



UC2B Policy Board Minutes

Regular Meeting

February 10, 2011

Location:

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

Committee Members Present: Rev. Zernial Bogan, Brandon Bowersox, Mike DeLorenzo, Fred Halenar, Pete Resnick, and Richard Schnuer, Chris Hamb as proxy for Abdul Alkalimat, Tony Vandeventer as proxy for Deborah Frank Feinen

Committee Members Absent: Abdul Alkalimat, Deborah Frank Feinen

Others Present: Mike Vrem, Champaign Telephone
Ray Mitchell, Volo Broadband
Peter Folk, Broadband Access Committee
Mike Smeltzer, University of Illinois
John Kersh, University of Illinois
Bob Miles, University of Illinois
Brittney Eckels, University of Illinois
Bill Grey, City of Urbana
Paul Duke, Shive-Hattery, Project Manager
Craig Shonkwiler, City of Urbana
Jim Petro, Shive-Hattery/NewComm Technology (via Skype)
Eric Lampland, Shive-Hattery (via Skype)

The meeting was called to order at 11:55 a.m. by Acting Committee Chair Bowersox.

Approve Agenda: Committee Member Halenar, seconded by Committee Member Resnick, moved to approve the agenda. Motion to approve was passed by a voice vote.

Approve Minutes: Member Halenar, seconded by Committee Member DeLorenzo, moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2011 Policy Committee Meeting. Motion was passed by a voice vote.

Action Items:

A. Grant Required Approvals: No action taken.

B. Review and Discussion of Shive Report on Design Review: Paul Duke (Shive-Hattery) had transmitted a UC2B Design Review report upon completing 50% of the

design. It included “primary recommendations” and “strong suggestions”. The Policy Committee discussed the following recommendations and suggestions.

- Primary Recommendation #1 – Retain, with slight modification, the initial seven-ring design. Shive-Hattery Project Manager Duke stated that there are two changes to allow for more redundancy. The first change is characterized by the interconnection of the University nodes 8, 9, and 2. The second change is to split the conduit out from being bundled together in the same trench. Shive-Hattery is working with the City of Champaign, the City of Urbana, and the University to make sure the proposed change in routing is acceptable to them. If the project appears to be going over budget, splitting the conduit will be revisited. Committee Member Halenar stated that the Technical Committee had agreed unanimously with this recommendation. Policy Committee discussion included how backbones relate to the design; the difference between physical architecture and service architecture; and the difference between the seven ring design and Peter Folk’s design. Peter Folk stated that almost all of his issues regarding the seven ring design have been alleviated by the use of active electronics in the field, and that there really is no resolution to the issue of simplicity.
- Primary Recommendation #2 – Establish separate transport connections between nodes 2, 8, and 9. Committee Member Halenar stated that the Technical Committee’s unanimously approved motion was to create a primary transport connection, separated from all production rings, between nodes 2, 8, and 9. This recommendation will make the network more reliable. When asked the percentage of reliability on a seven ring network, Eric Lampland (Shrive) stated that reliability is a combination of fiber and electronics, and that fiber is the most reliable material used today. He also stated that the construction of the rings is done in a way to take advantage of the fiber with the appropriate electrical optical equipment.
- Primary Recommendation #3 – Leverage existing facilities for aesthetics and open access. Committee Member Halenar noted that the Technical Committee had a lengthy discussion about this recommendation and they approved the motion without the specific locations identified. Committee discussion included the statement that UC2B does not have the authority to commit to specific locations. Some locations will require action of a City Council, which will take some time to obtain. Project Manager Duke stated that the Open Access issue is, will Shive-Hattery provide a node, or the ability to create a node in the future, in Champaign or in Urbana, and if so, the nodes will need to be included in the network design and fiber count. They do not have to be built out but the option will be there for future use. The design suggested the ILEAS facility and Champaign’s Public Works building because those locations coincide with where two cabinets are needed, and by moving them inside the buildings it would address the aesthetics of field located equipment, eliminate the number of needed pedestals, and provide access outside of the University. Acting Committee Chair Bowersox stated that the Committee can support the concept today but the item

will need to be included on the agenda for the next week or two to determine specific locations. Peter Folk suggested a three step approach; 1-approve the concept without the locations this week, as the Technical Committee did; 2- by the February 17th meeting, identify and meet with the owners of locations that have a high degree of likelihood of becoming locations; and 3-finalize the list of locations to be included in the draft design for the February 24th meeting.

When asked what other discussions/decisions had to be made today, Project Manager Duke stated that he needs the results of any decisions that will affect physical routing or fiber counts. Acting Committee Chair Bowersox stated that Strong Suggestions 1 and 6 should be discussed. Committee Member Halenar stated that the Technical Committee did not come to a conclusion on Strong Suggestions 6.

- Strong Suggestion #1 – Examine and consider modifications to 1.86 miles of shared ring paths. Committee Member Halenar stated that at the Technical Committee’s unanimously approved motion was “Examine and consider modifications to 1.86 miles of shared ring paths as long as the engineers work with the cities and the university to examine and inform the effects of these results”, and that the additional wording was added to make sure that the modifications do not interfere with other underground services of which the governments’ staffs would have greater understanding. He also stated that the Technical Committee had passed the motion unanimously. Project Manager Duke explained that the point of the suggestion is to get a decision on if it is a good idea to split the routes, and if everyone agrees the details with specific routes will be brought back for approval.

Committee Member Schnuer, seconded by Committee Member DeLorenzo, moved to approve the Technical Committee’s recommendations with respect to Primary Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 and Strong Suggestion 1. Motion to approve was passed by a voice vote.

Acting Committee Chair Bowersox stated that the Design Review will be added to the next meeting’s agenda, and asked that the City of Champaign and the City of Urbana talk about the specific locations for Primary Recommendation 3.

Tasks to Complete for Next Meeting: No further discussion or action taken.

Items for Next Meeting’s Agenda: Acting Committee Chair Bowersox stated that the issue of a recurring cost to run fiber along I-74 will be added to the next agenda, and he asked Project Manager Duke to introduce the topic. Project Manager Duke stated there are some challenges with the desired route in NE Urbana. The easement free route is parallel to I-74 and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) will charge a fee to run fiber along I-74. Current calculations are around \$20,000. If fiber could be run through Busey Woods the cost would be cut in half. There are negotiations in progress with IDOT for their use of UC2B’s fiber, so the cost to run fiber along I-74 could be included in the negotiations.

Public Participation: None

Board Comments: Committee Member Resnick stated that he has a conflict with the current UC2B Policy Committee meeting time, and he asked Committee Members to check their calendars for the possibility of scheduling the meetings at another time or date.

Committee Member Bogan stated that the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission's Job Fair was rescheduled to February 16, 2011.

Project Manager Duke suggested establishing longer meetings for the next couple of weeks to be able to resolve issues in a timely manner.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m. by Acting Committee Chair Bowersox