

DOIT
Information and Telecommunications Systems
Executive Steering Committee
Minutes
6/17/09

Attendees:

Steve Casey, Director, DOIT	Michael Riggott, OPM	Leon Rippel, IT Manager, Treasurer
George Claffey, Jr., CIO, Charter Oak College	David Martel, CIO, UConn	George Kahkedjian, CIO, CSU
Ken Spelke, CIO, CCC		
Absent:		
Rick Miarecki, IT Manager, DAS	Jim Shumway, Director IT Division, Comptroller	
Non Members:		
Rick Bailey, Deputy CIO, DOIT	Bernie O'Donnell, Telecommunications Manager, DOIT	John Vittner, Director Of Architecture, DOIT
Joe Dominello, CAO, DOIT	Jacque Shirley, Director, Purchasing, DOIT	

The Committee discussed and approved the December 17, 2008 minutes.

Steve Casey announced that Jim Shumway had called in to report that he had family obligations and could not attend.

Bernie O'Donnell, Telecommunications Manager, DOIT reported on multiple choice contracts. The intent was to offer primary and alternate providers when the network services contract was originally put in place, but this was later overruled. CIO Wallace has asked to return to that model where it makes sense and the wireless contract was identified as ripe for savings. Sprint provided the most advantageous pricing and the contract structure and number of offerings were simplified. DOIT has completed 90% of the conversion process and an annualized statewide savings of \$1.6 million has resulted. AT&T is the alternate provider for any services that Sprint cannot offer. At the outset of this process, Sprint had the majority of the state business and has promised to work to improve coverage in the WAN and for in-building solutions such as the DMV in Wethersfield.

Dave Martel asked what other exceptions to service to which Bernie replied that there was no consideration of other agreements.

George Kahkedjian asked if Bill Aust, CSU Telecommunications Director, could contact Bernie. Bernie welcomed the call.

Bernie stated that the CIO wants all contracts re-competed promptly and often.

Ken Spelke inquired about web services and conferencing. Bernie responded that there was a plan for an RFI for conferencing, audio, video, and teleconferencing. There was a draft structure with a menu and agency review. An RFP would follow that.

Ken continued that this would save countless dollars in inter-city travel for meetings for the colleges. Leveraging a contract like this would be ideal. There are so many vendors.

Bernie stated that a statewide standard would be beneficial. Ken would like volunteer for the effort.

Jacquie Shirley, Director of IT Contracts and Purchasing at DOIT, talked about the DOIT contracts that are available to “All Using State Agencies & Political Subdivisions.” DOIT provides IT contracts for the Executive Branch State Agencies that may also be used by the the 169 political subdivisions of the State as well as municipalities, non-profit organizations and educational entities. Use of DOIT contracts by entities other than Executive Branch State Agencies may be done by 1) contacting the awarded vendor 2) referencing the contract and 3) receiving a quote. If any vendor problems arise DOIT's division of IT Contracts and Purchasing should be notified. There is a “Vendor Performance Report” link that can be accessed from the left hand navigation bar on DOIT's Web Page.

George Kahkedjian asked if she could you add one more line for higher education. Jacquie responded that vendors are usually cooperative with more customers. Schools should ask for extended pricing. DOIT Procurement would work with UConn, Community Colleges and State University.

The issue of CHRO waivers for the non-discrimination law was raised and Jacquie said that they are hard to get. The Attorney General wrote the form for the waiver and OPM issued it. CHRO has approved exceptions on a case by case basis since the legislation was passed.

Rick Bailey, Deputy CIO, DOIT spoke on reviewing all of the product schedules. The CIO sent letter to all vendors for all contracts. DOIT is aiming at a 30% cost savings and is using Gartner Research for consulting services. There might even be a 40% renegotiating opportunity for some but may not be possible for most.

Here are the savings achieved for Cisco:

Under 10K	40%	discount
Over 10K	50%	“
Over 100K	54%	“
Cisco Maintenance	24%	“

Rick also discussed DOIT Architecture Standards. He reported that the deadline was moved to September 30th to update the standards. There are nine domain teams. DOIT was also updating the agencies' hardware and software inventory. DOIT was scaling back the level of effort from the last time and was looking for as much agency support as possible. Most of the application support is in agencies and he was looking for primary lead for this. He continued to say that the domain team leaders are already pulled in many other efforts troubleshooting. The first effort was just establish standard and they may have to scope back due to limited resources going for the high priority targets first.

John Vittner, the Director of Architecture for DOIT said that he was looking to find some common technical solutions across state to provide cost savings. They are adopting the SDM practices including the project wheel and project steering committees (PSC) for direction and governance. After adoption the Architecture Standards will be published on the DOIT web site.

Leon Rippel asked if this program was modeled after other state or state grown?

Rick Bailey answered that Meta Group led DOIT's first Architectural Standards for DOIT in 2000. There was too much administration, governance and enforcement. The state needs strategic planning and to get obsolete versions replaced in a timely manner and to be used to plan the budget process. This is a high priority.

The Information and Telecommunications Systems Executive Steering Committee would meet as a PSC for an informational meeting in the second week in September to review a final draft.

Ken Spelke advised that it would be helpful to use cases.

John Vittner stated that the Retirement Incentive Plan (RIP) and the subsequent reorganization could impact the effort's timeline.

Ken Spelke asked about the latest status for CEN. Steve Casey said that it seemed to survive intact in the budget process so far. He gave an update on the DOIT. The legislature had proposed moving DOIT from a Revolving Fund to the General Fund. DOIT had a counter proposal to move the personnel and fringe to the General Fund but keep the hardware and software in the Revolving Fund.

The next regular meeting is planned for December 2009.