

**Call to Order:**

A meeting of the Virginia Cybersecurity Planning Committee was called to order at 10:00 am. Mr. Watson welcomed the members.

Presiding:

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

Members Present:

Michael Dent, Committee Vice-Chair, Chief Information Security Officer, Fairfax County Department of Information Technology

Troy Adkins, Broadband Infrastructure Program Manager, Chickahominy Indian Tribe

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

Robbie Coates, Director, Grant Management and Recovery, VDEM

Adrian Compton, Tribal Administrator, Monacan Indian Nation

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

Uma Marques, Information Technology Director, Roanoke County Government

Kenneth Pfeil, Chief Data Officer, Office of Data Governance and Analytics

Brandon Smith, Chief Information Officer, Department of Elections

Lisa Walbert, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Office of the Governor

Members Participating Remotely:

Brenna R. Doherty, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Legislative Automated Systems. Ms. Doherty participated remotely from Richmond due to personal reasons.

Glendon Schmitz, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Mr. Schmitz participated remotely from Richmond due to personal reasons.

Wesley Williams, Executive Director of Technology, Roanoke City Public Schools. Mr. Williams participated remotely from Roanoke because her principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location.

Members Not Present:

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

Staff Present:

Mary Fain, Project Manager, Virginia IT Agency

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

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

Review of Agenda:

Ms. Ly provided an overview of the agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

The January meeting minutes were displayed on the screen. Mr. Adkins requested that a typo in his name be corrected. Upon a motion by Mr. Kestner to amend the minutes to reflect the correction and approve the minutes as

amended and duly seconded by Mr. Pfeil, the committee unanimously voted to adopt the amended January meeting minutes.

Financial Update

The financial update was provided by Ms. Fain noting that the final assessment project numbers have been completed with \$84,000 remaining. It was also reported that the Year 3 award was received, although no specific projects have been outline for its use at this time.

Overview of Application

The overview of applications was presented by Ms. Fain indicating there were a total of 141 applications received across Virginia, with distribution spanning the entire state. Notably 43% of these applications originated from local governments, and equally from public school districts. Analysis by VDEM regions revealed that regions 1 and 5 had the highest number of applicants. Additionally, organizations operative across multiple counties submitted 14 applications ensure representation across all districts. Overall, the application pool is predominantly rural with 66% of applications coming from these areas.

The analysis of project areas indicated that 38% focus on asset inventory, 22% on data inventory and 12% on secure remote access and firewalls. In terms of project execution preferences, 56% of applications sought full-service solutions, while 31% prefer implementation-only services. It was noted that contract-only or pass-through options remain available for entities that do not have the more commonly requested execution types. Additionally, asset inventory requests are divided into six sub-categories, with a consistent distribution between fill-service and implementation-only preferences across these requests.

Analysis and Recommendations

During the analysis and recommendations, members discussed the allocation of cybersecurity funding (~\$1.9 M from 2022 plus 2023-2024 pass-through dollars) with further discussion on service providers, which may be single or multiple entities depending on technology requirements. The committee recommended Option 3 for funding allocation focusing on organizations with low current capabilities but high improvement potential. Several project specific considerations were noted: larger pass-through applications will be re-reviewed, data loss prevention wasn't prioritized, zero trust revied higher funding than VPN, and some entities were excluded from endpoint detection funding due to excessive license requests. Committee members raised concerns about long-term sustainability after the three-year funding period ends., potential delays from local approval processes, and procurement rules (with multi-year contracts possible if discounts can be demonstrated). The timeline shows locality SOC awards by mid-May, funding agreements distributed over the following 45 days and project execution beginning by early June after local approvals. The presentation concluded with noting that service providers have not been chosen yet but, though early engagement has occurred and local vendor preferences will be considered.

Mr. Pfeil moved that the VCPC approve the overall budget for Phase 2 as presented, prioritizing approximately \$10.6M and authorizing up to the full \$15.8M of funding to Phase 2 Projects, which was seconded by Mr. Kestner and unanimously approved.

Mr. Pfeil then motioned the VCPC approve the allocation of funds for Phase 2 Projects across its designated capabilities, with up to 60% allocated across Asset Inventory, Data Inventory, and Secure Remote Access, 40% allocated across Firewalls, Vulnerability and Endpoint Detection and Response, ensuring that total allocations do not exceed the established funding cap for this technology level investment. The project team with the concurrence of the Chair, is authorized to make necessary adjustments within these percentages to optimize resource distribution while maintaining compliance with funding guidelines. This motion was seconded by Mr. Adkins and unanimously approved.

Public Comment Period:

There were no public comments.

Other Business:

Mr. Watson opened the floor for other business and noted the April meeting was to be canceled. Ms. Ly discussed travel forms. There was discussion on the services of locality SOC.

Adjourn

Upon a motion by Mr. Kestner and duly seconded by Ms. Carnohan, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting 11:22am.