

INK Board Minutes

Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2016

Opening

A meeting of the INK Board was called to order at 10:11 a.m. Tuesday, January 5, 2016 in Rasmussen College, 620 SW Governor Vw, Topeka, KS 66606 by Chuck Knapp, representing Lt. Governor Jeff Colyer, with the following members present:

Eric Rucker, representing Secretary of State Kris Kobach

Matt Billingsley (by phone), representing the Secretary of Department of Revenue

Scott Hill (by phone), representing the Kansas Bar Association

Phil Wittmer, Executive Branch Chief Information Technology Officer, arrived at 10:24 a.m.

Tim Metz, representing the Kansas Bankers Association

Tom Tunnell (new member), representing the Kansas Grain and Feed Association

Members Not Present

Joseph Connor, representing Kansas Association of Counties

Others Present

Jim Hollingsworth and Duncan Friend of INK, Jim Minihan of iMerge Consulting, Phil Elwood of Goodell Stratton Edmonds & Palmer, Shane Meyers, Scott Somerhalder, James Adams and Ashley Gordon of Kansas Information Consortium, LLC, Kathy Sachs and Desiree Taliaferro of Kansas Secretary of State.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Eric Rucker moved to accept consent agenda, seconded by Metz. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of December 1, 2015, INK Board meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

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Action Agenda

1. SPS Migration- Ashley Gordon of Kansas Information Consortium, LLC presented a proposal to the board for approval to migrate the current ACH processing from ECHO. The migration would provide better protection with multiple returns by the same bank account. Very few expected disruptions would occur with the migration. Upon approval by the board, KIC would move forward with migration. The first action item is to give customers notice by sending off cycle communication directly to the customer with the migration date. KIC hoped to give customers at least a month.

Action Taken: Chuck Knapp motioned to approve migration proposal, seconded by Tunnell. Motion Carried.

2. Board Officer Nomination

Action Taken: Matt Billingsley (by phone) motioned to have Secretary of State Chair the Board, seconded by Tunnell. Motion Carried.

3. Emergency Application List Update- Shane Meyers presented the list is for review. Board questioned the application order. Sachs commented on the need to vet the list if this the list the board is going to use for active-active. Minihan was surprised AMBER ALERT is all the way on the bottom of the list. Meyers said KIC could easily bump it up to the top 10.

Action Taken: None.

4. INK 2016 Business Plan & Budget- Hollingsworth provided an overview of the budget plan and noted INK expenses in 2016 shows a decrease from \$547,430 to \$465,230. Knapp proposed to the board to approve a \$10,000 expenditure for the live streaming project of the Governor's State of the State address.

Action Taken: Knapp moved to adjust the budget to reflect an additional \$10,000 for U Stream, Wittmer seconded. Knapp modified the motion for funding and designation of a person on the board to approve funding, Wittmer seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Metz motioned to approve the 2016 budget but noted it may be modified in the future, Knapp seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

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The Board recessed for lunch at 11:40 a.m. Reconvened at 12:25 p.m.

5. Planning Session

The planning session consisted of a number of ongoing exchanges focused on the questions outlined in the agenda, some – but not all - of which are captured here. A question posed as to whether or not NIC was working toward uniformity in their platform internally here in Kansas, and across states. They confirmed that they were trying to narrow it down to .Net and JAVA for application development. They do have variation across states to be responsive to the individual states they are in. Minihan explained the desire that NIC build a platform that could be reused across states, more of a product. Somerhalder (NIC) stated that they are not a product company, but instead a service company. He continued that there was a balance between their desire to move fast and the need to standardize across the states. Their goal is to deliver more and sell more by creating an offering out of the pieces they create as part of work in various states, tweaking the components to come up meeting the needs of other states. Minihan said that this approach is contrary to what a lot of folks are doing in the world. He doesn't want to make an investment and find out later that a solution doesn't accommodate his future needs, just because there was no discussion about this – he is concerned about still being unclear about what the NIC platform/services can do in terms of meeting future needs. Sachs presented that there certainly was a need in multiple NIC states for similar solutions that it appeared NIC could develop as products.

