



Information Technology Steering Committee (ITSC)
October 10, 2024, Meeting minutes
Remote Meeting via Interactive Conference Technology
1151 Punchbowl Street, Conference Rm. 410, Honolulu, HI

DRAFT

Members Present

Christine Sakuda, Chair, CIO, Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS)
Benson Choo, Finance Factors
Joel Kumabe, Ohana Pacific Health
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, State Legislature
Eugene Chang, IEEE Computer Society, Hawaii Chapter
Arnold Kishi, Center for Internet Security, MS-ISAC
Garret Yoshimi, University of Hawaii
Bill Kumagai, Transform Hawaii Government (THG)

Members Excused

Representative Kyle Yamashita, State Legislature
Michael Otsuji, Hawaii State Department of Education
Michael Nishida, First Hawaiian Bank
Marcus Yano, CBTS Hawaiian Telcom
Mai Nguyen Van, Judiciary

Staff

Candace Park, Deputy Attorney General
ETS: Todd Omura, Lenora Fisher, Vincent Hoang, Rebecca Cai, Tom Ku, Brian Frey,
Greg Dalin, Jav Azuma, Jim Miwa, Sheila Oliveira, Kelli Wang, Jussi Sipola,
Juha Kauhanen, Catherine Arellano-Alcotas, Joseph Lee

Guests

Michael Fors, PCG
Hanna Lesiak
Thelma Alane
Malcolm Iwami
Jaymie Nakama
Jon Kawamura

I. Call to Order; Roll Call

Quorum was established and roll call taken. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Public Testimony

None.

III. Legislative Updates

Chair Sakuda reported that the Office of Enterprise Technology (ETS) is preparing for the legislative session, but ETS does not have any bills to introduce. ETS is monitoring state initiatives in case IT-related bills emerges. ETS is also tracking bills that passed last year to ensure compliance and will keep the Committee up to date.

IV. State Information Technology Strategic Plan Update

Chair Sakuda informed that updates to the state IT strategic plan are due once every four years to the Legislature, and it is due December 2024. ETS, in partnership with IT research and advisory consultant Info-Tech Research, are in the process of updating the plan to include development of operational strategies.

Info-Tech will be holding two workshops. The first workshop is in November and will be focused on meeting State department directors to help establish business priorities for the state IT strategy. The second workshop is in December and will focus on meeting with the state department IT leads to build an IT strategy informed by the business priorities.

Jussi Sipola, ETS Senior IT Enterprise Architect, reports that initiation to update the plan started in March. Since then ETS reviewed the current plan, as well as the original 2012 plan to determine whether the original goals and objectives are still valid. ETS is working with Info-Tech to plan the workshops. The status update for the Strategic Plan was to be discussed at the next ITSC meeting, targeted for November 22, but Jussi asks if an additional meeting is necessary.

Chair Sakuda proposes holding an additional meeting the first week of November with Info-Tech as well as keep the November 22 meeting.

Member Yoshimi expresses concerns about whether Info-Tech will be ready with materials by the beginning of November. He reminds that the first discussion does not need to be a full strategy, but rather the structural framework that may be in play, and at least some guidance for the conversation.

Members Senator Moriwaki and Bill Kumagai agree with the meeting. Member Kishi also agrees, but notes that scheduling will be hard due to the time constraints.

Member Sen. Moriwaki suggests that the November Workshop meetings between the Departments and Info-Tech include their priorities, what they're doing in business, and reorganization in terms of their use of data. Sen. Moriwaki also notes that by looking at chief governance officers, we should know what kinds of data and support are needed across the board.

Member Chang comments that it is a challenge for different silos to know what information they need from other silos, and what information they provide that other silos could use. Chair Sakuda suggests inviting Rebecca Cai, ETS Chief Data Officer, to the November 22 meeting to give an update regarding data.

V. Modernization Projects Update

a. Enterprise Financial system (EFS) Update

Brian Frey, ETS Enterprise Program Manager, gives a presentation update. The EFS is a business transformation project that replaces and improves upon FAMIS. The new system will be supported by modernized technology and the latest cybersecurity practices. It will accurately record and report financial transactions for the State of Hawaii and will unify traditionally separate IT systems and processes into an integrated financial management system used across State government. This means it will allow us to break down silos within each executive branch department and agency and move towards unifying the accounting and financial system.

