

# **State Information Technology Advisory Committee**

September 09, 2015  
2:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
Pioneer Room

## **Members Present:**

Mike Ressler – Chair, Sparb Collins, Cheri Giesen, Tom Solberg for Maggie Anderson, Jim Silrum for Al Jaeger, Darcy Rosendahl for Grant Levi, Peggy Link, Lisa Feldner, Joe Morrissette for Ryan Rauschenberger, Arvy Smith, Cher Thomas for Tom Trenbeath, Joe Herslip for Eric Hardmeyer, Shawn Wiese, Senator Larry Robinson and Representative Mark Owens

**Members Absent:** Sally Holewa

## **Others Present:**

Jeff Quast, Dan Sipes, Cliff Heyne, Russ Buchholz, Pat Kelly, Gary Vetter, Justin Data, Kyle Forster, Darren Meschke, Greg Hoffman, Sheldon Wolf, Brian Bartz, Pat Kelly, Kris Vollmer, Heather Raschke, Sarah Lee, Tim Schenfisch, Teresa Buth, Erik Holmberg, Molly Howell, and Mary Woinarowicz

## **Scribe:**

Jeff Quast

Mr. Ressler called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM, a quorum was present

## **Agenda / Topics discussed**

**Welcome – Mike Ressler**

- Mr. Ressler reviewed the agenda and welcomed the participants

**Enterprise Architecture (EA) Update – Jeff Quast**

- Mr. Quast reviewed the progress of EA 2.0 and recent EA activity

**2015 Legislative Update – Mike Ressler**

- Mr. Ressler reviewed the effects on ITD from the 2015 legislative session
- Regarding Mr. Ressler's comments about difficulty in filling new positions, Senator Robinson asked if Mr. Ressler knew why that was the case
- Mr. Ressler and others on the committee discussed several factors
  - Salaries continue to increase in the area, especially in the private sector
  - Applicants are leveraging job offers as a means to get a raise from their current employer
  - A lack of expertise and experience in fields like security

**Cybersecurity Discussion Demo – Duane Schell**

- Mr. Schell reviewed the volume and types of malicious activity affecting the state's network, the mitigation efforts that exist, and the implications of those efforts
- Senator Robinson asked if we have tools to determine where our vulnerabilities exist and if bad actors do as well

- Mr. Schell answered that yes we scan our network and look for vulnerabilities, and can identify when bad actors are scanning and where they are scanning from
- Senator Robinson asked how the current volume of activity compared to 10 years ago
  - Mr. Schell didn't have statistics but answered that it is much higher today
- Senator Robinson asked if security was considered the number one priority at ITD
  - Mr. Schell answered that it was, and Mr. Ressler added that at the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) it has been the number one priority for most states the last 3 years
- Senator Robinson stated that at the last few legislative sessions there has been concern about security for the remaining exempted agencies, and asked if those agencies were more vulnerable
  - Mr. Sipes answered that some of the tools presented can help protect all agencies, and added that ITD tries to collaborate with those agencies to lower the risk
- Mr. Ressler commented that he was excited to have the members of SITAC in the room to talk about security because it is critical for department heads to be aware of security needs instead of just the agency's IT staff
- Mr. Collins asked if ITD could identify the most sought after data the bad actors are looking for
  - Mr. Sipes answered that ND's energy resources are highly sought by nation states, while organized crime is looking more for PII they can sell
  - Mr. Sipes added that they are really after all data and will grab whatever they can
- Mr. Robinson asked if the tools and methods ITD uses need to be constantly improved to keep up with the tools and methods the bad actors are using
  - Mr. Schell said yes, we are constantly evolving
- Ms. Link asked if the scanning tools and security experts were active only during business hours or if they operated 24/7
  - Mr. Schell answered that the main security employees generally work regular business hours, but the automated tools can alert them and they are engaged as needed
- Senator Robinson asked if contracted services will be considered if security positions continue to be difficult to fill
  - Mr. Sipes answered that ITD is including that as a possible option

### **ITD Cloud Hosting Services – Dan Sipes**

- Mr. Sipes reviewed recent security initiatives and activity, and reviewed ITD's plans to address Application Portfolio Management and Cloud Services
- Regarding the last SOC2 audit, Senator Robinson asked how sophisticated the State Auditor's Office is for doing IT audits
  - Mr. Sipes answered that the Auditor's Office has their own staff but also contracts with companies like ManTech for more sophisticated audit and testing
- Regarding cybersecurity roles and responsibilities, Mr. Wiese asked how ITD assists other agencies with employee education
  - Mr. Sipes answered that ITD provides an online training course at no charge to agencies and the state has an EA standard requiring all users to complete the course
- Mr. Wiese asked if ITD had ever done automated phishing initiatives to raise user awareness
  - Mr. Sipes answered that ITD had done some, and other agencies like BND had done their own
- Regarding the recent cyber-attack, Representative Owens asked if the compromised application was an ITD app or agency app
  - Mr. Sipes answered that it was a legitimate application from another agency
- Representative Owens asked what is being done to ensure that Software as a Service (SaaS) solutions are adequately secure
  - Mr. Sipes answered that ITD is developing a risk assessment matrix to complete during hosting waiver requests

- Mr. Sipes added that larger vendors like Microsoft do not allow you to audit them, and may only provide things like a SOC2 audit or predefined policies
- Regarding ITD's cloud services role, Mr. Owens asked if it was a concern to have a SaaS solution that accesses the trusted network even if the SAAS doesn't store PII
  - Mr. Sipes answered that some SaaS solutions don't require an opening in the firewall
  - Mr. Sipes added that if data was needed, as an example, we might extract the data and deliver it outside the firewall for the vendor to pick up
- Regarding planned cloud brokering fees, Ms. Giesen asked if they would apply to existing contracts
  - Mr. Sipes answered that existing contracts would be grandfathered in; new solutions that are in the planning stage in 15-17 would need to plan for brokerage fees
- Regarding on premise hosting vs. vendor hosted, Mr. Silrum asked how ITD would mitigate situations when a vendor's solution is hosted on premise and there are issues
  - Mr. Sipes answered that ITD needs to be responsive and partner with the vendor early
  - Mr. Silrum added that when ITD has developed and hosted a solution, it has been less problematic than when vendor developed solutions are hosted on premise.
- Regarding the cyber-attack, Senator Robinson added that he thinks citizens are fearful, and expect tightened security regardless of the cost and inconvenience
  - Ms. Smith added this was a wakeup call and it could have been far worse; it is a good opportunity to learn and improve

### **Large Project Reporting – Justin Data**

- Mr. Data reviewed the oversight process and requirements for over-variance reporting
- NDIIS – Health Dept. – Kris Vollmer
  - Ms. Vollmer gave an overview of the project and introduced Terese Buth
  - Ms. Buth reviewed the reasons the project fell behind schedule and presented the casual factors, lessons learned, and recovery strategy
- WyCAN – JSND – Cheri Giesen
  - Ms. Giesen reviewed the WyCAN (formally AWIN) project and presented the casual factors, lessons learned, best practices, and recovery strategy

### **Open Discussion / Closing Comments – Mike Ressler**

- Mr. Ressler adjourned the meeting at 4:47 PM