

Great Plains Network  
Executive Council Meeting Minutes  
September 15, 2009  
Kansas City, Missouri

Executive Council Members Attending: Denise Stephens, Claude Garelik, James Deaton, Bob Zimmerman, Bill Mitchell, Michael Ruhrdanz

Others Attending: Myron Lowe, Greg Monaco

Claude Garelik called the meeting to order at 11:18 AM.

**Minutes:** James moved and Denise seconded approval of the Minutes from July 2, 2009. The minutes was unanimously approved.

**Executive Director Report:** Greg summarized the ARI proposal that was submitted. Greg will send a copy of the proposal to Myron. He also discussed work with OSG and assistance with Bill Capehart, bench marking and savings for Bill's application.

**Networking Program Update:** Michael discussed the networking program and the need to identify a networking program leader.

- The connection to Internet2 is running at a high rate of utilization.
- There was discussion surrounding questions re the upcoming Internet2 Network Futures plan. A call will be coming up and there was a request to alert Dave Farmer to the call.
- Bill recommended that Michael remain as chair of the Network Advisory Board. This is a decision of the Networking Program Committee.

**Financials:** The summary of finances was not available for the meeting.

**Discretionary Spending Authority:** Michael moved and Bob seconded that the Executive Director and the Director for Research each have \$10,000 per year discretionary spending authority. The motion was approved unanimously.

**State Updates:**

- Nebraska: New CIO, Mark Askren, from California. He was a co-CIO.
- Arkansas: Network build-out is full of surprises. On the verge of bringing up 6 more sites.
- South Dakota: ARI grant request to connect SD to Northern Tier. There may be a question of the nature of the relationship between GPN and Northern Tier coming up. The SD state network is getting more involved in research discussions.
- Missouri: The MORENET telepresence technology (Cisco-based) presentation at the Quilt meeting features technology that users really like to use rather than to

travel to meetings. Dr. Gary Allen will be the incoming GPN Executive Council representative from Missouri.

- Kansas: There are discussions of the future of the KANREN resource due to the explosive growth of KAN-ED.
- Minnesota: Did not submit a BTOP proposal. In the meantime it is important to consider connections to northern Minnesota and to DUSEL. Northern Lights is involved in connecting rural hospitals.
- Oklahoma: OK got all the state agencies together coming up with ideas of what could be done together. The group decided to seek funding for broadband mapping.

Bob Zimmerman thanked Bill for his service on the Executive Council. Claude echoed his sentiments.

**Strategic Plan Implementation Proposal:** Bill introduced a proposed plan for working on networking and cyberinfrastructure for the remainder of the fiscal year, leaving governance to work on over the next fiscal year.

Michael asked for a 1-2 year forecast in the next few months in order to plan for future expenses. Denise mentioned that it would be good to assess the interests of individual members and how those align with GPN plans.

Bill then went on to introduce proposed Network Program Priorities for FY2010. There was discussion to add GPN Network Architecture, Risk Factors/Profile, to the list of issues as well as additional services and sources of funding (e.g., hospitals, libraries).

- The EC agreed to request the Network Program Committee to formulate a plan to address the Network Program Priorities for FY2010, as amended, by March 1, 2010.

Greg introduced the Cyberinfrastructure Priorities for FY2010. Denise suggested that GPN have a list of how GPN works with individual campuses to avoid creating havoc on campuses.

Denise would like to see the GPN Mission clarified. Myron mentioned that Northern Lights is wrestling with the same issues. This is a landscape problem.

Claude asked that we revise the CI Priorities for FY2010.

**State Visits:** Bill explained that the idea is to visit each state by June, 2010, but we need to re-visit on clarity for the CI Priorities.

Bill asked for clarification on the CI Priorities for FY2010 and whether the steering committee approach would work. There was some discussion, but not a consensus.

There was a motion to adjourn by Michael and seconded by James. The motion passed.



## Network Program Committee Meeting

Bill moved and Claude seconded that Michael remain as program chair for the next year. Approved unanimously.

James moved to accept the recommendation of the technical networking committee to purchase spare equipment that can be used in the event of failure. Claude seconded and the motion was approved.