## NEBRASKA STATE RECORDS BOARD MEETING: January 15, 1999

Nebraska State Capitol Room 1507 Lincoln, NE January 15, 1999 2:00 P.M.

## SCOTT MOORE SECRETARY OF STATE



SUITE 2300 CAPITOL BUILDING LINCOLN NEBRASKA 68509-4608 PHONE (402) 471-2554 FAX (402) 471-3237 sosadmin@sos.state.ne.us

#### NEBRASKA STATE RECORDS BOARD AGENDA 1507 STATE CAPITOL January 15, 1999 - 1:30 P.M.

- 1. Call to Order, Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes from September 3rd meeting
- 3. Records Management Cash Fund Balance
- 4. Supreme Court Draft Agreement
- 5. Web page standard recommendations--guidelines for access for the visually impaired
- 6. Access to Premium Services by Local Law Enforcement
- 7. Nebrask@ Online Business Plan--1999
- 8. Explore Contract with DMV--Briefing
- 9. Miscellaneous Matters
- 10. Schedule Next Meeting
- 11. Adjournment



#### NEBRASKA STATE RECORDS BOARD

#### **MINUTES**

#### Meeting of September 3, 1998

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Moore at 1:30 P.M. on September 3, 1998, in Room 1507 of the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska.

The following board members were present:

Scott Moore, Chairman;

John Breslow;

John Dale;

Jeff Funk;

Terry Harder;

David Heineman;

Yvonne Norton Leung, representing the Governor;

Steve Schafer, representing the Director of Administrative Services;

Craig Schroeder;

Don Stenberg;

Mark Sutko.

The minutes of the meeting of June 24, 1998, were considered. Ms. Norton Leung moved that the minutes be approved as circulated; motion seconded by Mr. Sutko.

Voting For:

Breslow

Dale

Funk

Harder

Norton Leung Schafer

Heineman Stenberg Moore Sutko

Voting Against:

Absent:

Schroeder

None

The motion carried.

Mr. Schroeder returned to the meeting.

Greg Lemon, Deputy Secretary of State, introduced and discussed current and past monthly beginning cash balance of the State Records Board account in the Records Management Cash Fund. The September 1, 1998 balance was \$157,987.

Chairman Moore introduced Michael Winkle, Executive Director of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. Mr. Winkle briefed the board on the membership, organization, and activities

of the commission. He identified telecommunications, telemedicine, and bandwidth as three important issues the commission will address.

Chairman Moore introduced proposed figures to be submitted as the board's biennial budget request for FY1999-2000/2000-2001. After considerable discussion, Ms. Norton Leung moved to approve the proposed figures of \$1,625,578 for FY1999-2000, and \$1,836,142 for FY2000-2001 as the board's budget request; seconded by Mr. Sutko.

Voting For:

Dale

Funk

Harder

Moore

Norton Leung Schafer

Schroeder

Sutko

Voting Against:

Breslow

Heineman

Stenberg

The motion carried.

Mr. Schroeder introduced a proposal for a Local Government Information Network and discussed this proposal with the board. Nebraska Interactive is reviewing this proposal, and Mr. Schroeder will further brief the board as this develops.

Chairman Moore introduced a Public Terminal Pilot Project. After discussion, no action was taken, and Chairman Moore declared the issue tabled.

Mr. Lemon presented a chart of requests by state agencies for free access to premium services on Nebrask@ Online and discussed this with the board. Chairman Moore said these requests will be reviewed but would probably be approved.

Chairman Moore reported that a collaborative technology grant application from the Records Management Division of his office had received preliminary approval by the Information Resources Cabinet and would be considered by the Nebraska Information Technology Commission at its meeting on September 9, 1998.

Sam Somerhalder reported that a state webmasters group had been formed, and 60 people attended the first meeting. Nebrask@ Online is also working on a website for this group.

Ms. Norton Leung reported that the Department of Roads now has a website on Nebrask@ Online.

Chairman Moore reported there will be a public hearing on rules and regulations for digital signatures on September 22, 1998.

Mr. Moore stated that the next meeting of the Board would be tentatively set for 1:30PM on November 30, 1998.

Mr. Dale moved the meeting be adjourned; motion seconded by Mr. Schroeder.

Voting For:

Breslow

Dale

Funk

Harder

Heineman Schroeder Moore Stenberg Norton Leung Schafer

Sutko

Voting Against:

None

The motion carried.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

Scott Moore Chairman

State Records Board

## Records Management Cash Fund-Records Board

## As of January 6, 1999

## Monthly beginning cash balance.

Jun-97	\$1,023
July	\$9,761
Aug	\$20,525
Sep	\$44,422
Oct	\$65,453
Nov	\$84,819
Dec	\$91,339
Jan-98	\$110,133
Feb	\$129,437
Mar	\$152,483
Apr	\$308,797
May	\$112,201
June	\$192,697
July	\$204,592
August	\$380,842
September	\$159,765
October	\$247,925
November	\$395,966
December	\$258,879
Jan-99	\$269,551

### SUPREME COURT OF NEBRASKA

#### Administrative Office of the Courts/Probation

Court Administrator JOSEPH C. STEELE

Probation Administrator EDWARD C. BIRKEL

P.O. Box 98910 Lincoln, NE 68509-8910 (402) 471-3730 FAX (402) 471-2197

December 9, 1998

Scott Moore, Chairman State Records Board P O Box 94608 Lincoln, NE 68509-4608

Dear Mr. Moore:

Pursuant to Section 84-1205.03 I'm writing to you asking that various court records be made available over the public access network run by the State Records Board. Pursuant to sub-section 3 of Section 84-1205.03, a copy of what I would suggest as a contractual arrangement is attached. Addendum One to that document lists those public records which are to be made available. The opinions of both the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals and the hearing schedules or calls for each of the Courts is, and has been, available for a number of years. We propose to add access to the trial court application, JUSTICE. While Nebrask@ Interactive has done some work in preparation for that, I would not anticipate that those services would be made available before the end of winter. No time line has yet been discussed as to Supreme Court rules.

