



Information Technology Executive Council
Regular Meeting of the ITEC Board

MINUTES

March 19, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the ITEC Board was held on March 19, 2024, virtually using Microsoft Teams. This meeting was properly noticed and posted in the Kansas Public Square prior to the meeting. <https://publicsquare.ks.gov/>

Board Members:

Present unless otherwise noted

Jeff Maxon, Executive Branch CITO
Kelly O'Brien, Judicial Branch CITO

Alan Weis, Legislative Branch CITO (Chair)
Rep. Emil Bergquist, House Representative #1 [Absent]
Rep. Pam Curtis, House Representative #2 [Absent]
Senator J.R. Claeys, Senate Representative #1 [Absent]
Senator Jeff Pittman, Senate Representative #2
Adam Proffitt, Cabinet Agency Head #1 [Absent]
Amber Shultz, Cabinet Agency Head #2

Adrian Guerrero, Non-Cabinet Agency Head #1
Lynn Retz, Non-Cabinet Agency Head #2
[Absent]
David Marshall, KCJIS [Absent]
Greg Gann, County Representative
Mike Mayta, City Representative
Murray McGee, Information Network of Kansas
Steve Funk, Board of Regents
John Berghuis, Private Sector Representative
Alex Wong, Chief Information Technology
Architect

THIS MEETING IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH
KSA 75-7202 AND AMENDMENTS THERETO.

Public attendees, that signed in.

Bowles, Larry [KSBHA]
Brown, Shawn [KDOT]
Burns, Hope [OITS]
Cahill, John [KPERS]
Denning, Allie [OITS]
Dickson, Jason [KDWP]
Doane, Bob [KDHE]
Fager, Richard [OITS]
Haugh, Jim [KDC]

Heffel, Tanya [OITS]
Hildebrandt, Jason [OITS]
Hinton, Donnie [LAS]
Holley, Jamie [OITS]
Johnson, Kelly [DAPC]
Keesee, Chris [Guest]
Langer, John [LAS]
Mai, Tom [KHP]
Murphy, Bob [Guest]
Osterhaus, Katrin [LAS]

Altaf Uddin (SOS)
Pagano, Tom [DCF]
Reiter, Brian [OITS]
Ramirez, Celena [OITS]
Robison, Cole [OITS]
Spinks, Sara [OITS]
Theel, Eric [LAS]
Wertzberger, Michele [KSFM]
White, Josh [DASM]
Wilson, Angela [OITS]

WELCOME / CHAIRMAN COMMENTS

Chairman Alan Weis, L-CITO called the meeting into order at 1:30pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Greg Gann moved to accept the agenda as presented. Steve Funk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alan Weis, L-CITO introduced the December 19, 2023, minutes for discussion. Senator Jeff Pittman moved to approve the minutes. Adrian Guerrero seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ACTION ITEM STATUS

Alex Wong, CITA reported the completion of an action item for the September ITEC meeting, which involved a presentation by Brian Caskey from the Secretary of State Office on election fraud prevention.

ADVISORY BOARD UPDATES/EDUCATION SEGMENT:

Jeff Maxon, Executive Branch CITO, presented an update from the February 20th, Information Technology Advisory Board (ITAB).

- Most of the discussion was brief and covered updates on executive branch activities, policy updates, and the need for volunteers to review ITEC policies.

PRESENTATIONS - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Allie Denning, OITS Director of Public Affairs presented a legislative update:

- Provided highlights on legislative activities, including House Bill 2745, and budget considerations for Office of Information Technology Services (OITS) and Kansas Information Security Office (KISO) requesting funding for a 24/7 security operations center and the positions of Chief Privacy Officer and Chief Data Officer.
- She mentioned House Bill 2842 which proposes the consolidation of several IT functions within the respective branches and elective offices.

Bryan Caskey, Secretary of State presented on Election Fraud Prevention:

- Presented on election security, fraud prevention, and the designation of election administration as critical infrastructure. He emphasized the decentralized structure of Kansas elections, the role of Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the security measures in place for voter registration systems, county tabulation software, and election networks.

