

<b>Network Infrastructure &amp; Services Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes</b>		
Date / Time: 3/10/09 2:00AM – 3:30PM	Location: Conference Room , 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor, DOIT-East Hartford, CT	Meeting Facilitator: Sarah Edson
<b>Present:</b> Sarah Edson-DHE/DOIT, Randel Osborn-East Haven Public Schools, Bryan Adams-Trinity College, Russ Feinmark-CET, Ganesan Ravishanker (Ravi)-Wesleyan University (on phone), Tom Sweda-Bibliomation, Ken Sayers-East Hartford Schools, Tim Hillbie-Community Technical Colleges		
<b>Not in Attendance:</b> John Vittner-DOIT/CEN, Eric Lindquist-DOIT, Jack Babbitt-UConn/CEN, Charlie Estey-CTTHS, Ralph Valenzisi-Norwalk Public Schools, Sylvia Boyd		
<b>AGENDA ITEMS:</b>		
<p>Consideration of previous minutes - Accepted</p> <p>The group began with further review of its initial project list. Discussion then turned to the upcoming hearing regarding the proposed elimination of the Commission for Educational Technology. As stated on its web site, "The Commission is charged with establishing the Connecticut Education Network" and "establishing the CT Digital Library." It is not yet clear how CEN and iCONN would be affected if the Commission were eliminated. Governor Rell's Executive Order 19 mandates that major technology initiatives have a steering committee. Therefore it is likely that if the Commission were to go away, a CEN steering committee would form. However, this group's focus would solely be on CEN operations and not on larger ed-tech goals for the State. Ravi may prepare testimony that would support keeping the CET in place.</p> <p>CEN staff requested additional funds from the General Fund for FY 2010 and 2011 in order to conduct a network refresh. However, CEN did not receive these additional funds. CEN staff will try to seek other funding sources, such as federal grant programs in order to conduct the needed work on the network's hardware.</p> <p>CEN is exploring the feasibility of a model for higher ed institutions on the network to purchase additional bandwidth at night. This test will run through May, at which point CEN and UConn staff will assess the impact on the network, revenue, billing, etc.</p> <p>The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is creating a broadband technology opportunities grant program for which Congress has appropriated \$4.7 billion. The program aims to expand broadband connectivity to underserved areas. There is no definition yet of "unserved" vs. "underserved." The NTIA is still crafting parameters around the grant application process. Sarah is following to better understand how CEN could expand fiber footprint. She is also in communication with NEREN for regional collaboration. Webcast and full transcript are available at <a href="http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants">http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants</a></p> <p>On behalf of CEN, DoIT has submitted a "Shovel Ready Project" to obtain broadband stimulus funds (ARRA) that would expand the CEN leased fiberoptic footprint into the rural portions of the State where services such as these are less than adequate. The Commission cannot be charged with formulating a plan until the grant program is more clearly defined. Sarah will share the plan with committee members.</p> <p>Further review of initial projects was tabled.</p> <p>It was decided that the site relocation policy was reviewed in the previous year, and it wasn't appropriate for revisit based on the current budget.</p> <p>The Commission approved membership of Jack Babbitt and Sylvia Boyd</p>		
<b>Next Meeting Date</b> – September 15, 2009		
<b>Agenda Items</b> - Review of self-funded connection to CEN fiber; ARRA Submission; Program Manager Position; Rate Discussion; Budget, Committee Seats		
Respectfully submitted Randel Osborne 3-11-09		