

MINUTES
LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

August 24, 2021

The Louisiana Optical Network Infrastructure (LONI) Management Council (MC) met at 1:32 p.m., Tuesday, August 24, 2021, via zoom. Rachel Vincent-Finley, Chair, called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

Council Members Present:

Kenneth Boe
Clarence Copeland
Gene Fields
Paul Helton
Richard Howze
Matthew LaBruyere
Lonnie Leger
Brad Masters
Ramu Ramachandran
Eric Setz
Rachel Vincent-Finley
Craig Woolley
Noel Wong

Council Members Absent:

Beth Courtney
Gabriel Fagbeyiro
Giovanni Piedimonte
J. Ram Ramanujam
Tanuja Singh

Guest:

Lance Neal
Gary Mumphrey
Sam White

SECRETARY/TREASURE REPORT

On the motion of Mr. Gene Fields, seconded by Mr. Richard Howze, the LONI Management Council moved that motion be passed to approve and accept the February 2021 LONI Management Council meeting minutes.

BUSINESS CHAIR

Executive Committee Update

Chair Dr. Rachel Vincent-Finley stated that at our last meeting the Executive Committee was discussed, a motion was placed on the floor and there were volunteers to serve on the Executive Committee concerning the LONI subscriber document.

She also mentioned that given there were BoR administrative changes and other update items made, it was recommended that the prior motion be adjusted so a special meeting is necessary with the general body concerning the document.

On motion of Chair Finley to call a special meeting on Monday, September 13, 2021 from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm to focus on the approval of subscriber membership agreement. Campus IT leadership to participate in this meeting. Seconded by Ramu, the LONI Management Council approves motion.

LMC Officer Nomination

Chair Dr. Rachel Finely began her discussion by stating that in prior discussion of officer nominations there were adjustments made to the by-laws to include the position of Chair Elect. Nomination Committee presented nominations for Chair, Chair Elect and Secretary/Treasurer for one-year terms. She also stated that the one-year terms were end and the nomination committee needed to make the following change. Chair Elect with one-year followed by one-year term as Chair, Secretary/Treasurer with a two-year term. Nomination Committee will reach out to LONI membership to request approval to be nominated for service as LMC Officer. The nominations will be presented in November LMC meeting.

Call for Public Comments

There were no public comments

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The Executive Director mentioned that he was hopeful that by November LMC will have the opportunity to be live and in person with each other, and that he looked forward to that potential at our November 30th meeting.

2021 Work Plan

- Participate in the FCC Rural Health Care Program (RHC0
19 subscribers have submitted a letter of intent to join the UAMS consortium in their application at the next filing window.

The process for this first year's filing is now underway,

RHC offers up to 65% reimbursement on your LONI subscription fee, WAN circuits, and other eligible expenses that we will learn to maximize the effectiveness of the program.

News and Events

- LONI will host a community call Friday, August 27th
- LONI will host a monthly community-wide call on Trending Topics typically of unstructured time to ask questions, raise concerns, opened to everyone.
- LONI will host regular working group conversation on network services and network security.
- LONI uses Slack as an out-of-band communications for incidents and repository for calls, meetings, webinars, and topics of interest.

LONI 5-year Membership Agreement Update

- After sharing the process of the agreement with the LMC Officers, the officers proposed calling a special meeting on September 13, 2021 to focus on the approval of a multi-year membership agreement.
- The LMC Officers invite the campus IT leadership to participate.

Strategic/Business Plan Update

The Board of Regents expressed their viewpoint and has charged the LONI staff with drafting a strategic plan followed by reviews from Regents, Subscribers, Peers, and other stakeholders. There is a chance for an update by November or for sure by February 2022.

PaaS Update

Half-way there in terms of participation in service orders for FY22. Deadline is September 30, 2021.

PaaS FY23 Service Order Update

We are planning to release the service orders following the conclusion of the LMC Meeting on September 13, 2021.

PaaS Update

- We have received the bulk of the Infinera backbone optical equipment, so now we are planning to deploy a parallel network between Lafayette and Shreveport to transition services in a three-month window.
- We anticipate receiving the bulk of the Cisco router equipment by the end of September. This class of equipment has been most impacted by the Semi-Conductor construction worldwide.
- We anticipate the release of our Phase-3 Construction Bid release within the next few weeks.

HPC Quarterly Update

Mr. Sam White was present and available for comments and to answer questions regarding the technical report handouts,

Network Quarterly Update

Gary was present and available for comments and to answer questions regarding the technical report handout that he shared.

Call for Public Comments

There were no public comments

CHIEF ADVISORS REPORT/RECOMMENDATION

Chief Technology Advisor Gene Fields shared positive comments about Mr. Same White and his team for sharing utilization data, he mentioned that the data tells a good story working groups. He gave kudos to Lonnie Leger for his leadership and the leadership of the LMC. He also added that the workgroup participating is incredible but there is always room for others to participate and it is encouraged.

Lance Neal took an opportunity to highlight the individuals that have volunteered themselves and their time to participate in their respective institutions elected by their peers across all campuses. He added that those individuals are Mr. Josh Young, Sowela, Heath Fitts, Northwestern; Co-Chairs Jonathan Cockrell from LSU Shreveport, and Mr. Charles Broome from UL Lafayette who are Co-Charing the security working group. He mentioned since the last meeting topics were under discussion and conversations were had by outside groups Fortinet Solutions and The Louisiana State Analytical and Fusion Exchange just to name a few regarding available resources.

Call for Public Comments

There were no public comments

Chief Economic Development Advisor Report

Mr. Paul Helton had nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Monday, September 13, 2021 from 1:30pm – 2:30pm

2021 and 2022 Meeting Schedule

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the LONI Management Council, on motion of Chair Dr. Finley and seconded by Gene Fields, the virtual meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.