



# UC2B Policy Board Minutes

## Regular Meeting

January 13, 2011

### Location:

Douglass Branch Library Community Room  
504 E. Grove, Champaign, Illinois

Board Members Present: Abdul Alkalimat, Brandon Bowersox, Fred Halenar, Pete Resnick, Mike Smeltzer (11:57am), Rev. Bogan; Mike Vrem (For Richard Schnuer); Tony Vandeventer (For Deb Frank Feinen)

### Others Present:

Peter Folk, Volo Broadband  
Ray Mitchell, Volo Broadband  
Craig Shonkwiler, City of Urbana  
Rev. Larry Lewis, Bethel A.M.E.  
Rev. Eugene Barnes, Metanoia Center, Inc.  
Mike DeLorenzo, University of Illinois  
J. Paul Duke, Shive-Hattery, Project Manager  
Brittney Eckels, University of Illinois  
Bob Miles, University of Illinois

The meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. by Brandon Bowersox

**Approve Agenda** – Approved as written. Moved by Committee Member Halenar;  
Seconded by Committee Member Resnick.

**Approve Minutes** – Minutes for December 16, 2010 were approved with no corrections;  
Moved by Committee Member Halenar; seconded by Committee Member Abdul Alkalimat.

### Action Items:

**Grant required approvals** – Committee Member Smeltzer came to this meeting directly from a meeting with University of Illinois purchasing. He explained the RFP coding process. When the Policy Committee created the original scoring group that the technical committee refined and then went on to create and revise the RFP; the original scoring grid did not get revised as well. A couple of issues have arisen and he explained to the committee.

- One item that vendors are “scored” on is their support for extended loop qualification. This item was originally given 250 points– Committee Member

Smeltzer said we could adjust that by half and give the extended Loop qualification half (125 points) and System resiliency half (125 points).

- The other items that purchasing didn't want to do anything about was: In Mandatory specs the committee asked the vendor to describe their 24/7 support; purchasing didn't want to award partial points, only a yes/no answer.
- Committee made a passing reference to training – but never made it mandatory – Committee Member Smeltzer made the “executive decision” to require that in the RFP, but no points were assigned.

Committee discussed at length if those 250 points were “significant” enough to award or deny a vendor the contract (decided it was not – overall points are 10,000). Committee also discussed if it was “fair” to Active Ethernet providers since WDM-PON needs more. Committee felt that no change was necessary.

Committee Member Smeltzer explained that the RFP process had 6 successful vendors – 2 vendors were confused about the time and missed the cut off time (one by 1 hour 15 minutes; one by 18 hours). Those bids were returned unopened. Bids are opened in Public Session; so Committee Member Smeltzer disclosed that the 6 bidders were: AOS (Alexander Open Systems) (from Springfield) and Presidio (Chicago with headquarters in Florida) – both Cisco companies; AFL Network Services/Tel Labs (Illinois); Enablence (Ottawa, Canada); KGP Logistics/Adtran (Huntsville, AL) ; and Telamon (Carmel, Indiana).

Once the scoring process is done (probably by next week), the winner will be kept confidential until the Board of Trustees has approved the contract (in March). Committee discussed in length about the confidentiality of this information and problems it could cause for contractors. Committee suggested that everyone involved sign the confidentiality agreement, otherwise committee will have to call a special meeting to discuss this after the Board of Trustees agenda is made public (usually 48 hours prior to the Board of Trustees meeting). Of course, if the value of the contract is under \$2M this point is moot and the information could be disclosed as soon as the vendor is selected. Questions were raised about disclosing the information of what type of carrier was selected and if this broke the confidentiality agreement. (Technically you should not disclose this information to the public, but the University will be disclosing this information to Paul Duke without disclosing the vendor name, so that he can begin construction projects. This instance should be the only time we run across the confidentiality agreement, since the Cities will be involved in the construction project aspects and the Universities cut off for construction projects is \$5M without Board of Trustee approval.

Committee Member Smeltzer also explained that the City Manager of Champaign; the Mayor of Urbana and the Chancellor of the University met last week to discuss UC2B and disclosure of information to this group. Those 3 individuals would need to sign the confidentiality agreements as well.

Committee Member Bogan asked about the procedures for ensuring that minority owned businesses are given the same consideration as other companies. Committee Member Smeltzer stated that information is included in the RFP.

Reverend Barnes raised the question of hiring diversity. He would like to see a Community Benefit Agreements. He has attempted to work with the University on this issue for many years and has had no success. Greater transparency and better communication is needed. Committee Member Resnick (who also sits on the Human Relations Commission in Urbana) assured Rev. Barnes that if he brought samples of this type of agreement he would make sure that Todd Rent, Human Relations Officer for the City of Urbana reviewed it.

Peter Folk, Volo Broadband, suggested that perhaps the Policy Committee could request of all three entities that anything affecting UC2B be made available to the Policy Committee as soon as possible. Committee Member Bowersox stated that Committee Chair Feinen has already done that by sending a letter to the City Manager of Champaign, the Mayor of Urbana and the Chancellor of the University. Those three individuals met last week. Committee Member Bowersox further stated that although he was not in attendance at that meeting, he does know that part of the discussion involved the decision to freeze the hiring of a Canvassing coordinator for the Census Block area. The University will work on that issue later. Public transparency needs to be more involved in the hiring process. Once each organization is the Lead Agency on their individual construction projects, those processes will be up to them and they will probably be using a lot of Staff that is already in place.

Committee Member Halenar suggested that the City of Champaign will possibly be using some staff from the Neighborhood Services Department. It is very important for the City of Champaign to involve their citizenry. The Community Relations Office will be involved (Garth Minor) as well at the City Manager's Office and Legal departments. Member Halenar has suggested that we use a three tier approach to hiring. 1. We need to consider the residents of the census block areas; 2. We will reach out to residents in neighborhoods near the census block areas, and 3. As a backup we will look at Champaign residents.

Committee Member Resnick pointed out that it will be important to have a project coordinator to identify overlaps in the project and which items could be grant funded, etc.

Committee Member Bogan disseminated information about the NO LIMITS JOB FAIR, Which will be held on February 2, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Douglass Community Center, 512 E. Grove, Champaign. He feels it is important for UC2B to have a presence there.

Paul Duke said he will be sending information to Committee Member Halenar tonight for the Technical Committee Agenda, specifically Cross Boring and Connection issues that need approval.

Committee Member Alkalimat said that the Committee Meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup> for EBlack CU was well attended a success. You can find information on the EBlack CU website.

Committee Member Smeltzer announced that as a result of the meeting between the Chancellor, City Manager of Champaign and Mayor of Urbana meeting, the Chancellor has decided to have Mike DeLorenzo replace him on the Policy board committee. Committee Member Smeltzer will still attend the meetings, but will not sit on the board.

Committee Member Halenar confirmed that Maria Mobasseri has submitted a letter of resignation from the Policy Board. Minor Jackson from the University of Illinois is interested in taking over her seat. Committee Member Bowersox said he would ask Chair Feinen to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Technical Committee** Report – Committee Member Halenar reported that the OSS/BSS software is being tweaked. Data transport subcommittee is done as well. These topics would come to the Policy Committee after the Technical Committee review and recommendation.

Paul Duke mention that Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> will be the hard cutoff date for design issues.

Tony Vandeventer said that the easement issues are mostly resolved, North East Champaign to Olympian – no easements needed; Market North to Olympian are all OK as well.

Next meeting will be January 20, 2011 at 11:45 a.m. at the Douglass Branch Library Committee will probably meeting weekly through February.

Committee Member Bowersox adjourned meeting at 1:15 p.m.

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