CYBERSECURITY PLANNING COMMITTEE
State of Nebraska Fallbrook Building & Cisco WebEx
Thursday, December 8th, 2022, 9:00 AM CST
245 Fallbrook Blvd- Hearing Room 031, Lincoln, NE 68521
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Wright, Patrick, State of Nebraska, Chair
Candace Meredith, County Representative, Co-Chair
Ryan Carlson, Nebraska National Guard
Scott Isaacson, K-12 Education Representative
Nathan Martinez, NEMA
Ethan Nguyen, Local Municipalities
Sean Runge, State Administrative Authority

MEMBERS ON VIDEO, PARTICIPATION ONLY:
Rick Haugerud, Higher Education Representative
Laura McDougall, Public Health Representative
John Rosenlund, Hall County Emergency Management

MEMBERS ABSENT: Judy Gaiashkibos, Tribal Communities Representative and Tim Pospisil, Critical Infrastructure & Public Power Representative

ROLL CALL; MEETING NOTICE; OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

The Chair, Patrick Wright, called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum existed to conduct official business. The meeting notice was posted to the SLCG Website and the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on November 4, 2022. The meeting agenda was posted to the SLCG (State and Local Cybersecurity Grant) website on November 3, 2022. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was on the back table along with a copy of the meeting materials.

SUBRECIPIENT SUBMISSION

Mr. Wright reported that a few states have submitted their plans. Six plans had been returned to the states for further development. The plans were sent back due to lack of or use of certain language and terms. Most were minor changes. Mr. Wright has been following the template as he is developing Nebraska's plan. The draft is almost ready to send. Before it is released to the public, the planning committee will review it and provide their input and recommendations. Mr. Wright briefly reviewed and shared the plan with the members.

Mr. Wright expressed a need to discuss when we want the process to begin, scoring, prioritization levels.

Members discussed the option of having the application be web-based and available on the SLCGP (State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program) website. The form would be a PDF fillable online form with key information or could be developed as a site form. Per the funding information and application template, questions would need to be addressed. Mr. Wright shared the draft application or draft form and asked members to review and provide input, and edits. The form will be discussed and finalized in a future meeting.

Mr. Wright proposed the using the scoring and evaluation process used by the NITC Technical Panel used for state I.T. Project Proposals. Volunteer Technical Reviewers are asked to score projects for the NITC. Each project is assigned 3 reviewers whose scores are averaged to determine the project's score and rating. Then the project is prioritized per determined categories. The Office of the CIO uses an application for the submission, review, scoring and prioritization of IT projects.

By group consensus, the Committee agreed to use the same application for the submission, review, scoring and prioritization of the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant projects. The application can also store the project proposal documents.

The question was asked if the scoring criteria would be available to the general public. Members agreed that it would be helpful to applicants when submitting their projects. At the last meeting, the concept of requesting a letter of intent from applicants was brought up as an option to get some idea of the numbers of projects that will need to be reviewed. No decision was made regarding the letter of intent but will be discussed further at future meetings. A recommendation was made to ask a question about the applicant's "sustainability" plan.

The other item members were asked to consider for future discussion was the frequency for projects to submit their reports – monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly reports. Another question that was raised was is the committee going to allow projects to resubmit their application for review.

Matching costs are not being pursued for NEMA but they have been working on the application. Federal program financial guidelines and deadlines were discussed. The deadline for the financial reports would be September 21, 2026.

The idea that the plan would start with assessments of what Nebraska has in terms of IT equipment, connections, networks, etc. from all the different entities as a starting base to plan Nebraska's efforts and proceed in stages following the NIST CSF Framework.

Mr. Wright should have Nebraska's Draft Plan done by end of December and will get it distributed to members of the committee. Members asked for submission deadlines for the funds to be sent to them as well.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURN

With no further business, Mr. Wright adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Patrick Wright, Office of the CIO/NITC.