

ILLINOIS CENTURY NETWORK

November 17, 2008 POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Submitted for:	Action
Summary:	Distribution of the November 17, 2008 minutes for review by the Policy Committee.
Action Requested:	Adoption of the November 17, 2008 minutes.
Recommended Motion:	The ICN Policy Committee adopts the November 17, 2008 minutes with any edits as noted.

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November 17, 2008 POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Greg Wass called the meeting to order.

Members present:

Greg Wass, Office of the Governor;
Scott Norton, IL State Board of Education;
Chet Olson, Mayor of Rochelle;
Todd Jorns, IL Community College Board;
Amy Edwards, IL Board of Higher Education;

Mike Dickson, Western Illinois University;
Beth Shea, IL State Museums;
Anne Craig, IL State Library;
Jay Carlson, Charter Communications;

Springfield staff and guests:

Lori Sorenson, Central Management Services;
Tom Oseland, Central Management Services;
Melissa Camille, Central Management Services;
Kathleen Bloomberg, Illinois State Library;
Ryan Croke, Office of the Lt. Governor;
Vicki DeWitt, ISBE LTC

Stacey Mattera, Central Management Services;
Kirk Mulvany, Central Management Services;
Carla Paoni, AT & T;
Jeff Thompson, Central Management Services;
Robin Woodsome, Central Management Services

Announcements and Remarks

Greg welcomed everyone for coming. Lori reminded everyone to complete and turn in their time sheets.

Minutes

Greg introduced the first item on the agenda, the approval of the minutes from the September 22, 2008 meeting. Greg asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Carolyn Brown-Hodge motioned that the minutes be approved. Chet Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

World War II Digital Archives Project

Vicki DeWitt, Director for the Illinois State Board of Education Learning Technology Center Area 5. Vicki shared that she is responsible for serving K-12 schools in 16 counties southern Illinois. The Illinois World War II Memorial Board, the Area 5 Learning Technology Center, and their partners have created a statewide digital project -- the Illinois WWII Memorial Board Classroom Project. The two main goals of the Illinois Classroom Project are: 1) to provide students the opportunity, training and equipment to do personal interviews and captured World War II Veterans' experiences organized around an inquiry-based, digital-story telling learning experience and 2) to provide students with authentic connections which foster a deeper understanding and knowledge of the overall purpose and sacrifices made by Illinois WWII survivors, their families and their communities.

Funding from the Illinois World War II Memorial Board purchased the video and computer equipment for 17 participating schools. Each school/team is tasked with completing a minimum

of 10 stories to post to the web (www.iltc.k12.il.us). The web server is located at an ICN POP site to ensure adequate bandwidth and accessibility.

Statewide Security Form

Jeff Thompson from CMS provided a presentation on the capabilities and practices of the CMS security and compliance team. Jeff explained that the team tests server vulnerability, investigated cyber attacks on state assets, and scans .gov, .edu, and .us website looking for compromised websites. Jeff explained that the federal government has created a cyber security portal for states to communicate and collaborate. This portal could be used to connect educational and government IT security professionals. Jeff also discussed possibilities for organizing a training and information sharing sessions.

Regional Meeting Summary

Robin Woodsome presented this item on the agenda. The annual ICN Regional Meetings were completed in the Fall. All sessions took place as scheduled and were well attended. Multiple BCCS/ICN personnel participated at each meeting including staff from Agency Relations, Network Services and the RTC offices.

The format was changed this year and focused more on current ICN initiatives and challenges, and included an interactive session during the second half of the program. The interactive session provided an opportunity for questions directed to ICN staff and to other participants to speak about projects and successes as well as challenges and to do some networking with peers. Participation in the interactive session ranged from ICN staff leading the discussion based on questions from the audience, to participants having lively interaction directly with each other on subjects like use of Blackboard for on line courses, bandwidth management, dealing with security issues, network designs, migration to fiber based Ethernet connections and multiple providers. Questions to ICN staff included questions about bandwidth management tools, our bandwidth costs, the need for a baseline bandwidth increase, ICN coordinating user groups, collocation services, video conferencing, and connectivity options.

In summary, there were few requests for new services which may reflect discussion of the budget cut. There were many questions about and requests for revisions to the cost recovery policy to provide higher baselines and to reduce the current cost for purchasing additional bandwidth. Non-primary constituents expressed the difficulty of remaining on the ICN due to our high bandwidth costs which are higher than other providers.

E-Rate Update

Tom Oseland presented this agenda item. Funding approval was granted for the ICN 2007 E-Rate application on April 8, 2008. On September 23, reimbursement requests totaling \$941,396.13 were submitted to USAC. So far, \$678,178.05 has been collected for this funding year.

The initial review status of the ICN E-Rate 2008 funding year application remains unchanged. As previously reported, due to the expiration of the State's master contract for Network Services on September 15, 2008, this application will be held in review until it can be determined how services provided under this contract will be covered for the remainder of the state's fiscal year and related E-Rate funding year.

Network Update

Kirk Mulvany presented this agenda item which included an update on backbone circuits, fiber implementation and Quality of Service enhancements.

Backbone Circuit Upgrades - ICN has been working on a statewide backbone circuit RFP. The goal of this RFP is to identify opportunities to procure additional backbone bandwidth capacity throughout the State. This RFP has resulted in contract awards with multiple vendors based on the outcome of an evaluation process on a circuit by circuit basis. As master contracts are executed between CMS and the respective vendor, CMS is proceeding with individual circuit orders to obtain increased network bandwidth.

Fiber Implementation - Kirk shared that the fiber implementation and design methodology is such that the total fiber pairs for each segment of the core network will be divided into three categories of use: ICN production backbone, ICN backbone testing and maintenance, and local access to the network at designated points. This effort will result in benefits including increased network availability and added constituent connectivity options.

Quality of Service (QoS) Enhancement - This version of QoS is such that IP traffic tagged as video or voice is given a priority in the queue if ever in contention for bandwidth with other IP traffic on a given network segment. The benefit with this version of QoS is stability of IP video and voice calls during times of high bandwidth utilization while all other traffic is sent in a “best effort” manner.

The benefit of this enhanced QoS model is that the importance of applications can be determined and defined so that, during a crisis, critical infrastructure traffic is prioritized properly. Any remaining traffic could be queued based upon real-time needs such as video, voice, and high priority. We are presently looking at six different priority categories within this QoS model ranging from “first responder real time” down to “best effort” traffic.

Policy Committee Meeting Schedule

The committee approved the 2009 meeting schedule.