

ILLINOIS CENTURY NETWORK

February 25, 2008 POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Submitted for: Action

Summary: Distribution of the February 25, 2008 minutes for review by the Policy Committee.

Action Requested: Adoption of the February 25, 2008 minutes.

Recommended Motion: The ICN Policy Committee adopts the February 25, 2008 minutes with any edits as noted.

ILLINOIS CENTURY NETWORK

February 25, 2008 POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Greg Wass called the meeting to order:

Members present:

Greg Wass, Office of the Governor	Mike Dickson, Western Illinois University;
Amy Edwards, Board of Higher Education;	Anne Craig, Illinois State Library;
Scott Norton, IL State Board of Education;	Bonnie Styles, IL State Museums;
Todd Jorns, IL Community College Board;	Carolyn Brown Hodge, Office of the Lt. Governor

Springfield staff and guests:

Lori Sorenson, Central Management Services;	Stacey Mattera, Central Management Services;
Tom Oseland, Central Management Services;	Ted Hasara, Central Management Services;
Cindi Hitchcock, Central Management Services;	Robin Woodsome, Central Management Services
Ryan Croke, Office of the Lt. Governor;	Kathleen Bloomberg, Illinois State Library

Chicago staff and guests:

Jim Flanagan, AET Chairman;	Holly Copeland, Office of the Lt. Governor
-----------------------------	--

Announcements and Remarks

Greg Wass called the meeting to order, and thanked everyone for attending.

Minutes

Greg introduced the first item on the agenda, the approval of the minutes from the November 19, 2007 meeting. Greg asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mike Dickson motioned that the minutes be approved. Bonnie Styles seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Advanced Engineering Taskforce Report

Greg introduced Jim Flanagan, Chair of the Advanced Engineering Taskforce (AET), to present the AET Report. Jim stated that the report highlights accomplishments as well as new issues and recommendations. The first and probably biggest accomplishment recently has been the completion of the Next Century Network strategic planning effort. The Next Century Network report was completed and distributed to the General Assembly, constituents, and other stakeholders and is available on the website. The report lays out many suggestions and identifies issues that we're dealing with and will probably continue to deal with over the next couple of years. The next accomplishment has been to identify ways to improve the basic financial division of the state network, both through better ways to achieve cost recovery from participants in the network, and better ways to achieve efficiencies and savings across the network. CMS/AET efforts have enhanced network security through the establishment of a statewide contract on antivirus and work continues on anti-spam. The Cisco Master Contract continues to provide beneficial cost savings to constituents as does the filtering services. The AET and ICN have implemented several pilot projects for collocation and other means to improve services and improve bandwidth availability, while not driving up the cost for the state network. Building a best practices website continues to be a goal; however, much of the time this past year has been focused on some of the other higher priorities.

Jim mentioned that there is much attention and interest on the backbone fiber migration and emphasized the need for governmental agencies and other ICN constituents to collaborate as opposed to pursue separate efforts.

Advanced Engineering Taskforce Membership

Greg asked the committee to confirm Lucas Kirkbride to the Advanced Engineering Taskforce as a replacement for Todd Cooper. Bonnie Styles motioned to approve this confirmation. Carolyn Brown Hodge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E-Rate Update

Tom Oseland presented the E-Rate update. To date all funding from the year 8 and 9 applications has been received. A little under \$26,000 was received in fiscal year 2007 and just under \$3.4 million for fiscal year 2008. We will not see any more funding in fiscal year 2008 as current applications are still in review. USAC review of the year 10 application was completed some time ago; however, if an individual school or library's application is held up for review then a consortia application

which includes that school or library is also held. There is one individual school application that is held up in review. Once that process is complete, approximately \$1.1 million in funding for the ICN application will be approved. The year 11 application was submitted in January and covers eligible expenses for the coming fiscal year.

Tom announced that on December 12th, the FCC issued an order that granted the ICN's appeal of the year 7 application, along with 12 other similar appeals that were on file. As a result, the funding year 7 application is now in review and we should expect funding approval shortly. The approved amount will be significantly less than what was included in the original application as actual spending for that fiscal year was less than anticipated. Tom estimates the funding approval to be around \$2.5 million.

Lori asked if there was an increase in the number of schools and libraries turning in their E-Rate paperwork as a result of the recent cost recovery changes which includes additional bandwidth for those constituents who complete the paperwork needed to be included in the ICN application. Tom answered yes, it did. In fact the ICN's eligible reimbursement amount increased from \$1.1 to \$1.6 million.

Primary Constituent Status

Greg introduced the next item as a request from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to consider treating community action agencies as primary constituents eligible for subsidized bandwidth. Greg asked for a discussion on what it means to be a primary constituent, how that was established, and then collect feedback as to whether or not that status should be considered for the Community Action Network.

Lori provided a brief history of cost recovery which was introduced in fiscal year 2003 when bandwidth needs began to exceed what could be provided using the state general revenue funds. Cost recovery provides a baseline level of bandwidth for primary constituents (K12, higher education, libraries, and museums). Primary constituents may purchase additional bandwidth at ICN cost. Non primary constituents do not receive a baseline bandwidth. They purchase bandwidth at ICN cost as well.

Holly Copeland from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor's Office provided more information on the specific request for the community action agencies. The Community Action Network is part of the national network of nonprofit organizations that was created back in 1964. There are 36 community action agencies in Illinois that provide services in all 102 counties. Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) has recently embarked on providing a \$1 million grant to the Community Action Network to develop a Web-based integrated reporting system and they're partnering with the Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) to help to develop a similar tool that's specific to the LIHEAP Program which is the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. These communication action agencies are located in very remote locations with limited broadband access. These agencies need broadband services to successfully operate these programs. Holly requested that the Policy Committee consider allowing these sites to receive the same bandwidth benefits as primary constituents.

Mike Dickson commented that while he likes the idea of touching all 102 counties, he's concerned about the financial impact of providing bandwidth for the 36 community action agencies considering that hospitals and other organizations have asked for similar consideration.

Greg stated that he wanted to look at this problem creatively and that we need to consider connectivity options outside of the ICN.

Jim Flanagan asked if the community action agencies would qualify for reimbursement from the E-Rate program. Lori did not think they meet the program requirements.

Ryan Croke asked if state agencies are consider primary constituents. Lori responded they are not. State agencies pay for bandwidth at ICN cost.

Greg and Jim both commented that the greatest portion of the cost for connecting to the ICN is not the cost of bandwidth but the cost for the last mile connection. If the sites did receive free bandwidth could they afford the cost of the access circuit?

Policy Committee members requested that the ICN staff work with Holly and the community action agencies to look at connectivity options for each specific site.

Network Update

Lori provided an update on the backbone network migration from leased lines to state owned fiber. CMS is targeting to have the Collinsville to Springfield to Peoria to Chicago link operational by the end of fiscal year 2009 and the Chicago to Champaign to Springfield link operational by the end of fiscal year 2010. CMS is working with the Department of Transportation to connect the fiber into ICN network POP sites.

Constituent Highlight

Robin Woodsome provided a presentation highlighting some of the online content that is taking place over the ICN. The presentation included programs created by the Brookfield Zoo, Area III and IV Learning Technology Centers, Prairie Area Library System, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, ISCorp/Skyward, and United Streaming.

Greg Wass asked for a motion to adjourn. Mike Dickson motioned to adjourn. Amy Edwards seconded the motion. Motion carried.