



MINUTES

Commonwealth IT Solutions Committee

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA)

Patrick Henry Building

Attendance

Members Present:

The Honorable Aneesh Chopra, Chair
Walter J. Kucharski
Kenneth S. Johnson, Sr.

Absent:

Bertram "Bert" Reese
Alexander "Sandy" Thomas

Others Present:

Lemuel C. Stewart, Jr., Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth
Jerry Simonoff, VITA IT Investment & Enterprise Solutions Director
Dan Ziomek, VITA Associate Director for Project Management

Call to Order

Secretary Aneesh Chopra called the Commonwealth IT Solutions Committee to order at 9:00a.m. Following a roll call by Secretary Chopra it was acknowledged that we did not have a quorum. At 9:10a.m. Mr. Johnson arrived and Secretary Chopra acknowledged that we did have a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Chopra called for approval of the minutes for the July 18, 2007, Committee meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Kucharski that the minutes of the July 18, 2007 meeting of the Commonwealth IT Solutions Committee be approved as written. Seconded by Mr. Johnson, the motion carried unanimously.

Review of the Auditor of Public Accounts' Information Technology Governance Report

Mr. Walter Kucharski, Auditor of Public Accounts, gave an overview of the APA Report on IT Governance. He began by noting that the APA periodically reviews IT governance within Virginia. The current review found that governance of new systems development had matured very nicely and governance of the infrastructure is on the way to maturing, though there are growing pains associated with the Norfolk Grumman contract. In contrast, the report concludes that oversight and control is lacking over operations and maintenance expenditures. Mr. Kucharski concluded by stating the report contained eight recommendations, based on best practices of national recognized firms. He cited three of particular importance: increase, through the budgetary process, oversight of all IT spending, specifically operations and maintenance; collect accurate and complete IT spending information; and provide a funding source for the Office of the CIO or Information Technology Investment Board to operate separate from the VITA service fund.

Discussion Followed.

Status update on Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act (PPEA) Proposals

Secretary Aneesh Chopra, Secretary of Technology, highlighted key actions in the Governor's budget that could potentially impact each of the agencies. Gain Sharing, Secretary Chopra explained, how the Governor wants to reward agencies for coming up with new ideas that produce savings to the Commonwealth. Specifically, a portion of the savings would be returned back to the agency. The Secretary stated that he is in the process of setting up a pilot for this concept and is looking at DMV is a likely candidate. The Governor wants to incentivize agencies to look for areas that could become more efficient. Secretary Chopra explained that the Commonwealth was currently looking at using our public universities UVA, VCU, and VT for training to teach people how to identify these cost saving ideas. The Governor also wants agencies to be more nimble and agile in acquiring new technology that will bring about Commonwealth efficiencies. To that end, the Governor would like private industry to purpose solutions to the Commonwealth that could provide greater efficiencies, possibly through the PPEA process. The Commonwealth could also take those ideas and turn them into Requests for Proposals and allow all of industry to compete on providing solutions. Contracts would be awarded within a 90 day window.

Discussion Followed.

Other Business

None

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.