At the present time there are no records which are included for which any special security precautions need be taken.

I'm sorry to have taken so long to get this to you. Please let me know what the response of the Records Board is. If the members wish to visit with me at one of their meetings, let me know.

Sincerely.

Joseph C. Steele

Court Administrator

JCS/mb

## AGREEMENT between the NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT and the NEBRASKA STATE RECORDS BOARD

This Agreement is made by and between the Nebraska Supreme Court (hereinafter "Nebraska Supreme Court" or "NSC"), and the Nebraska State Records Board (hereinafter "Nebraska State Records Board" or "NSRB"), to provide access to public record data on the Nebraska Supreme Court's electronic data files on Nebraska Online, an electronic data service operated by the Nebraska State Records Board for the State of Nebraska through a contractual arrangement with a private network manager.

WHEREAS, NSC maintains certain electronic data in computer databases, which is available to the general public; and

WHEREAS, NSC currently has data residing on the state mainframe computer, on the state AS400 network, and on the Court's internal local Area Network which is public and of interest to the public; and

WHEREAS, NSRB desires to have access to the NSC's public record data at all locations, if public record data are available at all locations, for the purpose of providing such access to Nebraska citizens and businesses who subscribe to Nebraska Online;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual conditions, covenants and promises contained in this Agreement, the parties agree as follows:

#### SECTION 1: Statement of Purpose.

The purpose of this Agreement is to define circumstances, responsibilities, and compensation relating to providing Nebrask@ Online with on-line computer access to certain public record data at the NSC's discretion, maintained in electronic form by the NSC.

#### SECTION 2: Term of Agreement.

This Agreement shall be in full force and effect for a period of one year after the date it is fully signed. Thereafter, this Agreement shall continue for successive monthly periods upon the same terms, provisions and conditions as provided herein excepting that at either party's option, this Agreement may be terminated at any time after the original term of this Agreement, upon thirty (30) days advance written notice to the other party.

#### SECTION 3: Definition of Terms.

- 1. Public Record Data data records which are considered public records under state or federal law.
- 2. Data Records facts maintained in electronic form for communication or processing.
- 3. Nebrask@ Online Subscribers individuals or organizations that use Nebrask@ Online for computer assisted research.

#### SECTION 4: NSC Responsibilities.

#### 1. NSC will:

a. When requested, help Nebrask@ Online in interpreting the meaning of data, provide input to Nebrask@ Online on display screen designs when consulted, and cooperate with Nebrask@ Online in placing public record data onto Nebrask@ Online as permitted by NSC.

- b. Provide computer access to NSC public record data as permitted by the NSC, subject to interruption of service pursuant to SECTION 10.
  - c. Provide acceptable response time within limitations of budget constraints.
- d. Provide reasonable levels of problem determination support to help isolate problems when requested, and if the problem resides on the NSC's end of the system, provide reasonable fixes or repairs.
- e. Have final control over security authorization for access by Nebrask@ Online to computer systems and data controlled by NSC.
  - f. Oversee the timely and effective performance of this Agreement from the NSC's perspective, and assist Nebrask@ Online in resolving constructively any problems thereunder and any new issues that arise in connection therewith.
- g. Provide reasonable levels of technical assistance to any central NSC data or computer department or service in placing NSC public record data on-line with Nebrask@ Online, to the extent permitted by Nebraska Supreme Court.

#### SECTION 5: NSRB Responsibilities.

#### 1. NSRB agrees:

- a. To recognize that authorized on-line access provides no right to possession or ownership of public record data at any time.
- b. To take all reasonable precautions to protect against unauthorized access to NSC's public record data.
- c. To provide reasonable programming, software, hardware, and supplies necessary to establish electronic access to NSC public record data.
- d. To abide by Nebraska Supreme Court's regulations, which may now be in force or effect or which may in the future become effective.
- e. To recognize there is no express or implied ownership of NSC's equipment by the payment of any fee or charge to the NSC.
- f. To provide reasonable reporting that accurately reflects usage associated with access to NSC public record data by Nebrask@ Online Subscribers.
- g. To keep such records as are required to document usage associated with providing access to NSC's electronic database and to provide NSC access to these records at reasonable times for auditing purposes if so requested by NSC.
- h. To cooperate with NSC in placing public record data onto Nebrask@ Online as permitted by NSC but only if desired by Nebrask@ Online subscribers, including securing proper access from the appropriate authority for, and providing necessary security to, each type of public record data desired.
  - i. In addition, NSRB agrees that:
    - 1) all appellate court opinions be available to subscribers within (3) working days after release
    - 2) a "No Release" designation can be used ONLY when there has been no release of opinions by an appellate court
    - 3) to provide a timely response to questions and concerns raised by the NSC as to the public record data accessed by Nebrask@ Online

#### SECTION 6: Billing, Payment and Rates for Services.

NSRB shall cause the network manager to remit fees for NSC public record data accessed through Nebrask@ Online as set forth in an addendum to this Agreement. Payment shall be made to NSC by the last working day of the month following the month in which Nebrask@ Online Subscribers electronically requested access. A summary page-detailing fee generating transactions per month and the amount of payment by Nebrask@ Online to NSC will accompany payment.

Rates for services shall be set by NSC and agreed to by NSRB and the Nebrask@ Online Network Manager and may be adjusted from time to time to cover the entire cost of providing service to Nebrask@ Online. Rates set shall continue in effect until modified by NSC and agreed to by NSRB and the Nebrask@ Online Network Manager.

