

MINUTES

HOUSE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 06, 2019

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Amador, Representatives Anderson, Anderst, Horman, Moon, Scott, Ehardt, Armstrong, Furniss, Hartgen, Lickley, Raybould, Young, Smith, Chew, Ellis, Mason

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Jeff Weak, Idaho Office of Information Technology

Chairman Vander Woude called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

RS 26737: **Rep. Erhardt** introduced **RS 26737**. The proposed legislation recognizes Idaho's hydro power as clean, reliable, renewable, and is key to our energy portfolio moving forward. Hydro power greatly contributes to the power produced in Idaho. Hydro power is a tremendous resource and is more dependable than wind or solar power.

MOTION: **Rep. Anderst** made a motion to introduce **RS 26737**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Jeff Weak, Administrator for the Office of Information Technology Services (ITS), presented information on cyber security. He addressed threats to information technology in Idaho, including malware; spear phishing; ransomware; and cryptocurrency mining.

Initiatives being worked on to combat cyber security threats include: Center for Internet Security (CIS) Controls; National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework, NIST 800-53; and annual Cybersecurity Awareness Training. A next generation firewall, Canary and Albert sensors, as well as Domain Name Services (DNS) are being utilized to identify security issues. The initiatives do not result in a destination, but rather will be an evolutionary process. For every patch or roadblock ITS puts in place, they try to find a way around it.

An overview of the Governor's Modernization Initiative will include consolidation, streamlining, and improvement of IT across the state. Eight agencies across the state would have their IT functions consolidated: Tax Commission, Department of Finance, Department of Insurance, Division of Public Safety, Vocational Rehabilitation, Veteran Services, Industrial Commission and the Public Utilities Commission. Consolidating these agencies will result in thirty-six, full time employees, approximately a twenty percent reduction in workforce, and cost savings of approximately \$887K annually. It will increase the overall user population from about 450 to 1800. The timeframe will depend on the approval from JFAC or the legislature. ITS would start immediately after getting an appropriations bill to start the interview process with a start date of July 1. ITS has already met with leadership of the eight agencies and has provided them with a comprehensive and individual integration plan. ITS has provided them a comprehensive integration checklist, including an outline for every IT function they do. This allows ITS to account for all of their software, applications, network devices and every activity each IT person accomplishes. The work integration would take place around on or before July 1 to off load the responsibilities to ITS. Their end strength will probably be around 66 FTE. Currently ITS is at maximum capacity at their location at the Department of Administration, so they are working on a plan to move approximately

60 FTE to the Chinden Campus. This would leave approximately six FTE in the Capitol Mall area to do touch maintenance.

An overview of the Governor's Technology Initiatives that JFAC will be considering would include a Core Network Upgrade. The current network is at end of life cycle and is used by every entity in the State. Decision Units are evaluating risk-based software to help establish standard risk-based approach to evaluate every agency in the Executive Branch and give them a fair rating based on their security maturity. The largest initiative is the request for the 36 FTE to absorb the workload from the eight agencies.

In response to committee members' questions, **Jeff Weak**, explained that consolidating the IT function in the state will reduce the risk and vulnerability of threats to the state with the State Data Center. Moving all servers under one roof will reduce the number of servers to a more manageable number and allow ITS to manage and upgrade them as necessary. Outdated software that some agencies are using will be eliminated, as well as having six different applications doing the same thing. A state-wide enterprise solution will reduce the number of applications down to one. He also explained cloud-based storage presents different issues and threats. If a user ID and password was obtained, the data could be compromised in the cloud. There are advantages to the cloud, such as, reducing the endpoint to a number of different devices and limit the actual exposure.

Jeff Weak acknowledged committee members' concerns of taking many things on at once, like creating the efficiencies of a single group and the move to the Chinden campus. He advised a good portion of the infrastructure work is already being done. The take over of some of the agencies will occur around the first pay period of the next fiscal year which is June 15. This allows two weeks for the new employees to start in ITS before July 1. ITS will identify the most critical systems, their unique applications and devise strategies in which they can take those over earlier with the FTEs that are in place today. A decision unit is working on hiring a supplemental FTE for coordinating the integration and meeting the July 1 deadline. Certain activities are routine in nature and will not require all of the FTEs in the positions all at once.

Jeff Weak acknowledged committee members' questions about counties and municipalities reports of ransomware. If the information gets reported to their authorities it is often relayed to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). DHS has a representative in the area that provides intel and feedback to ITS regarding what is going on in our counties and municipalities. The new Incident Response Program allows for opportunities in collaboration and the ability to leverage through incidents. As the program grows with the DHS Fusion Center, ITS should have a much better insight and real time information to respond to and prepare for incidents.

Chairman Vander Woude discussed the multi-state breach with the Department of Fish and Game three years ago caused by a 3rd party vendor providing hunting and fishing licences. **Jeff Weak** acknowledged ITS will be involved with the new requirements and vetting needed for 3rd party vendors during the RFP process for all agencies and will provide technical expertise in the security realm.

Jeff Weak explained that ITS has a decision unit in the process of planning their own data center at the Chinden Campus. The data center will be used to migrate these agencies, especially the eight agencies that are in the first phase of modernization. With advancements in our procurement in the state, ITS will hopefully be able to move to a more cloud-type solution which will open up other opportunities that had not been available last year.

Committee members offered encouragement and believe the work ITS is doing is important and needed for the State's infrastructure investments.

Rep. Anderson discussed his meeting with the President of Midas Gold. Rep. Anderson asked him financial questions and about the viability of the company. He indicated they were very responsive and encouraged other members to talk to them about any concerns they may have. Rep. Anderson explained members of the legislature need to protect citizens' assets in the State's possession and be adequately compensated for the assets sold.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Representative Vander Woude
Chair

Renee McPherson
Secretary