

Information Technology Policy Committee (Meeting Minutes from April 28, 2005)

ITPAC Members Present – Edward Blum (Providence), Anne Kanter (League of Women Voters), Maribeth Luftglass (FCPS), Thomas Haser, (Chamber of Commerce), William Young (Hunter Mill).

ITPAC Members Not Present –Mike DiConti (Sully), Paul Leslie (Braddock), Jack Littlely (NV Technology Council), Emily McCoy (Lee), Thomas Mukai (Federation of Citizen Associations), Suresh Shenoy (Dranesville), John Skudlarek (Mt. Vernon), Kathryn Walsh (At-Large Chairman), John Yeatman (Springfield), Paul Leslie (Braddock)

Chief Information Officer – Dave Molchany

DIT Staff Present – Wanda Gibson -Director, Cleve Edwards, David Bartee, Steve Brundage, Alexis Prince, Robin Randall, Mike Palacious, Mike Huddleston, Linnea Nichols, Lynn Hadden

Emergency Operations Staff – Doug Bass

1 – ITPAC Committee Matters

Approval of Minutes: Meeting called to order at 8:15 a.m. The meeting began with a review of the meeting minutes from the March 31, 2005 meeting. The minutes were approved.

Membership Matters: There has been no word on the replacement for the vacancy from Northern Virginia Technology Council.

1 – DHS Regional Interoperability

Wanda Gibson, Director of the Department of Information Technology, gave a brief overview for the County's participation in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Regional Interoperability initiatives. Council of Governments (COG) is the coordinating entity for the DHS National Capital Region (NCR) nineteen jurisdictions for UASI DHS grants. COG has a number of sub-committees as emergency support functions (ESFs) for homeland security initiatives. DHS has a Senior Policy Group (SPG) for the NCR which consists of the Governors of Maryland and Virginia, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia. The governors/mayor appoints representatives to conduct the work of the SPG. The SPG works with COG to make decisions about approval for eligible UASI grant opportunities aligned with DHS objects for improving interaction between responding agencies and jurisdictions. Virginia's representative is from the Department of Emergency Management at the state in Richmond. Fairfax County Government County Executive, Tony Griffin, is the chair for Washington Metro COG. Fairfax County officials chair several of the ESF's: Dave Molchany is the chair for CIO's, Doug Bass is the chair for Emergency Managers, Merni Fitzgerald is the chair for the Public Information Officers, and Mike Neuhard is the chair of the Fire Chiefs. Wanda Gibson serves on the COG Interoperability Committee. Lynn Hadden, DIT information architect serves as the information "guru" on the interoperability projects, working on seamless integration for data exchange. Lynn also participates in Homeland Security Department's Presidential Orders for DHS agencies interoperability standards.

The ESF chairs sponsor and manage approved UASI projects. The CIO's are responsible for an interoperability project that establishes an infrastructure for regional communications. The project has five main components: (1) interconnection of NCR jurisdiction's I-Nets; (2) wireless broadband; (3) EOC interconnectivity (application and communications); (4) regional Data Exchange Hub. This includes a task to develop a regional inventory of systems, applications and infrastructure assets in the NCR supporting the various ESF's for communications, application and data integration through various ESF system specific interoperability projects. DC governments Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) is the grantee and administrating agency for this project. Project Management is run from DC OCTO. The CIO's provide guidance, representatives and staff support to

the project. The project funds provide for products and services, however, the time for local staff support is not reimbursable through the grant.

Lynn Hadden gave a brief presentation on the Data Exchange Hub (DEH) project. The purpose of the DEH is to facilitate the use and flow of information used in managing emergency events that affect multiple jurisdictions and/or Federal agencies so that support functions can more effectively collaborate, make critical and timely decisions and deploy resources appropriately. This project provides a standard environment for data exchange between systems using DHS compliant XML standards, Web services registries and Service Oriented Bus Architecture (SOA) technology.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) UASI Project

Doug Bass gave a brief discussion of the EOCs interconnectivity project. WebEOC is the application that many of the jurisdictions in the NCR and VA and MD are implementing to manage emergency events. It becomes the regional standard for deployment, implementation and regional integration of EOC information and decision making through the 'significant event' function in the software. This includes the ability to directly connect EOC offices, and establish virtual field 'offices' for a particular event at the scene as required. During normal operations, jurisdictions use their own areas in the system. Doug Bass is the project executive for the Emergency Managers, with Fairfax County being the sub-grantee to stand-up the WEB EOC environment for the thirteen (13) Northern Virginia jurisdictions. DIT will implement and host the system, as well as work with a multi-jurisdictional technical team to implement interoperability.

Other interoperability efforts DIT is involved with includes the Commonwealth of Virginia Interoperability Committee for state-wide initiatives.

Due to time constraints, the CRM and Call Center Technologies (311 Center) presentation was deferred to the June ITPAC meeting.

Conclusion

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:45 a.m.

Next meeting, June 30, 2005, 8:00 a.m., Room 232, Government Center