#### SECTION 7: Illegal Provisions.

If any provision of this Agreement shall be declared to be illegal, void or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the other provisions shall not be affected but shall remain in full force and effect.

#### SECTION 8: Termination.

At NSC's option, this Agreement may be terminated immediately upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- 1. NSRB's failure to indemnify NSC pursuant to SECTION 9 of this Agreement.
- 2. NSRB's non-payment in violation of SECTION 6 of this Agreement.
- 3. NSRB's allowance of unauthorized access prohibited by this Agreement.
- 4. NSRB's material breach of any term, provisions or condition of this Agreement.
- 5. NSC's determination that resources devoted to providing access to Nebrask@ Online is required by NSC for its internal operation.

At either party's option, this Agreement may be terminated at any time after the original term of this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party.

#### SECTION 9: Indemnification and Hold Harmless Provisions.

NSRB hereby relieves, releases, indemnifies and holds harmless NSC, its officers, agents, employees, and departments, from liability for any and all damages resulting from incorrect or misinterpretation of data which occurs in transmission or as a result of any interface or coding performed by Nebrask@ Online (but not from any liability which would otherwise accrue against NSC by reason of inaccuracies or misinterpretations residing on NSC's own data records) and for any other liability asserted against NSC arising from Nebrask@ Online's operations.

#### SECTION 10: Interruption of Service.

NSC shall use its best efforts to provide adequate and uninterrupted service under the terms of this Agreement. However, NSC shall not be liable for interruption of service when the same shall be due to circumstances beyond the control of NSC, its agents, servants, or employees, including but not limited to unanticipated equipment malfunction or periodic maintenance or update of the computer system or systems upon which such data records reside.

Agreement for Electronic A	\ccess
Nebraska Supreme Court	
p 4	

#### SECTION 11: Assignment.

This Agreement may not be assigned by NSRB without the prior written consent of NSC and any such assignment of this Agreement without such permission shall be null and void.

#### SECTION 12: Notices.

All notices shall be in writing and shall be directed to the parties to this Agreement as shown below:

To NSRB:

Mr. Samuel R. D. Somerhalder

Network Manager Nebrask@ Online

301 South 13th Street, Suite 301

Lincoln, NE 68508

To Nebraska Supreme Court:

Mr. Joseph C. Steele, Court Administrator

Nebraska Supreme Court

P.O. Box 98910

Lincoln, NE 68509-8910

#### SECTION 13: Public Record Data To Be Accessed.

The public record data to be accessed shall be set forth by separate addendum to this Agreement.

#### SECTION 14: Construction.

This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Nebraska.

#### SECTION 15: Paragraph Headings.

The paragraph headings are inserted in this Agreement for convenience only and shall not be used in interpreting this Agreement.

#### SECTION 16: Total Agreement.

Authorized Officer

This Agreement, and the Addendum hereto, constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of the Agreement between the parties hereto. No amendment, waiver or alteration of this Agreement or the attached Addendum shall be effective unless signed by an authorized officer of each of the parties to this Agreement. Any oral Agreement or representation shall bind neither NSC nor NSRB.

IN WITNESS TO THEIR Agreement TO ALL THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement the day and year below written.

"NSC" Nebraska Supreme Court		
bv	Date	
Authorized Officer	Date	
"NSRB" Nebraska State Records Board		en indigensia in indigensi Indigensia indigensia indigensia in indigensi
<b>by</b>	Date	

# Addendum One to the Interagency Agreement Between Nebraska Supreme Court and Nebraska State Records Board

This Addendum One to the Interagency Agreement between Nebraska Supreme Court and the Nebraska State Records Board sets forth certain services provided by Nebrask@ Online (operated under the auspices and authority of the Nebraska State Records Board), the prices (P) to be charged for such Nebrask@ Online services, how the revenue from such Nebrask@ Online services is to be divided between Nebraska Supreme Court (R/NSC) and Nebrask@ Online (R/NOL). All revenue received pursuant to this addenda shall be deposited by the Network manager in the State Records Board Cash Fund pursuant to the provisions of the contract between the Nebraska State Records Board and Nebrask@ Interactive, Inc and any addenda thereto and distributed back to NOL and the NSC as provided below.

This Addendum One covers services described below. It is contemplated that additional future addenda will cover other services, which may be provided by the Nebraska Supreme Court.

#### Data Records to be Accessed:

SERVICE		. '	P		R/NSC	R/NOL
Nebraska Court Opinions:		4474				
Supreme Court	1.		N/C	and the first section of	N/A	N/A
Court of Appeals			N/C		N/A	N/A

Nebraska@ Online shall display Disclaimer: Pursuant to Neb. Ct. R. Of Prac. 12 and 2E(3), the only official version of the opinions of the Nebraska Supreme Court and the Nebraska Court of Appeals appears in the bound volumes of the Nebraska Reports and the Nebraska Appellate Reports.

SERVICE		P	R/NSC	R/NOL
JUSTICE Cases:				
District		1.25	.25	1.00
County	4,000	1.25	 .25	1.00
Hearing Schedule(Calls)		N/C	N/A	N/A
S. C. Rules		N/C	N/A	N/A

#### Subscription, Transaction and Connect Time Charges for Nebraska Supreme Court:

The NSRB shall also require that the network manager for Nebrask@ Online provide not more than five user Ids for Nebraska Supreme Court allowing direct access to Nebraska Supreme Court data records as displayed on Nebrask@ Online for the purpose of assisting subscribers with inquiries requiring interpretation of records, laws, rules and regulations, or policies and procedures pertaining to the records.

