

Community Council
of the
Nebraska Information Technology Commission
March 26, 2012, 1:30-3:30
Lincoln--Executive Building, 521 South 14th Street, Suite 103
North Platte—ESU 16, Distance Learning Room, 1221 West 17th Street
Omaha—1313 Farnam on the Mall, 2nd Floor, Conference Room 207
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Anderson, City of Central City
Rod Armstrong, AIM Institute
Joan Modrell, Department of Labor
Tim O'Brien, Department of Economic Development
Jerry Vap, Nebraska Public Service Commission

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Linda Fettig, Rural Development Commission; Norene Fitzgerald; Darla Heggem, Twin Cities Economic Development; and John Jordison, Great Plains Communications

ROLL CALL, NOTICE OF POSTING OF AGENDA, NOTICE OF NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT POSTING

In the absence of the chair, Anne Byers conducted the meeting. There were four members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business. The meeting notice and agenda were posted on the Public Meeting and NITC websites on March 3, 2011.

Phil Green, Assistant City Administrator for Blair, has been nominated by Chris Anderson to serve on the Community Council representing Municipalities. Mr. Green introduced himself and provided a brief biography. Mr. Anderson has also nominated Brett Baker, City Administrator for Seward. He will be attending the meeting as well.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 18, 2011 MINUTES* - This was tabled until a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

[LIBRARY BROADBAND BUILDS NEBRASKA COMMUNITIES](#), JoAnn McManus, Nebraska Library Commission

The U.S. Department of Commerce awarded the Nebraska Library Commission a \$2,416,403 grant to fund Nebraska's public computer center project, Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities. The three-year project, which runs from August 1, 2010 to July 31, 2013, is designed to expand broadband capacity; upgrade public computing resources in libraries; and advance access to employment, learning, health information and e-government services. In addition to the federal grant, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is providing \$1,251,786 in matching funds, including a grant and technical assistance to support the project. The total project budget is \$3,668,189.

The Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities project also proposes to:

- Upgrade broadband access at 45 public computer centers, deploy more than 600 new workstations and upgrade another 475 at the 147 public library locations, to deliver rich Internet content and provide computer literacy training.
- Enable access for as many as 13,300 weekly users at libraries and increase the average Internet speeds available at public computer centers.
- Train as many as 42,700 residents with instructor-led training.

Project partners include the Center for Rural Affairs, the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, Central Community College, the Nebraska Court Administrator's Office, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine: MidContinental Region, the Nebraska Community Foundation, the Nebraska Department of Labor, the University of Nebraska Extension, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center-McGoogan Library of Medicine.

Ms. Modrell arrived to the meeting

APPROVAL OF MARCH 18, 2011 MINUTES

Ms. Modrell moved to approve the [March 18, 2011 minutes](#) as presented. Mr. Vap seconded. Roll call vote: Anderson-Yes, Armstrong-Yes, Modrell-Yes, O'Brien-Yes, and Vap-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.

[GIS UPDATE](#), Nathan Watermeier, NITC

The goal of the strategic planning process is to better understand the GIS/Geospatial stakeholder community and to develop a geospatial business plan for Nebraska that properly reflects the stakeholder priorities. Resources to support the planning process were made possible through a cooperative grant effort called the Fifty States Initiative implemented between the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC). The Office of the CIO was awarded a grant. An RFP for an outside third party vendor was released and it was awarded to Applied Geographics, Inc. Six stakeholder regional workshops were conducted in Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, Norfolk, Gering and North Platte. Since the completion of the workshops, Mr. Watermeier has been back out in the communities and counties. Much of what needs to be done regarding GIS for the state must involve county government. In addition to meeting with community stakeholders, Mr. Watermeier has been meeting with key agency directors. There is a need to for all entities, state, local and county to coordinate GIS efforts. Planning will continue for the next several months and will end with a business plan for geospatial data for the state. Mr. Watermeier will forward links of presentations given at a national GIS Symposium he recently attended and welcomed any feedback from the Community Council regarding GIS strategic planning.

MEMBERSHIP

Brett Baker, Seward City Administrator, was in Lancaster County Administrator, was introduced. He has been nominated by Chris Anderson to serve on the council representing municipalities.

Mr. Vap moved to approve the nominations of Phil Green and Brett Baker as new Community Council members and to forward the nominations to the NITC for final approval. Mr. Anderson seconded. Roll call vote: Anderson-Yes, Armstrong-Yes, Modrell-Yes, O'Brien-Yes, and Vap-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.

Ms. Byers will be talking to Library Commission about nominations. Members were asked to give Ms. Byers any other recommendations for new members.

[BROADBAND MAP UPDATE](#), Gene Hand, Public Service Commission
Nebraska Broadband Map—broadbandmap.nebraska.gov and National Broadband Map—broadbandmap.gov

Mr. Hand provided historical background on the Broadband Map for the guests and newly nominated council members. The project is in its third year. Data is collected twice a year – in April and in the fall. The current deadline to have data submitted is April 12th. It is anticipated that NebraskaMAP data will be updated by April 12th as well. A service provider portal has recently been created. The portal is available 24/7 so that providers can view their data. So far 48 of the service providers have received training and 42 have actually accessed the portal. Tools for public interaction are under development for next go round. There are still service providers that refuse to participate in project and do not provide their data. The Federal government is considering using the broadband map data from states to distribute USF.

[BROADBAND PLANNING UPDATE](#)—broadband.nebraska.gov
Charlotte Narjes, Center for Applied Rural Innovation, University of Nebraska

The NITC Community Council is the advisory group for Nebraska's Broadband Planning efforts. After the regional groups complete their work, a statewide plan will be developed. The Community Council will need to provide input and give final approval. The next meeting is April 10th for the Broadband Planning Committee. Ms. Narjes provided an update focused around the three project areas – Capacity Building, Technical Assistance and Regional Planning.

Capacity Building will benchmark technology use across relevant community sectors; set goals for improved technology use within each sector; and develop a plan for achieving its goals, with specific recommendation or web-based application development and demand creation. Projects include:

- Internet Connectivity and Use in Nebraska: Household Survey
- Business Survey
- Inventory of Broadband and Digital Literacy Programs
- Focused Surveys
- Government and Economic Developer Survey
- Creating Broadband Plan/Administrative

Technical Assistance will provide technical assistance on supporting entrepreneurs through technology, and other topics to local governments, chambers of commerce and economic developers especially in areas of lower than average broadband subscribership. Projects include:

- State Conference
- Regional Workshops
- Webinars
- Best Practice Videos
- Entrepreneur Acceleration System (EAS)
- Technical Assistance Expertise
- Broadband Portal Development

Local and Regional Planning Teams program will augment regional planning approaches identified in the initial grant application with community planning, business and entrepreneurial discussion, government discussions, and agriculture discussions. Projects include:

- Regional Planning Teams
- Community Planning – North and South Omaha
- Community Planning – Cultural and Un-served Communities
- Focus Groups
- Community Sector Discussions

There will be a Broadband Connecting Nebraska Conference on October 2, 2012 in Lincoln. Vint Cerf, Google Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist, will be keynote speaker. Mr. Armstrong also distributed information about the Infotec Conference, April 17-18, at the CenturyLink Center in Omaha sponsored by the AIM Institute.

HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE UPDATE, Anne Byers, Community I.T. Manager

In March 2010, the State received funding to implement statewide health information exchange in Nebraska. As of today, the Nebraska Health Information Initiative (NeHII) has 17 hospitals connected. NeHII is also working with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to implement a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). Nebraska has the lowest rate of narcotics death in the nation. The grant is in its second year.

ADJOURN

With no further business, Ms. Byers adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

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