Meeting Minutes  
Friday, October 30, 2015

I. Welcome and Introductions  
The October 30, 2015 meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council was called to order by Gwen Nagel, the ETC Chair at 8:37 A.M. This meeting was held at the Iowa Department of Education, various ICN sites, as well as conference call-in. The following members were present at the meeting: Kenneth Colwell, IAICU; Galen Howsare, IASB; Ellen Kabat-Lensch, IACCT; Tom Kruse, IAICU; Erin McConnell, ISEA; Sally Lindgren, AEA Boards; Gwen Nagel, DE; Lane Plugge, AEA Boards; Randy Richardson, ISEA; Terry Rinehart, IPTV; Kay Runge, DE/Libraries; Mark White, IACCT; and Kristin Swift, IASB. Carol Montz, SAI was able to attend, but unable to participate due to technical difficulties.

Duane Willhite, SAI; Kent Johnson, Regents; Chet Rzonca, Regents; and Mary Wieser, DE/CIANS were absent.

The following guests were also present at the meeting: Ryan Wise, DE; Phil Groner and Lori Larsen, ICN; Nancy Medema, and Jay Peterson, alternate for DE/Libraries; Bruce McKee, RTC 2; Kathy Gobel, RTC 5; Julie Thomas, RTC 6; Dawn Fratzke and John Humpal, RTC 7; Darla Shockley and Linda Abel, RTC 15 and Angi Hillers, DE.

II. Updates  
1. DE Update  
Ryan Wise provided the Department of Education update. Wise started his update mentioning that he has been appointed Director of the Department since the last meeting. He thanked Gwen Nagel for taking over as Chair of the ETC, and noted that Angi Hillers has taken over more of a lead role in relation to the ETC as well.

2. ICN Services Update  
Phil Groner provided an update on ICN Services, noting that the ICN is announcing a decrease in its Video@LightSpeed (V@LS 1.0) monthly
rates by 25% for Fiscal Year 2017. This is a monthly decrease of over $50 for users, which gives unlimited video conferencing access. With ICN’s V@LS 1.0, users can experience high video quality within a flexible room layout with open microphones and high definition cameras. Video sessions can be unscheduled (ad hoc) or scheduled using ICN’s Video Operating Scheduling System (VOSS). Also, ICN users enjoy the flat rate and e-rate eligible service, with no hourly usage. Users may also notice that ICN’s MPEG2 pricing increased by 25%. This rate increase is due to the 2014 announcement that ICN’s MPEG2 video conferencing service will be phased out by 2018. ICN users are encouraged to transition their video conferencing use to V@LS 1.0. After June 30, 2018, MPEG2 video conferencing will no longer be offered or supported by the ICN. Advancements in IP video conferencing services and applications allow for mobility, space flexibility, lower operational costs, and simpler and easy-to-use interfaces. ICN’s Account Consultants can assist users in explaining transition options and work at planning changes as it relates to budgeting and operational issues. We will bring our extensive experience in video conferencing, broadband, and telecommunications to help users meet their communication needs now and into the future.

Additionally, Groner noted that the ICN added CenturyLink’s Unified Communications as-a-Service (UCaaS) solutions to its product portfolio. With UCaaS from CenturyLink, ICN’s education, public safety, and government users can purchase a managed services package that includes managed data networking; feature-rich, managed Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone service; and collaboration applications such as instant messaging and presence.

Kay Runge asked if there was a set timeframe for the CenturyLink contract. Phil Groner responded that this was a six year contract, with renewal options. He also noted that any service for a K12 provider, library or college may be set up with the ICN, not directly with CenturyLink.
Groner noted that any additional ICN questions regarding migration planning, video conferencing, or any other issues be sent to him directly and he will connect with the correct individual.

III. Issues
1. **Recommended Funding Request for RTC Support for FY 2017**
The Recommendation for a Funding Request for RTC Support for FY 2017 was tabled at the June 2015 ETC meeting. Sally Lindgren motioned to remove the tabled motion, thus opening the funding request discussion this was seconded by Kay Runge. The vote was unanimously passed.

Gwen Nagel opened discussion of the FY 2017 allocation. Angi Hillers and Lori Larsen described the allocation from FY 2016, with a base rate and usage data. Sally Lindgren motioned to keep a $50,000 base for each region, with the remaining balance based on usage, that calculation based only on data and IP video usage. Galen Howsare questioned what impact this shift in usage calculation would mean for the RTCs. Julie Thomas with RTC 6 indicated that this would equate to a decrease in allocation for RTC 6. She noted that RTC 6 currently has more needs than what the funding covers, and the community college makes up the difference. This change in usage calculation would leave a greater deficit for the community college to make up in Region 6. Brue McKee with RTC 2 recommended that the ETC continue to include all video usage in their calculation, not only IP video as many ICN sites have not yet converted and would be negatively impacted by the change.

Galen Howsare motioned to amend the motion on the floor to include all video in the calculation of the remaining balance after the $50,000 base for each RTC. Kay Runge seconded this motion. The motion to keep the same appropriation for FY2017 at $992,913 with a $50,000 base for each region, plus the balance based on usage of data and video passed unanimously.
2. Review of ETC Role & Responsibilities and Discussion of the Future of the ETC
Gwen Nagel reviewed some of the ETC Guiding Principles and Beliefs, as well as the Code of IA 8D.5. Nagel also reviewed the language contained in the FY2016 appropriation from HF658, and the further guidance provided by the ETC in the budgetary documents provided to the RTCs. Discussion was opened regarding the future of the ETC.

Kay Runge noted that many libraries have closed their ICN rooms due to technology issues, with libraries providing continuing education through Adobe Connect or Zoom. Phil Groner noted that we have seen a direct correlation from 2003 until now with usage of MPEG video going down, internet usage is going up, as distance learning has changed for schools, they have flipped services. The fixed classroom is no longer used, instead Zoom and Adobe Connect are powered by the internet. Bandwidth usage increases every year, particularly for educational usage and the ICN has the ability to provide that service. Nancy Medema noted that libraries that do not have good bandwidth access are still in need of traditional ICN classrooms.

Some questions were posed regarding the roles and responsibilities of the ETC and RTCs, whether these roles have changed or evolved over time to further the discussion. Kay Runge recommended that these questions be posed to all ETC and RTC members. Angi Hillers will develop a survey to send out to all ETC and RTC members, and will have the responses available for further discussion at the spring ETC meeting.

3. RTC Annual Report summary and FY 2016 Budgets
Due to time constraints, Gwen Nagel noted that the FY2016 budget summary will be provided in the PowerPoint for this meeting. The questions developed based on the RTC Annual Reports will be added to the survey that Angi Hillers will send out.
4. **RTC Vacancies**
   Gwen Nagel noted that Angi Hillers will provide the list of the current RTC vacancies in the PowerPoint from today’s meeting, which will be emailed to members and posted to the DE’s website.

5. **ETC Chair**
   Gwen Nagel noted that one additional item had been added to the agenda for the meeting. Nancy Medema had been elected as the chair elect at the last ETC meeting, but will be stepping away from her role on the ETC. Instead Jay Peterson will be the alternate representative for DE/Libraries. Kay Runge requested that Ellen Kabat-Lensch again serve as the chair-elect. She agreed.

IV. **Adjournment**
   Terry Rinehart moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 A.M. The motion was seconded by Kay Runge and passed unanimously.