#### Subscription Charges:

Nebrask@ Online shall waive the \$50.00 annual subscription fee for access to all employees and offices of the NSC.

#### Transaction Charges:

Nebrask@ Online shall waive transaction fees for all NSC employees and offices for access to NSC services. All other transaction charges may apply.

#### Connect Time Charges:

Nebrask@ Online shall waive all connect time charges for Nebraska Supreme Court, if any are applicable.



DEPARTMENT OF SERVICES • DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSURE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND SUPPORT

E. BENJAMIN NELSON, GOVERNOR

Rehabilitation Services for the Visually Impaired

Guidelines For Web Page Accessibility

Note: The following guidelines, brought to you by the National Federation of the Blind, are suggested to ensure maximum accessibility and usability to web pages for persons who are blind.

1. Avoid the use of multi-column presentations, frames or tables.

Multi-column text or HTML tables on a web page render the page difficult or impossible to read with most access technology for the blind. Unless otherwise instructed to do so, this technology reads one entire line at a time, across multiple columns instead of reading each column separately. Although some screen access programs are beginning to be able to de-columnize some properly-coded HTML pages, there are still many programs which cannot do so.

2. When encoding hypertext links on your web page, include enough words in the link so that it can stand alone.

When a blind person browses a web page using speech or Braille access technology, the Tab or Shift-Tab keys typically are used to move from link to link. It is helpful when the link text can stand on its own. If a blind computer user encounters a page where links read "click here," "this," or "click this," the page will be difficult to comprehend. A word or phrase that describes the purpose of the link is more helpful. Instead of saying "You can find out about our exciting offer—simply click here," say something like "Check out our EXCITING OFFER!"

3. Adjacent links should be separated.

Hypertext links are indicated visually with some form of highlighting. The blind user needs to know which pieces of text are in hypertext links and which are not. If two adjacent links are separated only by a carriage return, some screen access programs will incorrectly treat these as a single link and thereby provide the blind user with bad information. Try to place something other than a carriage return between adjacent links. Blank characters, images, or bullets are fine; just don't place them next to a carriage return.

4. Include an alternative, short text description for all images on your web page.

This will provide textual descriptions or identification—essential if a blind person is to learn the meaning of a graphical object that cannot be seen with a screen access system. It is not at all unusual for a blind person to configure the web browser so that graphics are turned off, unless the alternative description is provided, there will be no way for the graphical object to be detected. You might use a tag like the following:

<img src="nfblogo.gif" alt="Image of NFBlogo:security-equality-opportunity" width="182" height="169">

5. For simple images, such as icons performing the function of bullets, use simple Alt attributes.

Using a long text description, e.g., alt="Bulleted item," clutters the screen and generates excessive verbiage when a speech-based screen reading system is used. It is better to use bulleted lists (the <UL> code in HTML) or simple elements to indicate bullets like the asterisk or small letter "o." These are good alternative text choices in the <img src... > code, but remember to always include one space after the character you choose (e.g., ALT="\* " or ALT="o ").

6. Avoid using images as hypertext links.

If a blind person is using a text-only browser or if graphics are turned off, the link will not be detected. If you must use an image as a hypertext link, you should be sure to use a separate text file to give a description and/or transcript of the image.

7. If image maps (ISMAP) are present on your web pages, provide an alternate means for selecting the items contained within the maps, placing them directly above or below the image map. Be sure to include instructions for the user.

Image maps cannot be used with text-only browsers. The hypertext links contained within them are typically selected with the mouse and are not readily accessible through the keyboard. Nor can they be detected readily with screen access technology for the blind.

8. Graphically based file formats should be used only as alternatives to ASCII files. If documents must be provided in a specialized format, provide the equivalent text file in HTML or plain text format.

Some web sites are introducing special data structures and viewers to differentiate themselves or provide special functions not available with typical web browsing software. The only way for these custom data and views to be accessible is if the access is built directly into the viewer. As a rule, standard access tools for the blind do not work with special viewers.

9. An optional e-mail address should be provided for a user to submit required information as an alternative to using forms.

Generally speaking, forms are not a problem for blind people using browsers such as Lynx for Unix and Internet Explorer. The use of forms will restrict only a very small number of users.

However, for some, filling out forms that have been sent to them via e-mail is easier to do than filling out a form through a web browser.

10. Provide an alternative text description for Java APPLETs.

Java APPLETs are still difficult for blind people to use—particularly, when graphics has been turned off. For example, if you use a Java APPLET to display an animated object, there is no way for the blind person to know that you have done so. If the presence of the object is important to an understanding of the information you want to convey, consider using a tag like the following:

<APPLET CODE="tech class" ALT="Animated Technology icon" WIDTH=200 HEIGHT=200>

11. If your page is designed using HTML frames, consider including an alternative layout within a NOFRAMES element.

Although the use of frame-capable browsers is growing among blind people, many are still using text-based browsers which have no ability to process HTML frames. Also, even if one has access to a browser which can handle frames, navigating through frames with screen access technology is still time-consuming. Your HTML code might look like this:

<FRAMESET COLS="\*,130">

<FRAME SRC="frame01 html">

<FRAME SRC="frame02.html">

</FRAMESET>

<NOFRAMES>

Alternative Page . . .

</NOFRAMES>

Relevant Web Sites

http://www.trace.wisc.edu/docs/html\_guidelines/htmlgide.htm

(HTML authoring guidelines from the Trace Research Center of the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin)

http://www.w3.org/wai/references

(References from the Web Access Initiative of the World Wide Web consortium)

http://www.cast.org/bobby

(Web site with analysis tools to analyze web pages and report accessibility problems) 4/14/98

## STATE OF NEBRASKA



E. Benjamin Nelson Governor

January 4, 1999

Greg Lemon
Office of the Secretary of State

Dear Mr. Demon,

As discussed on the phone, the CJIS Advisory Committee (Criminal Justice Information Systems) is developing browser based access to various state and local criminal justice databases. Although we will typically be either building or accessing the databases needed there is a variety of information that is not maintained by criminal justice agencies that can nonetheless be of great use. Your earlier letter concerning no-fee access to Nebrask@Online data gave rise to this correspondence.

