

**MINUTES  
LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INITIATIVE  
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

January 8, 2008

The Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI) Management Council (MC) met at 2:10 p.m., Tuesday, January 8, 2008, in the Board of Regents Conference Room, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Dr. Les Guice called the meeting to order.

**Council Members Present:**

Les Guice, Chair  
Dr. Steve Landry  
Mr. Bob Fudickar  
Dr. Paul Barron  
Mr. Donald Vandal  
Dr. Michael Stubblefield  
Mr. Rizwan Ahmed  
Dr. Lee Bairnsfather

**Council Members Absent:**

Dr. Brad O'Hara  
Dr. Ed Seidel  
Dr. Laura Levy  
Dr. Jeffery Smith  
Dr. Joel Tohline  
Dr. Michael Ralph  
Mr. Greg Speyrer

**Executive Director:**

Mr. Charlie McMahon

**Guests:**

Adrienne Hodgkins, Kantrow, Spaht  
Dan Katz, LSU  
Brian D. Voss, LSU  
Randy Walker, DOA  
Brett Brock, CISCO

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2007 MINUTES

**On a motion of Dr. Steve Landry, seconded by Mr. Donnie Vandal, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2008, LONI Management Council meeting.**

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 13, 2007 MINUTES

**On a motion of Mr. Rizwan Ahmed, seconded by Mr. Bob Fudickar, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2008, LONI Management Council meeting.**

NLR BRIEFING

Dr. Les Guice began by asking Mr. Brian Voss to give an update on NLR. Mr. Brian Voss informed the Management Council on NLR's intention in sending a request for projected payment of \$1million for future business after the end of our contract in 2009. His recommendation was to do nothing at this time because of the possible growth of Internet 2, the Management Council may want to switch to, due to cost of services. After further discussion, the Management Council decided that since it was not a "Capital Call" that it would be better to not do anything with NLR at this time.

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY ADVISOR REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Steve Landry complemented the updated report that Lonnie Leger had prepared and then turned it over to Mr. Charlie McMahon for explanation. Mr. McMahon explained the difference between Phase 1, the Northern Ring and Phase 2 of the Southern Ring. Still have gaps in connections to the backbone, challenges with AT&T and AUP and figuring out how to solve the problems. Southern Ring is closed in Lafayette and working on a single leg out to Lake Charles. Serious problems are in the Northern loop, two (2) gaps need to addressed, one in Jackson connecting fiber to Monroe and Jackson to Baton Rouge.

Working on closing the loop in Jackson, next place would be Ruston. Cost would be \$300,000.

Mr. McMahon commented on the super computers - Dell computers machines at LSU, Tulane, UL are operational. UNO machine is being brought up with about 80% uses. Dr. Dan Katz gave his report on the HPCOPS - generally going well, taking more time than was

expected; deadlines will have to be extended. Connection between Queen Bee and the core network are of most concern, issues with owner of building about getting into the building.

**A motion from last November 13, 2007 meeting was proposed by Dr. Les Guice, motion by Paul Barron, seconded by Dr. Steve Landry to propose that all Higher Education Institutions including Louisiana Technical Colleges be connected to the LONI Network. On recommendation by Dr. Lee Bairnsfather, an amendment was added to include Higher Education medical facilities. The Member Council voted unanimously to approve the connection between LONI and all State Universities including Technical and Medical Colleges, subject to availability of funding.**

**A motion was proposed by Mr. Charlie McMahon to authorize him to work with the CIO's office to explore efforts for maximizing K-12 involvement in LONI, which may include the use of the LONI backbone and service provider. The Council voted unanimously in favor of authorizing Mr. McMahon to work with CIO's office.**

Mr. Charlie McMahon brought up the project between LONI and the Rural Health Care Pilot project. The proposal between FCC and the rural health care community is a not for profit organization and will connect to 10 Louisiana hospitals for roughly \$5.3 million. LONI would be the backbone for the project.

**Dr. Paul Barron makes a motion to authorize LONI's participation in Rural Health Care Pilot Program, seconded by Dr. Lee Bairnsfather. The Council voted unanimously to participate.**

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#### OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Les Guice would like all council members to think about a 2-day retreat in May. He and several members feel they need more time to discuss things and pool their thoughts on several issues. Dr. Guice will send a memo out at a later date.

## CHIEF RESEARCH ADVISOR/CHIEF SCIENTIST

Dr. Guice asked Mr. McMahon to give the report for Dr. Ed Seidel, Chief Research Advisor/Chief Scientist. Mr. McMahon reported on the NSF Cyber Infrastructure Track 2 grant. The NSF is going to have a site visit on February 1<sup>st</sup> to review the submission MC made for the latest Track 2 round that was made. Mr. McMahon asked Mr. Kevin Hardy if he would talk with people at the NSF site visit and get a quote or two for a story from the meeting.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISOR

Mr. Bob Fudickar commented on the funds involved for the Cyber Space Command Center at Barksdale Air Force Base. Mr. Fudickar also commented on the NASA and the New Orleans connectivity for the program.

## EDUCATION INITIATIVES

No Education Initiative was reported (Mike was disconnected through the audioconference).

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. McMahon had no further report to add.

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## NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was reported.

## PUBLIC EVENTS

Dr. Guice asked for some nice high resolution images of lights, blinking lights and computers from the LONI institutions that can be displayed at the ISB with Queen Bee. Mr. Kevin Hardy reviewed topics over the last couple of months, Cyber Tools, FCC and DHH grant, and received some coverage in the Advocate and the Lafayette newspapers. The ISB tour with joint Regents and BESE meeting was not well attended due to conflicts with schedules.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before LONI Management Council, the meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m..