

The meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Tom Rolfes, Office of the CIO/NITC.