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

(Nebraska Crime Commission)

Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4946 Phone (402) 471-2194

301 Centennial Mall South P.O. Box 94946

Allen L. Curtis, Executive Director

CJIS has discussed the utility of including a link to driver's license and vehicle data. I believe that this information is currently available through Nebrask@Online. I am writing to request consideration of extending the no-fee access to these very useful NOL links to local agencies as well as state agencies. This data is currently available in other formats but we would like to be able to allow useful and easy access to data for criminal justice agencies to improve public safety in Nebraska. I had discussed this earlier with Sam Somerhalder and hope that it will be considered by the Records Management Board.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael Overton

Chair, CJIS Advisory Committee

#### SUPREME COURT OF NEBRASKA

#### Administrative Office of the Courts/Probation

Court Administrator JOSEPH C. STEELE Probation Administrator EDWARD C. BIRKEL

P.O. Box 98910 Lincoln, NE 68509-8910 (402) 471-3730 FAX (402) 471-2197

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- f. To provide reasonable reporting that accurately reflects usage associated with access to NSC public record data by Nebrask@ Online Subscribers.
- g. To keep such records as are required to document usage associated with providing access to NSC's electronic database and to provide NSC access to these records at reasonable times for auditing purposes if so requested by NSC.
- h. To cooperate with NSC in placing public record data onto Nebrask@ Online as permitted by NSC but only if desired by Nebrask@ Online subscribers, including securing proper access from the appropriate authority for, and providing necessary security to, each type of public record data desired.
  - i. In addition, NSRB agrees that:
    - 1) all appellate court opinions be available to subscribers within (3) working days after release
    - 2) a "No Release" designation can be used ONLY when there has been no release of opinions by an appellate court
    - 3) to provide a timely response to questions and concerns raised by the NSC as to the public record data accessed by Nebrask@ Online

#### SECTION 6: Billing, Payment and Rates for Services.

NSRB shall cause the network manager to remit fees for NSC public record data accessed through Nebrask@ Online as set forth in an addendum to this Agreement. Payment shall be made to NSC by the last working day of the month following the month in which Nebrask@ Online Subscribers electronically requested access. A summary page-detailing fee generating transactions per month and the amount of payment by Nebrask@ Online to NSC will accompany payment.

Rates for services shall be set by NSC and agreed to by NSRB and the Nebrask@ Online Network Manager and may be adjusted from time to time to cover the entire cost of providing service to Nebrask@ Online. Rates set shall continue in effect until modified by NSC and agreed to by NSRB and the Nebrask@ Online Network Manager.

#### SECTION 7: Illegal Provisions.

If any provision of this Agreement shall be declared to be illegal, void or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the other provisions shall not be affected but shall remain in full force and effect.

#### SECTION 8: Termination.

At NSC's option, this Agreement may be terminated immediately upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- 1. NSRB's failure to indemnify NSC pursuant to SECTION 9 of this Agreement.
- 2. NSRB's non-payment in violation of SECTION 6 of this Agreement.
- 3. NSRB's allowance of unauthorized access prohibited by this Agreement.
- 4. NSRB's material breach of any term, provisions or condition of this Agreement.
- 5. NSC's determination that resources devoted to providing access to Nebrask@ Online is required by NSC for its internal operation.

At either party's option, this Agreement may be terminated at any time after the original term of this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party.

#### SECTION 9: Indemnification and Hold Harmless Provisions.

NSRB hereby relieves, releases, indemnifies and holds harmless NSC, its officers, agents, employees, and departments, from liability for any and all damages resulting from incorrect or misinterpretation of data which occurs in transmission or as a result of any interface or coding performed by Nebrask@ Online (but not from any liability which would otherwise accrue against NSC by reason of inaccuracies or misinterpretations residing on NSC's own data records) and for any other liability asserted against NSC arising from Nebrask@ Online's operations.

#### SECTION 10: Interruption of Service.

NSC shall use its best efforts to provide adequate and uninterrupted service under the terms of this Agreement. However, NSC shall not be liable for interruption of service when the same shall be due to circumstances beyond the control of NSC, its agents, servants, or employees, including but not limited to unanticipated equipment malfunction or periodic maintenance or update of the computer system or systems upon which such data records reside.

Agreement for Electronic Access Nebraska Supreme Court p 4

#### SECTION 11: Assignment.

This Agreement may not be assigned by NSRB without the prior written consent of NSC and any such assignment of this Agreement without such permission shall be null and void.

#### SECTION 12: Notices.

All notices shall be in writing and shall be directed to the parties to this Agreement as shown below:

To NSRB:

Mr. Samuel R. D. Somerhalder

Network Manager Nebrask@ Online

301 South 13th Street, Suite 301

Lincoln, NE 68508

To Nebraska Supreme Court:

Mr. Joseph C. Steele, Court Administrator

Nebraska Supreme Court

P.O. Box 98910

Lincoln, NE 68509-8910

#### SECTION 13: Public Record Data To Be Accessed.

The public record data to be accessed shall be set forth by separate addendum to this Agreement.

#### SECTION 14: Construction.

This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Nebraska.

#### SECTION 15: Paragraph Headings.

The paragraph headings are inserted in this Agreement for convenience only and shall not be used in interpreting this Agreement.

