

CYBERSECURITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Hybrid Meeting

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025, 2:00 p.m., MST

In-Person at NM Gaming Control Board
4900 Alameda Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113

1. Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call

Ms. Gutierrez called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Members Present

Jason Johnson, Chair	Cassandra Hayne
Dr. Lorie Liebrock	William A. York
Raja Sambandam, State CISO	Michael W. Good
William (Tim) Presley	Robert Benavidez

Members Absent

Regina Chacon	Major General Miguel Aguilar
Mark Leech	Dr. Srinivas Mukkamala

Others Present

Melissa Gutierrez, OCS Cybersecurity Project Mgr.
Todd Baran, OCS General Counsel
Renee Narvaiz, DoIT PIO
Bryan Brock (OCS), Flori Martinez (OCS), Dan Garcia (OCS),

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION Ms. Gutierrez called for a motion to approve the Agenda. Ms. Hayne so moved, seconded by Mr. Good. There being no opposition, the Agenda was approved.

3. Approval of March 19, 2025 Minutes

MOTION Ms. Gutierrez called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2025 meeting. Dr. Liebrock so moved, seconded by Mr. York. There being no opposition the motion passed.

4. Action Items –

a. Vote regarding purchase of additional KnowBe4 Licenses

Ms. Gutierrez reviewed the previous approval of opening up application for additional KnowBe4 licenses and that this application period was open from April 1st through April 30th. There were a total of 21 applications received; 3 cities, one tribal entity and a large increase from K-12 applicants. She noted that the criteria for percentages have been met, with 100% to local entities and 52.3% to rural areas, the requirement being 25% to rural areas. The number of licenses needed to cover all of these applicants is 8,713, with eight entities requesting management/administration by the Office of Cybersecurity and 13 operating independently. The expenditure thus far for 13,000 licenses has been \$71,000 of the \$250,000 allocated for this project, with a balance of \$179,000. Approximately 6,000 additional licenses will need to be purchased to cover these new applicant entities. Ms. Gutierrez stated she does not have a current quote for this, however, based on the previous license purchase amounts there will be more than enough funding to cover the additional 6,000 licenses. The request today is for approval to purchase these additional licenses to cover the new/recent entity applicants.

She then entertained questions or a motion to approve.

Mr. Johnson asked how many years this budgeted amount will cover.

Ms. Gutierrez replied that the \$250,000 was allocated for one year under Year-1 of the SLCGP, however, there is a four-year period of performance, so the time limit for expenditure of this amount goes out to December 2026. The purchase of the current number of licenses at \$71,000 was for one year only, with each license costing approximately \$4.50.

Mr. Johnson asked if there was any possibility of discounted pricing for educational licenses, as KnowBe4 does have a history of this in the educational realm.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that this has not been quoted out yet, but she will ask about this discount since there is a significant amount of K-12 entities in this application. However, there were some educational entities in the first round of license purchases and no discount was applied at that time.

Mr. Johnson stated he was just curious about the possibility.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that these licenses are just for the basic cybersecurity awareness training, phishing tests, etc.

Mr. Johnson noted, for the benefit of the Committee's awareness, KnowBe4 is increasing the quality level of their phishing tests commensurate with what is escalating in real-world situations relative to AI, etc.

There was some additional discussion concerning the entities requesting management by OCS and how this would work, how much time would be involved, etc.

MOTION Ms. Gutierrez called for a motion to approve the purchase of the additional licenses as discussed. Ms. Hayne so moved, seconded by Mr. Good. Ms. Gutierrez conducted a roll call vote. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Gutierrez stated the purchase of these additional licenses will move forward.

b. Discuss status of Workforce Development Project

Ms. Gutierrez reviewed how the Procurement Subcommittee issued an RFQ for the Workforce Development Project in February 2025, which was open for approximately one month with six responses received. The Office of Cybersecurity reviewed these responses and determined their top three choices of these vendors. These vendors then gave presentations of their offered services. She stated that the Procurement Subcommittee had not been particularly engaged in this process, so all of the reporting and documents related to this RFQ have been sent out to all Committee members for review. Discussion is open at this point to review the vendors, the costs and how to move forward for vendor selection for this project, which is Project 5, the Workforce Development Project, and is for Phase 1, the planning of what the Workforce Development Project will look like as a whole. She then asked Mr. Baran to continue with regard to the process.

Mr. Baran stated he would be addressing the process for making decisions concerning all of these projects and perhaps other matters requiring investigation, analysis and assessment. He noted that many boards have staff which do the leg-work and then provide reports and recommendations to the board, at which point the board or commission discusses these with staff and then amongst the board/commission members to come to a decision. Given previous difficulties encountered bringing together the Subcommittee and even this full Committee, this system of having staff provide reports and recommendations may need to be considered as a way for this Committee to approach the work instead of utilizing the Procurement Subcommittee, or perhaps bring in a consultant for these projects. He stated that he would like to have this discussion now before voting on this particular project, as this project is not time-sensitive, and perhaps it would be advantageous to use this project to test another process. He stated if members feel they have adequate information and are comfortable with proceeding with discussion and vote on this project then that is acceptable. However, if there are members who feel more information from staff or a consultant would be of benefit then that would also

be acceptable.

Mr. Benavidez asked if the current discussion would be about this particular project or the process Mr. Baran described. He stated that since OCS is now fully staffed and has a lot of expertise, he really liked the idea of having staff do the initial analysis, presenting data and making recommendations.

