June 4, 2013
Connectivity Committee Meeting
MINUTES

Network Services – Ed Anderson (SCS)

Data Storage Project

From a network standpoint, we've had some difficulty getting quotes in a timely fashion for the cabling associated with the project. We now have those quotes in hand and will be generating and submitting requisitions for the cabling as soon as possible. We've asked for expedited treatment in receiving the items. However, we do have enough cabling and supplies on hand to get all existing ports up and connected without having the new supplies. In that scenario, not all ports on all devices associated with the project will be wired up, only the ports that are in use now.

Pam Burns from Systems Support added that they have purchased a disc from ViON, which is a Hitachi disk, as well as EMC Backup Solution from Kovarous, which is also disk, but will act like a tape system. The Hitachi disk, is being shipped this week. There isn't an ETA on when the Backup Solution will be shipped and delivered, but the plan is to install or begin the install of the disk this week. More should be heard from Kovarous this week on when they expect the shipment to get here. The plan for the Backup Solution is to be doing configurations the last week in June. Disk migrations and tape migrations will still have to be done through July, August, and September.

LV SA Office Move

There has been a little hiccup in the LV SA Office Move process due to the retirement of Hank Stone, who had been the point person on this project. To my knowledge, a replacement hasn't been designated yet. (*Note: Subsequent to the Connectivity it was learned that Renee Yakira will be representing the NSHE System Office on this project.*)

Three separate network related projects are currently being undertaken. One is the fiber bore across Maryland Parkway over to the new facility from the UNLV campus. The second is a backup radio shot from the UNLV campus to the new building facility. And then there was the associated AV work that had to be done in the new building for video conferencing. The facility is going to have a fairly large room that will serve as a special BoR meeting room.

SCS has not heard much from the other members since Hank Stone left. We believe we are doing what we need to do to get this done. The original installation date around mid-October to mid-November is probably not going to be met. We will keep you posted.

I-80 NDOT/ITS Project

SCS Network Services participated as part of a statewide team composed of SCS, NDOT, and EITS in a project along I80 to build communication huts and relocate all of the I-80 optical equipment out of the closets and schools where they exist today and into hardened

communication facilities. The scope of work will include building huts with power and microwave towers that are capable of being used by NDOT to light and populate real-time traffic signs like amber alerts or real time weather information.

The whole project had initially been delayed while getting funding from NDOT, who is the primary participant. The funding finally came through, and they put out an RFP for the facilities. There ended up being only one viable vendor. The interested parties went out into the field and looked at each site individually it and made sure that everyone understood what was required.

Unfortunately, NDOT did not involve the environmental people early enough in the process, so this has put about a 9 month delay in the actual implementation of these small hut sites. NDOT has funding, drawings, everything they need to go, but there are still some environmental hurdles that have to be cleared before the project can begin construction.

Project Queue – Tom Nieva (SCS)
For the month of May, Network Services started off carrying 47 projects, received 7 new requests, and completed 5 requests from the queue. We're sitting with a balance of 49 projects. For the calendar year, we've had 33 requests, 39 completions, and 3 cancellations, and we have around 15 on hold right now for various reasons.

Systems Support Services – Pam Burns & Jim McKinney (SCS)

We're still working on doing TL8. I was hoping to report we were done this month with the Technology Level upgrade for the AIX systems. We're down to about 5 boxes, so we're making progress.

We're getting a DR system to augment the hardware in Las Vegas, so that if we had a full-on, peak load disaster, we could recover the iNtegrate, UNR, and Shared systems in Las Vegas. That capacity already exists for the Las Vegas systems to be moved to Reno if need be, i.e. the ability to handle a peak load.

Once we have the new disk in, and it is fully configured, we will have the ability (which we haven't had in the iNtegrate area) to copy production to test and DEV. Right now, what everybody is currently doing, is taking a backup of their production databases, FTPing it someplace else and then bringing it up, which takes anywhere from 6 to 10 hours. We should be able to do that at a disk level using snap technology and bring the time down to a half hour or 45 minutes. We are getting a white paper on this from Hitachi, and we will forward that to the DVAs at each of the iNtegrate groups. We had that capability in the Legacy, but we didn't have it when we purchased the iNtegrate.

The other feature that we added for both the disk and the data domains was encryption at rest. At this point, once we're installed and on the new disk, and all the backups, everything will be encrypted. Anything that's residing on this disk, which is everything

we house, will be encrypted. The only piece that is not encrypted are the snapshots or the replication between North and South, but that runs on a private VPN.

Data Center Operations – Rich Ayala (SCS)

Rich Ayala was not available today to give an update.

Enterprise Licensing and Contracting – Chris Gaub (SCS)

Chris Gaub was not available today to give an update.

Client Services – Brian Anzalone (SCS)

This is the season for procuring and deploying new equipment for a lot of our internal customers. A few noteworthy examples: Nevada Industry Excellence purchased some laptops; so we've been rolling those out, North and South – imaging and putting special software on those. System Administration North had some multi-function printers installed – Canons, one a big 8295, requiring drivers being installed on everyone's workstation and installing additional software for those people doing sophisticated print jobs. The 8295 serves about 50 people up in that office – scanning, emailing, faxing, printing, copying, etc.

We are preparing and submitting quotes for our own replacement equipment for some of our older machines at SCS, some of which have XP. We are preparing for those to be moved to Windows 7 and to replace that equipment.

System Security – Paul Mudgett (SCS)

The Grant Thornton auditors have almost finished all their field work in Reno. They sent out a new request toward the end of last month, saying they needed to come back and take a look at some additional IT controls within PeopleSoft. They haven't elaborated on what they're looking for yet. Grant Thornton has been looking at PeopleSoft, financial aid, for UNR, UNLV, and CSN. This is the annual financial audit that is done, examining the IT controls surrounding financial aid and such. As soon as I hear back from them, I will be sending out information to the appropriate contacts at each of the campuses. Their work has to be completed this month. They have been a little more critical this year than in the past.

The method that was put in place originally for PeopleSoft security allowed some over-provisioning of accounts and roles. Chris Piekarz is leading the effort to rewrite or rebuild the model for PeopleSoft security. The main goal is to reduce the over-provisioning – giving more permissions or rights than are necessary for the different

accounts or roles that are out there. The goal is to have it done by the end of the calendar year.

Cedar Crestone, when they did the implementation, based it loosely on ASU, and then added on to it as needed. Shared Instance and UNLV are pretty much the same as their implementation by Cedar Crestone. UNR took a different route, which is probably where we will end up close to being when all is said and done. Existing security will be left in place and new rules will be created and then slowly migrated over by job function.

New Technologies – All

None offered.

Operational Issues/Events – All

UNR Outage on June 1
UNR had a large scheduled power outage on June 1 which lasted for 12 hours and 49 minutes.

Other

Funding Opportunities – Ed Anderson (SCS)
Shortly before this meeting, I sent out an email outlining the details for a new grant sponsored by the USDA Rural Utilities Program for distance learning and telemedicine programs in rural areas. This is a three year grant for IT equipment, audio visual equipment, computer hardware and software, computer network components, terminal equipment – basically anything that is network related that will support distance learning and telemedicine programs in rural areas. The grant will pick up the cost of equipment and maintenance for the full three years of the program.

There is a 15% match requirement for the grant. The NOFA (Notice of Funds Available) when it is issued will cover how much you can ask for, and when the deadlines are for filing. State and local units of government along with tribal nations and other people are all eligible for these funds.