- The contract with the previous vendor was terminated in July 2023 due to unsatisfactory progress.
- Gartner has been engaged to assist in developing a comprehensive RFP. Their expertise will guide the selection of a new system and implementation partner.
- Per Act 230, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, a significant \$31 million investment was made to start the EFS project, emphasizing the state's commitment to modernizing its financial management infrastructure.
- Phase 1: laying groundwork (Q1-Q3 2024). Understanding needs and developing the RFP.
- Phase 2: selecting the right partners (Q4 2024 – Q2 2025). RFP publication, evaluation and selection of vendor, project kick-off, collaborative planning of project timeline with defined milestones.

Member Sen. Moriwaki asks how much of the users are involved and how are you developing the system so that it does what we want it to do? Mr. Frey says that the development of the solicitation has involved as many personnel throughout the executive departments and agencies as possible. There have been many meetings throughout the executive branch to solicit requirements and multiple sessions have been held to share documentation of the requirements and to validate that the information was received and documented correctly. Mr. Frey also notes that there is a large evaluation committee with members who participate and leverage their expertise to help evaluate proposals.

Member Yoshimi comments that the previous iteration for EFS did not allow for sufficient time and resources related to the business process transformation; changes in procedures, the way documents were handled, and transactions were things that were stumbled upon. We did the comprehensive procurement process, but few departments have the experience of implementing a SaaS solution. Enterprise modernization projects have historically been under budgeted and have taken longer than planned to implement. It's important to align the different business processes and use the best tools available moving forward.

Member Kumagai echoes member Yoshimi's comments; Hawaii is unique, and the uniqueness should be recognized.

Member Chang comments that in the interest of going as fast as possible, be optimistic that a well-intended staged deployment means results come in earlier. However, results will not show everything, it will just come in earlier.

b. Hawaii Annual Code Challenge (HACC) Update

Thelma Alane, lead HACC consultant, provides details about the 9th annual HACC on November 16 at UH West Oahu. They have raised \$40,000 in cash and another \$32,000 in donations from sponsors to help pay for airfare, miles, certification, documents, and other miscellaneous expenses. There are 137 people registered for the kickoff and 51 participants currently registered: ten professionals, twenty-five college students; six high school students. There are also 176 people for the slack workspace.

This year the HACC will be having tech training workshops, and newly added workforce professional development workshops, a new presentation skill provider for interim workshops, an agile planning workshop, and security and protecting personal data from Microsoft workshop. Employers have complained that they bring in bright, smart, young professionals, but they do not have the soft skills to make it to middle management. Thus, HACC is trying to incorporate not only development tech-based skills, but also soft skills.

There are six challenges for 2024:

- University of Hawaii: community app to meet digital navigators
- Tyler Hawaii: Hawaii AI concierge bot
- Enterprise Technology Services: citizen portal to open data
- Hawaii Broadband Digital Equity Office: digital equity dashboard
- Non-State agencies: Aloha bird game, and build an energy display program

VI. ITSC Governance

a. Committee Nominations for Vice Chair

Chair Sakuda introduces and the Committee welcomes new member Bill Kumagai of Transform Hawaii Government to the ITSC.

Chair Sakuda reminds the committee that the Vice Chair position is open and asks for nominations. Voting for Vice Chair will be added to the next meeting agenda.

b. Committee Member Terms

Not discussed.

VII. Frequency of Committee Meetings

Chair Sakuda suggests CY2025 meetings should be either every two months or every three months.

- Member Sen. Moriwaki comments that during the legislative session it will be hard to have meetings, but suggests scheduling on a specific day and time for the rest of the year to help plan in advance.
- Member Chang expresses concern how helpful a meeting every month or two months will be due to the sizeable projects that ETS has.
- Member Yoshimi notes that if it is useful, a small group could help in between meetings to offer advice and recommendations. Member Kumagai concurs.
- Members Kumabe and Choo suggest every two months.

VIII. Good of the Order

Next Scheduled Meeting: first week of November* (This meeting was rescheduled.)

IX. Adjournment

Chair Sakuda called for adjournment. With no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.