Alex Wong, CITA presented on the IT Job Standardization:

- He discussed the efforts to standardize IT job titles across the executive branch, aiming to create consistency, clarity, and fairness. The project is divided into two phases, with phase one focusing on unclassified, non-managerial positions and phase two on leadership positions. The goal is to establish clear career paths and competitive salary ranges.

STAFF REPORTS - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- Judicial Branch - Kelly O'Brien, J-CITO:
 - Provided an update on the security incident from October, detailing the response and recovery efforts.

- Discussed the creation of a Cyber Security Committee to work with IT departments.
- Expressed gratitude for the support received during the incident.
- Executive Branch – Jeff Maxon, E-CITO:
 - Introduction of new Chief IT Security Officer (CISO), John Godfrey. He is no stranger to this committee and has been with University of Kansas Medical Centers as their CISO prior to joining OITS.
 - We looked at some challenges we are having with recruitment and retention. Discrepancies in job functions and significant pay differences between agencies can prevent successful career development. Standardizing roles and understanding the broader context can help in emergency situations having standardized list of job titles and skills would allow for quick deployment of personnel for continuity, rather than having to individually assess each person's abilities.
 - The team is working several projects, including a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new data center and an identity and access management system, which is close to awarding. Despite the ongoing legislative session, there is no slowdown in activity. The focus is on evaluating the next steps and ensuring that technology serves the citizens' needs.
- Legislative Branch - Alan Weis, L-CITO:
 - The KLISS Modernization Project is in development, and the next user acceptance testing phase is set to begin in May. The system is expected to be ready for use in the 2025 legislative session, following its implementation in October 2024.
 - There is no session on Friday, March 29th, which is a legislative holiday, and the first adjournment is Friday April 5th, which they go into the three-week April break. They will come back for the veto session on Monday, April 29th to finish up.
- CISO Update – John Godfrey, CISO:
 - Financially motivated attacks include phishing emails, vendor impersonation, fake invoices, and payroll redirects. He emphasized the importance of robust mechanisms to verify and using a two-step identity verification method to prevent fraud.
 - There has been an increase in attacks on systems like VPNs, web gateway, telephony systems, and proxies. He stressed the need for timely patching of these systems, ideally within 24 hours of patch release.
 - He reiterated the importance of basic cybersecurity practices such as removing inactive user accounts, ensuring strong and periodically rotated passwords, and appropriately scoping user account privileges.
 - The 3rd annual Kansas Public Sector Cybersecurity Summit scheduled for April 17-18 in Wichita, KS. The event is open to the public sector employees and will include operational technology training and a full day of cybersecurity discussions. There is no fee for this event.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Mayta expressed a need for improved communication regarding cybersecurity grants. Greg Gann discussed the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in job applications and the positive direction of the partnership between counties and Office of Judicial Administration (OJA). Alan Weis announced this will be his last ITEC meeting will be retiring from the State on June 7th. He mentioned it has been an honor to work with this Council as well as many other IT organizations across the State.

CLOSING REMARKS

New Action Item Review – Alex Wong, CITO: No new action items

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 3:00 pm.

ITEC BOARD MEMBERS



Alan Weis
Legislative Branch CITO



Jeff Maxon
Executive Branch (Interim) CITO



Kelly O'Brien, Chair
Judicial Branch CITO



Steve Funk
Board of Regents



Lynn Retz
Kansas Corporation Commission



Representative Emil Bergquist
House Representative



Senator Jeff Pittman
Senate Representative



Representative Pam Curtis
House Representative



Senator J.R. Claeys
House Representative



Adam Proffitt
Dept of Administration



Adrian Guerrero
Kansas Board of Nursing



Gregg Gann
Sedgwick County



Mike Mayta
City of Wichita



Murray McGee
Information Network of Kansas (INK)



David Marshall
KS Criminal Justice



Amber Shultz
Kansas Department of Labor



John Berghuis
Private Sector Representative



Alex Wong
Office of Technology Services