Dr. Liebrock stated that OCS staff have been able to provide overview information to the Engagement Subcommittee in areas of concern and this has greatly accelerated their understanding and decision making. She agreed with the approach to have OCS staff do the analysis and comparison for Committee members to review and present questions.

Mr. Baran stated there needs to be awareness of the actual or appearance of conflicts because some of the vendors bidding on projects have longstanding relationships with the office. Other than this he agrees with the statements regarding the value that OCS staff provide in regard to this process.

Mr. Johnson noted this process would still provide opportunity for discussion, questions, follow-up, etc., which could offset any perceived conflict or favoritism.

Dr. Liebrock asked if OCS staff would only summarize and present information to the Committee for discussion and decision making. Mr. Baran stated that is correct.

Mr. Johnson stated that the benefit regarding this project is that there is no time constraint and that the process being discussed seems a good way to keep things moving forward. Mr. Johnson asked if any Committee members were opposed to pursuing this process or if there was a suggestion to revisit the question at a later time.

Mr. Baran stated that for today the Committee could have a discussion of the quotes and vendors for this project and proceed to a vote, or vote to refer this to the OCS team to provide a summary and recommendations. He questioned whether or not the OCS team was prepared to present this today and if they are they could proceed with this. If not, then referring this to OCS staff for report and recommendation at the next meeting is also a course of action the Committee could vote on and authorize.

Mr. Johnson asked if the Committee was prepared to vote on the vendors today or if there was a consensus to ask OCS staff to review and make recommendations at the next meeting.

Dr. Liebrock proposed using this as a test case to give Committee members more time to review the information provided while OCS staff formulate a summary and recommendations, so members will be more comfortable with the process when there are shorter timelines in the future.

Mr. Good agreed with Dr. Liebrock.

Mr. Johnson asked whether or not there should be a vote or if this is just part of the discussion.

Mr. Baran questioned whether Mr. Sambandam is comfortable with this approach and whether it would impact the operations of the OCS or create any conflicts from his perspective.

Mr. Sambandam asked if this decision could be moved to the next meeting as he is not in a situation where he can discuss at this time.

Mr. Baran asked Mr. Sambandam if it would be okay for the Committee to refer this to OCS as a test case, as well as to test whether this process would be disruptive to OCS operations? He stated that it seems there is a consensus to try this process out on this particular project.

Mr. Sambandam stated he was in agreement with this as a pilot project, but nothing beyond that in

consideration of the time and effort required.

Mr. Johnson agreed this was a fair request.

MOTION: Mr. Johnson restated that the motion would be to move the Workforce Development Project as a test case over to OCS to perform the evaluation and provide recommendations at the next meeting when the full Committee could ask questions and vote on the direction to move forward. As noted by Dr. Liebrock, this would also give Committee members more time to review the information previously provided by Ms. Gutierrez. Dr. Liebrock so moved, seconded by Ms. Hayne. Ms. Gutierrez performed a roll call vote. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Gutierrez restated that the decision is for this project for recommendations to be moved to OCS while Committee members continue to review information she previously provided via e-mail.

5. Updates from State CISO, Raja Sambandam

Mr. Sambandam stated he was not in a position to provide updates at this time.

Ms. Gutierrez reported that the desk review by SLCGP, FEMA and CISA was held the previous day. She asked if Mr. Baran could report on this.

Mr. Baran shared that the OCS team received glowing reviews across the board from the federal participants in the process. He noted that the review performed yesterday related to the operational elements with comments and questions from CISA and other federal team members, all of which were very gracious and appreciative of the work done. They were impressed with the projects. They were very impressed with the consent the OCS team had created and felt this was something that could be used as a model throughout the program. They were genuinely interested in what ideas this team had for improving projects moving forward for other SLCGP participants beyond New Mexico. This was a very positive experience. He asked Mr. Brock if he had anything to add.

Mr. Brock stated this was a very pleasant meeting to attend in contrast to many other audit-type meetings he has attended with federal agencies. He noted that the federal group made it clear this was not an audit but an opportunity for the feds and the state to discuss status, progress, ask questions, gather information, etc., and the federal participants actions were very supportive of this. They were very complimentary of the time spent, answers given and the organization of those answers. He added that at the end of the meeting it was stated that there would be a post-monitoring letter sent out, which often is where the federal agencies note the things that need to be corrected. However, the representatives at this meeting stated they did not anticipate any issues or corrective action needed and again expressed thanks for the work that had been done. He stated that Ms. Gutierrez as the Project Manager, and the entire OCS team should be applauded, having done a wonderful job representing this group and its several Committees. He concluded by expressing his appreciation for having been a part of this effort.

Mr. Baran commented that there was one question directed to the group, and that was whether there were lessons learned and to possibly revisit the plan to support or perhaps engage in different types of projects, so regarding future needs there may need to be an agenda item to explore this question.

Mr. Johnson congratulated the team – well done!

Ms. Gutierrez thanked Mr. Johnson.

Ms. Gutierrez asked Mr. Dan Garcia if he had any other updates to provide since Mr. Sambandam is unable to report. Mr. Garcia stated he had nothing further at this time.

Ms. Gutierrez asked if there were any questions from Committee members regarding this update. There were none.

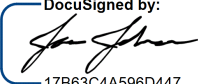
6. Public Comment

No public comment or questions were offered.

7. Adjournment:

MOTION Ms. Gutierrez called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Presley so moved, seconded by Dr. Liebrock. There being no objections and no further business before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

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