#### SECTION 16: Total Agreement.

This Agreement, and the Addendum hereto, constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of the Agreement between the parties hereto. No amendment, waiver or alteration of this Agreement or the attached Addendum shall be effective unless signed by an authorized officer of each of the parties to this Agreement. Any oral Agreement or representation shall bind neither NSC nor NSRB.

IN WITNESS TO THEIR Agreement TO ALL THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement the day and year below written.

"NSC"			
Nebraska Supreme Court			
by		Date	
Authorized Officer			
"NSRB"			
Nebraska State Records Board		*	
by	_	Date	
Authorized Officer			

# Addendum One to the Interagency Agreement Between Nebraska Supreme Court and Nebraska State Records Board

This Addendum One to the Interagency Agreement between Nebraska Supreme Court and the Nebraska State Records Board sets forth certain services provided by Nebrask@ Online (operated under the auspices and authority of the Nebraska State Records Board), the prices (P) to be charged for such Nebrask@ Online services, how the revenue from such Nebrask@ Online services is to be divided between Nebraska Supreme Court (R/NSC) and Nebrask@ Online (R/NOL). All revenue received pursuant to this addenda shall be deposited by the Network manager in the State Records Board Cash Fund pursuant to the provisions of the contract between the Nebraska State Records Board and Nebrask@ Interactive, Inc and any addenda thereto and distributed back to NOL and the NSC as provided below.

This Addendum One covers services described below. It is contemplated that additional future addenda will cover other services, which may be provided by the Nebraska Supreme Court.

#### Data Records to be Accessed:

SERVICE	P	R/NSC	R/NOL
Nebraska Court Opinions:			
Supreme Court	N/C	N/A	N/A
Court of Appeals	N/C	N/A	N/A

Nebraska@ Online shall display Disclaimer: Pursuant to Neb. Ct. R. Of Prac. 12 and 2E(3), the only official version of the opinions of the Nebraska Supreme Court and the Nebraska Court of Appeals appears in the bound volumes of the Nebraska Reports and the Nebraska Appellate Reports.

SERVICE	Р	R/NSC	R/NOL
JUSTICE Cases:			
District	1.25	.25	1.00
County	1.25	.25	1.00
Hearing Schedule(Calls)	N/C	N/A	N/A
S. C. Rules	N/C	N/A	N/A

#### Subscription, Transaction and Connect Time Charges for Nebraska Supreme Court:

The NSRB shall also require that the network manager for Nebrask@ Online provide not more than five user Ids for Nebraska Supreme Court allowing direct access to Nebraska Supreme Court data records as displayed on Nebrask@ Online for the purpose of assisting subscribers with inquiries requiring interpretation of records, laws, rules and regulations, or policies and procedures pertaining to the records.

#### Subscription Charges:

Nebrask@ Online shall waive the \$50.00 annual subscription fee for access to all employees and offices of the NSC.

#### Transaction Charges:

Nebrask@ Online shall waive transaction fees for all NSC employees and offices for access to NSC services. All other transaction charges may apply.

#### Connect Time Charges:

Nebrask@ Online shall waive all connect time charges for Nebraska Supreme Court, if any are applicable.

## NEBRASK@ ONLINE - BUSINESS PLAN (Nebrask@ Interactive, Inc.)

"1999"

SUBMITTED BY: SAM SOMERHALDER

## NEBRASK@ ONLINE - BUSINESS PLAN Nebrask@ Interactive, Inc.

**"1999"** 

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#### **NEBRASK@ INTERACTIVE, INC.**

As Nebrask@ Interactive, Inc. continues to build Nebrask@ Online into a premier state information network and as it creates the 1999 Business Plan, it does so knowing the Nebraska State Records Board recognizes the need for the development of e-commerce capability into the 21st century. Why?

- Lowers operating costs and generates revenue
- · Strengthens city, county and state economy
- Improves productivity by reducing processing time
- Improves turn around time to the taxpayer
- Procurement systems benefit vendors and government alike

#### MISSION STATEMENT

Nebrask@ Online is an information and communication system created with a primary mission/objective of providing "equal" electronic access to and collection of state, county, local, association and other public domain information for the citizens and businesses across Nebraska. Nebrask@ Online is also designed to improve the way Nebraska citizens and businesses electronically interact with their state government.

#### TECHNICAL PLAN

The Technical Plan for 1999 will include upgrades of the current server configuration, upgrades of the current development workstations, a new development server, a connection to the State's backbone and a search library license. The sequence and timing of the upgrades, improvements and purchases are planned as follows:

Jan 1999 -- Add additional memory to the development workstations.

- -- Add additional memory to the web server.
- -- Add additional drive space to the development workstations.
- -- Purchase the Proindex indexing library.

Feb 1999 -- Purchase Sun Ultra 2 dual processor server.

Mar 1999 -- Connection to State backbone.

In addition to the above expenditures, our Technical Plan also calls for us to provide a statewide web index and search engine, a restructuring of our customer database and up to the minute transaction reporting in all of our utilities.

#### **SERVICES PLAN**

At the end of 1998 we have Interagency Agreements with 45 separate agencies and 8 associations, whose information is or will be placed on Nebrask@ Online and can be accessed utilizing the Internet or Nebrask@ Online provided communication software. Of the 45 separate state entities and more than 55,000 web pages of content, only 5 have a transaction search/download fee associated with some of their services. (During 1998 the Network took almost 23,000,000 hits which, when compared to the 4,200,000 hits taken during 1997 and 704,000 hits in 1996, is a tremendous increase and shows the increasing importance of providing State Government information over the Internet.) The separate entities and their information services currently provided by and placed, or in the process of being placed, on Nebrask@ Online, fall into the following categories:

#### Current Entities/Information Services

#### STATE ENTITIES

The following agencies are being worked with and have either developed or are developing home pages with related information and links to other state public information that might be associated with their respective agencies. Current "premium services" (those with an associated fee) are described and highlighted.

