



Virginia Cybersecurity Planning Committee
May 15, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.
7235 Beaufont Springs Dr, Mary Jackson Boardroom,
Richmond, VA, 23225



Committee contact address: cybercommittee@vita.virginia.gov

Call to Order:

A meeting of the Virginia Cybersecurity Planning Committee was called to order at 10:00 am. Mr. Watson welcomed the new members: Ken Pfeil, who is replacing Aliscia Andrews in the seat for the Office of the Governor; Glendon Schmitz, who is replacing Stephanie Williams-Hayes in the seat for public health; and Lisa Walbert, who is replacing Eric Gowins in the seat for public safety; and Brandon Smith, who is filling the vacant seat for elections.

Presiding:

Michael Watson, Committee Chair, Chief Information Security Officer, Virginia IT Agency

Members Present In-Person:

Diane Carnohan, Chief Information Security Officer, Virginia Department of Education

Charles DeKeyser, Major, Virginia Army National Guard.

Charles Huntley, Director of Technology, County of Essex

Derek M. Kestner, Information Security Officer, Supreme Court of Virginia

Wesley Williams, Executive Director of Technology, Roanoke City Public Schools

Brenna R. Doherty, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Legislative Automated Systems

Brandon Smith, Chief Information Officer, Department of Elections

Glendon Schmitz, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

Members Participating Remotely:

Michael Dent, Chief Information Security Officer, Fairfax County Department of Information Technology

Beth Burgin Waller, Chair, Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Practice, Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black.

Ken Pfeil, Chief Data Officer, Commonwealth of Virginia

Ms. Waller and Mr. Dent participated from home because her principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location. Mr. Pfeil participated remotely for personal reasons.

Members Not Present:

Adrian Compton, Tribal Administrator, Monacan Indian Nation

Robbie Coates, Director, Grant Management and Recovery, VDEM

Lisa Walbert, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security

Staff Present:

Erica Bland, Info and Technology Manager, Virginia IT Agency

Joshua Heslinga, Director of Legal & Legislative Services, Virginia IT Agency

Patrick Disney, Coordinator Legal & Legislative Services, Virginia IT Agency

Mylam Ly, Legal Compliance & Policy Specialist, Virginia IT Agency

Sam Taylor, PR & Marketing Specialist, Virginia IT Agency

Review of Agenda:

Mr. Disney provided an overview of the agenda and corresponding items in the digital meeting packets.

Approval of Minutes:

The March 26th meeting minutes were displayed. Upon a motion by Mr. Williams and duly seconded by Ms. Carnohan, the committee unanimously voted to adopt the March 26th meeting minutes.

Update on Applications and Assessments

Ms. Fain gave an update on the communications plan results related to the assessments project, including the channels used (VaLGITE and other partners, VDEM listserv, VITA social media posts, and Q&A sessions). The listserv open rate exceeded the 30-40% benchmark. The click rate also performed well, above the 2% benchmark. Social media engagement was between 8-16%, also above the 2-4% benchmark.

Ms. Fain also discussed applicant characteristics. Total qualified applicants reached 172, including 72 local governments, 69 public school districts, 22 authorities, colleges, tribal governments, regional governments, and regional schools. The geographic reach was wide-ranging across the state with 85% of counties having an application submitted. Authorities added even more applications, increasing to 91% of the state, only 12 counties were not represented. Local government and public school districts made up of majority of urban/rural entities.

Update on Pending Procurements

Mr. Watson described that the next step is completing discussion and selection of suppliers for all assessments. Suppliers have not been selected as of the meeting, but there will be enough to cover all applicants. In discussion, Committee members felt it was a good idea to provide guidance for how assessment project vendors aren't automatically allowed to continue business with entities and to provide explicit direction on follow ups to suppliers. The intent is that the Virginia Cybersecurity Planning Committee will be the point of contact for follow-up work related to the grant program. The data from assessments and an approach for further awards is expected to be ready for consideration by early fall. Should be ready to open for more applications (for the technology needs / implementation piece) in early fall, which will avoid a long delay from results. The goal would then be a close date before the end of the year, with further awards proceeding next spring. It is expected that the Committee will next reconvene in the June/July timeframe.

Mr. Watson also provided an update on the intent to use the state portion of the grant money to stand up SOC services, with a contract and such services becoming available in the fall.

Public Comment Period:

There were no public commenters.

Other Business:

Mr. Watson opened the floor for other business. Mr. Watson made sure that the new members had received enough information regarding the cyber security plan and that there would be additional information coming. Mr. Disney reminded members to complete their travel forms and that the next meeting is scheduled for June 23rd.

Adjourn

Upon a motion by Mr. DeKeyser and seconded by Ms. Carnohan, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 am.