There was also discussion about how to get more new ideas to the table, what Kansas is missing. Knapp noted that the challenge faced is that if you are relying on the Board to represent the needs of state agencies, that is not going to work. There needs to be more direct interaction by KIC with the agencies. In looking back on how things had progressed, Somerhalder said that the year in which the infrastructure moved had been a bad year, but NIC made great strides since then, making great strides with SOS and starting to build a relationship with KDOR. He hoped to continue down that pathway.

Several members noted that the key seemed to be where INK / KIC was spending its time – on the status quo, or on new ideas – Minihan asked where the “thought leadership” was now compared to when the Kansas portal was more of a leader in the past. Knapp brought up the minutes from the March 4, 2014 meeting and recapped a list the board members had created then of Strengths and Weaknesses as part of the last strategic planning session:

Strengths:

- Adequate funding available: Grants
- Diversity of the membership to bring requirement perspectives
- Leverage vendor development teams
- Corporate structure flexibility
- Strong relationship with larger agencies
- Legacy of self-funded model
- Product offerings to customers
- State (state, county, local) enterprise applicability
- Not complacent

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Weaknesses:

- Lack of agency focus across the enterprise
- Lack of agency/public understanding of INK's capabilities
- Perception of INK
- Legislative risk – Sweep of funds
- Citizen awareness of Kansas.gov
- Inadequate planning for new technologies
- Slow to adapt to current industry trends and functionality
- Amount of work for one person

The group discussion addressed grants and how there had not been any in a number of years – Hollingsworth explained the process and the grant cycle and the Board sought a member to serve on the grants committee - Tim Metz offered to represent the Board and the group agreed. The discussion then turned to how to address the weaknesses - Minihan noted that it looked like the agency focus had probably slipped a little. In discussing the others, Knapp emphasized that the Board hired KIC to manage the portal, and part of that is to increase the awareness of agencies about services and capabilities. He noted, however, that it appeared that we can't really leverage our strengths without eliminating the weaknesses. There has been a criticism that INK is not bringing new technology to the table. Adams (KIC) responded that it is primarily a question of resource constraints, using the example of "maintaining the old stadium while trying to build a new stadium" (the old stadium being maintenance on a large set of legacy applications that were built long ago). Phil Wittmer proposed that the Board make resource leveling a goal, to use the PAVS committee work - or have KIC come back with information – to analyze current resource utilization and propose a path that would limit the focus on legacy while dedicating more effort to new initiatives. Perhaps there was some way to pool maintenance work and outsource it in cooperation with other state portals. Knapp agreed, saying that they needed a deadline for KIC/NIC to tell us what they thought could help with this problem – we don't want to keep going over and over the same issue. Shane said that it might take 6 months if it were a PAVS discussion. The Board wanted to see something much sooner and asked KIC/NIC to provide recommendations. Wittmer stated that he would like to see them engage as a group to create a project portfolio, to understand for example, what the vision is and somehow steer the portfolio of work – move things more to a strategy discussion.

Rucker noted the time and suggested that we may need to reserve more time for this subject at future meetings to continue and finalize the discussion.

At 1:30 p.m., Chairman Rucker moved the open meeting of the Information of Network of Kansas be recessed for a closed, executive meeting pursuant to Joint Rule 5 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives and subsection (b)(13) of KSA 2000 Supp. 75-4319, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 190 of 2001 Session Laws of Kansas for the purpose of consultation with counsel for a period of 30 minutes, seconded by Knapp. Motion passed. At 2:05 p.m, Chairman Rucker announced executive session would be extended for an additional 15 minutes.

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At 2:30 p.m. the board came out of executive session. Chairman Rucker announced no binding action had been taken.

6. INK Board Executive Director Position.

Action Taken: Knapp moved to eliminate the Executive Director position, Billingsley seconded. Chairman Rucker requested a roll call vote: Billingsley- Yes, Hill-No, Wittmer-No, Tunnell-Yes, Metz-No, Knapp-Yes, Rucker-Yes. Motion failed due to lack of an affirmative vote of five members for an executive action.

Agenda for Next Meeting

Agenda for the next meeting wasn't discussed.

Adjournment

Metz moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Tunnell. Meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m. Next INK board meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. on February 2, 2016, at 700 SW Harrison Topeka, Kansas, 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Minutes submitted by: Desiree Taliaferro