Accountability and Disclosure Commission

Nebraska Department of Aeronautics

State Auditor

Department of Agriculture

Attorney General

Dept. of Banking & Finance

Board of Examiners for Prof. Engineers and Architects

Board of Public Accountancy

Nebraska Brand Committee

State Court Administrator(Supreme Court)

Access Nebraska Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Opinions, organized by weekly releases, the same morning they are released.

Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Nebraska Energy Office

GIS Steering Committee

Governor's Office

Department of Health and Human Services

Nebraska Historical Society

Commission of Industrial Relations

Department of Insurance

#### STATE ENTITIES (CONT.)

Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice

Lieutenant Governor's Office

Liquor Control Commission

Nebraska Library Commission

Commission on Local Govt. Innovation & Restructuring

Nebraska Lottery

Materials Division(DAS)

Mexican American Commission

Military Department

Department of Motor Vehicles

Access Drivers License Records and Vehicle Records(Titles, Liens & Registrations), both interactively and/or via special request/batch service.

Personnel Division(DAS)

Postsecondary Education Coordinating Commission

Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems

State Property Tax Division

Commission on Public Advocacy

**Public Service Commission** 

Nebraska Real Estate Commission

Department of Revenue

Access to State Tax License Holders interactively.

Department of Roads

Nebraska Rural Development Commission

Secretary of State

Access to UCC/EFS lien filings, Corporate records, and Letters of Good Standing. The UCC/EFS/Corporate filings/records can be accessed interactively or on a batch/special request basis.

Nebraska State Patrol

State Treasurer

Tax Equalization and Review Commission

Volunteer Service Commission

Worker's Comp. Court

#### **ASSOCIATIONS**

The following associations are being worked with and have either developed or are developing home pages with related association information and links to state public information of interest to their respective memberships.

Nebraska Bankers Association (NBA)
Nebraska State Bar Association (NSBA)
Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska (IIAN)
Nebraska Library Association (NLA)
Nebraska Development Network
Nebraska Community College Association
LEAD Alumni Association

#### Proposed/Future Information Services

As we move forward we will not only continue to add additional services for the current agencies that already have an association with Nebrask@ Online, but will continue to add other agencies and expand the capability of the Network. This next year should see some additional electronic commerce services offered, whether it be premium services of the Network or specific credit card services offered by the respective agencies. Some of the agencies or entities we will work with, or hope to work with, in 1999, are as follows:

Legislature--After this next legislative session, we would like to start working with the Clerk of the Legislature and the Legislative data processing area to develop search and update capabilities for bill tracking, amendment tracking, statutes, blue book, etc. and make this available to the libraries and the public. It is our interest in providing this information free of charge except for a product we would call "Lobbyist in a Box" which would enable the respective attorney/lobbyist/association to track particular bills(with timely amendments), as relates to each of their clients/members needs, and see what changes have occurred, on a daily basis. This would be a very popular service once it is made available.

Secretary of State--In conjunction with the implementation of a new UCC/Corp operating system being installed by the SOS office, complete building and implement capability to electronically order various reports/certificates from the requestors computer rather than having to call in to the UCC or Corp. divisions, plus complete and implement the capability to make UCC/EFS filings on-line(electronically), rather than via paper. In addition, complete the automation of the Rules & Regulations and make them available through NOL, with linked statute reference to enhance research capability.

#### Proposed/Future Information Services(cont.)

Supreme Court--Start working with the Supreme Court Administrator's Office in the development of a new home page for the Supreme Court, which will include access to the Supreme Court Rules, Court of Appeals Opinions and Justice System.

We have completed the building of an electronic interface with the "Justice" system, which resides on the AS400 and will be enhancing the capability for accessing the various cases (civil, criminal, probate, etc.). This will provide persons that need access to the District and County Court information housed within the "Justice" system, the ability to obtain it interactively from their computer (pc) in their office, thus eliminating the need to go to their respective county courthouse to retrieve the information. There are currently over 25 counties tied together through the "Justice" system with more to come on board in the near future. As other counties are added to the system they will be automatically included in the interactively accessible database. We are hoping to implement this service by February, 1999 and are hopeful we will be allowed to attach a small (\$1.00-\$2.00) search fee per case searched.

Department of Health and Human Services--As time permits, work in conjunction with the Nebraska Medical and Hospital Associations to build a Health/Human Services site that would be a one-stop shop for information the citizens of the many communities across the State of Nebraska could utilize and tie into via the many community networks that are in existence or being developed. Work with this agency to make the following information available, where appropriate: Vital Statistics, Day Care Licensing Information, Children's Services Information, Birth & Death Certificates and Filing of same, Aging and Adult Services Information, Hospital Locations, Professional Licensing Information, etc, etc.

Technology Commission--Work in conjunction with helping build the overall infrastructure for technology development and delivery of information for the State of Nebraska.

Worker's Comp. Court and Department of Revenue--Revisit both of these agencies and work closely with them in the delivery of their services and receipt of needed information that needs to be accessible via their respective data bases. Help create a more efficient working environment and way to deliver or communicate with the public and business community. Work on such things as the First Report for the Worker's Comp. Court and a Sales Tax Filing system for the Dept. of Revenue.

Department of Motor Vehicles--Work closely with DMV in identifying other areas within their agency where we can help them improve their collection and delivery of vehicle related information needed in carrying out their responsibilities.

#### Proposed/Future Information Services(cont.)

State Treasurer--Work closely with the State Treasurer's office, where appropriate, in helping implement credit card authorization capability for the State of Nebraska and selected agencies with regard to payments coming through Nebrask@ Online for various electronic commerce services.

