

ITAC Conference Call June 19, 2013

Attendance:

Scott Gain
Kris Lund
Bob Avery
Pete Cinotto

Kate Flynn
Susan Trapanese
Gary Krammes
David McCulloch

Gary Fisher
Bob Kimbrough
Gary Cottrell
Kim Martz

Agenda:

- Videoconferencing update
- Summer meeting
- Update of Action Items
- Other business

Minutes:

Summer Meeting –

The call began with discussion of ITAC's summer meeting – do we try and have a face-to-face or a virtual meeting. Scott noted that Nate will advocate for a face-to-face if ITAC decides they would like to try for an in-person meeting. Regarding a face-to-face, Scott referred to email from Michael where Michael commented that he feels ITAC should hold off on a face-to-face meeting due to the current budget climate and the short timing for pulling a meeting together by mid-July. Bob Kimbrough noted that he shares the same concerns about travel to New Mexico. Kate proposed that a better choice for a face-to-face might be Wisconsin where ITAC could meet with Nate and CIDA. Scott agreed that is a good idea. Scott commented that the consensus from ITAC is not to advocate for a face-to-face meeting at this time. ITAC will meet virtually.

Scott asked for opinions on how the June 6 videoconferencing test went, and he commented that his staff felt the test went well. Scott asked for opinions on how the test went. Bob Kimbrough commented that the firewall issues with desktop sharing need to be resolved to keep the tempo of the meeting going. He noted that Bob Avery is hopeful that these issues can be worked out. Bob K. commented that seeing the participants of a meeting helps keep you engaged in the meeting. Overall, ITAC was optimistic that videoconferencing is a good solution. ITAC should continue to iron out the desktop sharing issues with videoconferencing and move forward in this direction.

Videoconferencing update – (Bob Avery)

Scott asked Bob for his thoughts from the June 6 test. Bob responded that he is looking for feedback, and noted that the firewall/desktop sharing issue experienced during the test can be taken care of prior to a meeting. Bob was pleased with the test. As an alternative to meeting face-to-face, the cost basis for videoconferencing is attractive. The bridge is there for our use, we would only have to buy software and a camera. Scott asked how many connections the video bridge can handle with Bob responding "a lot of connections." There is no problem getting 15 concurrent settings and the bridge can accept other systems. Scott asked if the bridge can handle other meetings. Bob replied "yes." Joe Kempter (Reston), can set this up for us. Bob commented that the bridge is underutilized. Bob's overall response is that the videoconferencing test was successful, and we should explore and leverage use of it for ITAC. He suggested that ITAC try it out for our next monthly meeting. Kris added that doing that would be a good test before using the technology for a larger meeting. Scott agreed that this is a good idea and suggested we do this for our July call and push the larger meeting out a month.

Kris asked about the cost for the M100 software. Bob responded less than \$100, but you can do a 30-day free trial.

Bob noted that he is working with Richard Medina to determine why some offices can't connect or were not able to view desktop sharing.

Review/update of Action Items –

- **Lead for WebEx presentations –**
 - o The Network webinar sessions were successful with 90 participants total for the meetings. Additionally, the webinars helped participants meet their RBST training requirement.
 - o Multiple parameters feature in NWIS – Gary Fisher noted that September is a good timeframe for a webinar on this topic. He will talk to Lenny Orzol and come up with some target dates.
 - o Kris noted that DBAs are doing a series of monthly webinars. There may be more formal webinars once Vision and AQUARIUS come online.
- **Stream View –** Bob Kimbrough – How many WSCs are aware that they can borrow the camera? Bob suggested a webinar on how to use the camera. Kate commented that it may be better to promote this when we have a better idea of the whole process. Scott noted that other WSCs may be interested. One goal is to get a proof of concept which can be shared with other WSCs. Kate commented that it will be easier to promote the Stream View concept with proof of concept. Scott responded that

it would be good to get a few WSCs to use the camera and build a proof of concept model. He expressed interest in using the camera in different terrains and noted that Michael may have knowledge on how to do this. Kate suggested the idea of photographing an area affected by fire; possibly generating interest from potential cooperators. Scott commented that we could eventually build a webinar.

ACTION – Scott will talk to Michael about ITAC's discussion.

- **Archiving Electronic Data** – Kate has not heard anything new on this, however, she did not formally check on the status. Jim Kolva is out of the office this week.
- **Inventory of geotagged photos** – Gary Fisher commented that ITAC put this on hold for now. Both he and Shaun are busy with other projects. Gary wants to talk to Nate to see if CIDA has done anything similar and suggested that we add this to the agenda for our next meeting. David McCulloch noted that there are others interested in this issue. Nancy Damar (NV WSC) has a large number of geotagged photos. David suggested that Nancy call Gary.
- **Programmers Forum** – Pete commented that his group is starting to work with Nate and CIDA. Pete will ask his constituents for input and suggested that ITAC add this to our next meeting agenda.
- **Cloud Hosting** – David McCulloch commented that this is still hung up in protest. There is nothing new to report.

Other Issues –

- David McCulloch asked Bob Avery about his cloud hosting setup. Can Bob speak to what they do in California? Bob responded that California is a large center. At one point, they had up to 75 Windows servers, but have since moved to virtualization (18 boxes moved to a single box). Users connect as before. The current setup is very simple with the capacity to virtualize more systems.
- Scott extended his congratulations to Susan Trapanese on her retirement.
- With Susan retiring, one of her staff will be acting and will participate on ITAC.
- **ACTION** – Talk to Nate about planning for the next virtual meeting.
- **ACTION** – Work on agenda for the virtual meeting. ITAC should submit topics.

New Business –

No new business

Next Call – July 17, 2013