

Connectivity Meeting

Minutes

April 7, 2015

1. **Network Services Update** – Ed Anderson

a. Reno-Tonopah 20 Mbps capacity upgrade (WESTNET)

This project is complete and functioning successfully.

b. Pershing County School District Capacity upgrade NDOT ITS Project

Aside from a few details for which NDOT is responsible, this project is complete.

c. NHA Lovelock OA/Fiber Connection

The project is in progress. SCS has a draft copy of the site agreement project and is waiting to hear from NHA to move forward.

d. 100 Gbps Backbone Upgrade (Ed Anderson)

i. SCS Phase 1

1. CENIC – for the past ten years, SCS has received internet connection for commodity and research from CENIC. This connection will be disconnected and linked directly to Internet 2.
2. Cox Fiber Swing – SCS has an agreement with Cox that will allow the swinging of one end of the fiber connection currently terminating at the ViaWest Carson St. location and reterminating it at the Level(3) Arrowjet facility which will provide NSHE with more flexibility and redundancy. The projection of completion is expected between 6/1 and 6/15.
3. Switch Commodity Internet – New connections will also be providing a different connection from the South. There will be a new North-South 10GB connection, which will replace the two already in place. The reduced price per Mb is \$1.98.
4. I2 Contract – A new contract for Internet2 service has been negotiated and put in place. This agreement will provide Northern and a Southern 100 GB I2 nodes provided by I2. The target date for the I2 connection completion is June 15
5. Equipment Status – All of the necessary equipment has been delivered or is on order.

ii. Phase 2

1. NSF Grant – SCS was working with the research institutions on a grant application, assisting with a plan, which would fold into the master backbone effort. However, there was not sufficient time to meet the required application deadline and the effort was postponed. It would be our hope that NSHE can try again next year for this portion of this multi-year grant opportunity.

e. *Project Queue – March 2015 (Tom Nieva)*

NEW 8, COMPLETED 12, CANCELED/DELETED 1,
IN QUEUE 52, ON HOLD 10

2. **iNtegrate 2 Update – (Jim McKinney-Absent)**

No update at this time.

3. **Systems Support Services – (Pam Burns-Absent)**

No update at this time.

4. **Data Center Operations – (Rich Ayala-Absent)**

No update at this time.

5. **Client Services – (Brian Anzalone-Absent)**

- a. Client services is actively working with new iNtegrate 2 staff making certain that they are properly supplied with the necessary accounts and equipment in their new offices.
- b. Classrooms are filling with new training for Work Day.
- c. A new Regent for District Nine in Carson City has been named: Robert Davidson.
- d. There are a few difficulties with the KACE database, which Client services is working diligently to overcome. The 6.3 version is pending and will be installed very soon.

6. **Enterprise Licensing and Contracts – (Chris Gaub)**

- a. The EES renewal for the 2014-2015 calendar year is complete. This is the last year of the three year agreement with Microsoft and SHI. It will go out to bid to find a new reseller for the next contract.
- b. The Software Licensing Council is working with intuitions on an Adobe ETLA with interested institutions, which is an FTE based agreement.

7. **System Security – (Paul Mudgett-Absent)**

No update at this time.

8. **Video Conferencing Service/Network – (Dani Chandler)**

- a. Last year there were video bridges converted to new software in Las Vegas to provide improved functionality. Video Conferencing Service is currently working

to convert Reno over to the same technology. There are about 10 sites pending completion. The delay is due to equipment incapability due to the extreme age of the equipment. Video conferencing is working with the sites to upgrade the bridge equipment. Once the northern and southern bridges are upgraded, transcoding will allow higher connection speeds of 768 or higher. At this time, we are at 384. The higher speeds will display better content and be clearer overall.

- b. Blue Jeans Project Status-Since the end of March, account administrators and team lead have been given credentials to use Blue Jeans and have been shown how to train users. Campuses have begun testing and using the product.

9. New Technologies – All

- a. As is the case with hardware and software from even the largest commercial vendors, at some point support for legacy equipment and software must end in order to meet minimum standards of compatibility and functionality. Within the next six months to a year, NSHE institutions may notice that the video equipment they currently have for video conferencing is not working properly.
- b. The problem is that SCS does not own the end user customer infrastructure and new equipment must be purchased by the end user institutions in order to maintain or move forward with greater video features and functionality. To date, there are fortunately only a relatively few video units that have experienced incompatibility issues and SCS has developed some temporary work arounds to handle existing problems, but this situation cannot continue; NSHE/SCS must go forward continuing to stride for the best reliable and feature rich video conferencing system that we can possibly provide with the resources we have.
- c. Over the next 6 to 12 months SCS will identify the oldest video units on the system and provide those units with known incompatibilities. We will work with the end user community to identify video codec units that have known compatibility issues. SCS will also provide specifications for reasonable replacement units. SCS is doing this to give end users/equipment owners the time it takes to budget for and replace units at affected locations. Once these older units are located and replaced, SCS will move forward to implement newer and more effective functionality at the system level. As the current, technology matures, SCS will continue to require a minimum level of maintenance and performance until a stated end of life is reached.

(Ed Anderson)

10. Operational Issues/Events

- a. UNR is in the process of replacing 1/3 of its outdated equipment. The BG radios will be removed during the next few months and replaced with AC radios.

11. Other