Other Agencies--There are several other agencies that we will no doubt be working with or would like to be working with in the months to come. Some of the agencies we hope to work with are as follows: Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Administrative Services, Department of Education, Department of Labor, Nebraska Rural Development Commission, County and City Governments Statewide, Nebraska Library Commission and others as we identify the need or interest.

#### MARKETING PLAN

We will continue to use the same marketing approach we have been using to create industry and public awareness of Nebrask@ Online.

- 1). Based upon our current and future partnerships with major professional associations and user groups, we will provide printed information and explanatory data to associations and groups whose members utilize or will utilize the network under association and group recommendation. It has been and still is our intent to allow associations/groups to present this offering as their own via Nebrask@ Online, in association with the State of Nebraska and its cooperative agencies. The associations and groups will help market Nebrask@ Online via regular mailings with the necessary data offering sign-up and related network information documents. Parties responding to the information will be immediately set-up on the network or sent additional promotional material.
- 2). We will support user associations and groups by participating in their periodic trade shows, seminars, conventions, etc. We will participate by establishing an exhibit booth in their trade show area, demoing the network to specific groups, setting up and holding training sessions on how to effectively utilize the network, or actually be an integral part of their program. Associations that we will pursue with this program, but will not be limited to, are as follows: Nebraska State Bar Association, Nebraska Continuing Legal Education, Nebraska Development Network, Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska Bankers Association, Nebraska Independent Bankers Association, Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska, Nebraska Society of Certified Public Accountants, Nebraska Association of School Boards, League of Nebraska Cities, Nebraska Association of Counties, Nebraska Grain and Feed Association, Nebraska Press Association, Nebraska Medical and Hospital Associations, Auto Dealers, Nebraska Motor Carriers Association, and others.

#### MARKETING PLAN(CONT.)

3). We would also like to mount a print media campaign to include, but not be limited to, tri-fold product/service brochures that could be distributed by the respective agencies or associations or as direct mailers by Nebrask@ Online, articles aimed at user groups submitted to professional publications or certain Nebraska publications, articles submitted to national publications directed at readers in Nebraska, and/or timed distribution of press releases and any other print media promotional opportunities that may become available.

#### **STAFFING PLAN**

We currently have seven full-time employees consisting of a President & CEO, Marketing Director, Director of Development, three Programmers and an Administrative Assistant, and a part-time programmer/intern. We may increase the part-time programmer to full-time during the 3rd Qtr '99, in the Development area, to work on the development of what we feel may be an increasing amount of new products and services. As we grow in number of subscribers and services offered via the network we will continue to evaluate whether we need to add persons in the technical support area or the development area. We should be able to adequately handle the marketing, training and operational issues with the current staff outside the Development area, so, at this time, do not anticipate adding additional staff in those areas of responsibility.

#### FINANCIAL PLAN

The fourth year of operation(1998) shows Nebrask@ Online (Nebrask@ Interactive, Inc.) making \$198,700 (pre-tax), which is approximately \$20,400 over planned pre-tax income of \$178,300 and a respectable 7.1% Profit Margin. This is expected to decrease to approximately 6.6% next year because our operating expenses will show an increase of 9.4% due to demand on salaries and related benefits in order to keep current with the market. In addition, we are seeing a decline in batch driver license records, which we will be keeping a close eye on, and we are unable to determine, at this time, the true impact of adding the Justice System and SOS UCC filing system as far as new revenue generation. Therefore, we have been conservative on our income projections in those areas, yet still are showing a projected 6.1% increase in Gross Revenue. Highlighted financial numbers for 1998 and projections for 1999 are as follows:

#### FINANCIAL PLAN(CONT.)

	<u> 1998</u>	1999(proj)
Gross Revenue	\$ 2,803,100	\$ 2,972,700
Cost of Revenue:		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Paid to State Agencies	 1,835,600	1,941,900
Other	_38,400	39,700
Gross Profit	929,100	991,100
Operating Expenses	687,000	751,400
Operating Income(Loss)	242,100	239,700
NSRB Commission	43,200	44,600
Other Income/Expense	200-	200-
Net Income(Loss)-PreTax	\$ 198,700	\$ 194,900

The Nebrask@ Interactive, Inc. financial plan for 1999 is a best guess estimate because of the following factors:

- 1) We will, no doubt, be working with some agencies, in placing their services online, that will have some services for which we may want to charge a fee and will not know what those fees will actually be and the split of those fees until we meet with the respective agency and the NSRB for mutual agreement.
- 2) We do not know to what extent the network will get involved with the new Technology Commission or how the network may be utilized to provide information services to city/county governments and their related communities.

The Financial Plan provides us with a departure and measuring point for monitoring ourselves as we move through 1998. As we all know the plan is only a barometer and does not run the company. Like so many plans it is subject to change and wide variances, but gives us a good target to shoot for and strive to exceed.

## STATE OF NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES Alvin Abramson Director

October 1, 1998



E. Benjamin Nelson Governor

SAVES LIVES!

Mr. James T. Carroll Explore Information Services 4920 Moundview Drive Red Wing, MN 55066

Dear Jim:

Per paragraph 5 of Appendix A of the Agreement between the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles and RAM Center, Inc., d/b/a Explore Information Services, the Department is requesting Explore to review the "formula for monthly payment" for the quarter beginning November 1, 1998.

We must ensure that the Agreement between the Department and Explore is at least revenue neutral to the State of Nebraska General Fund, the DMV Cash Fund and the Records Management Cash Fund. It has become apparent this past month, that these funds are being adversely affected by the formula for monthly payment contained in the Agreement. The average number of records per month provided to Farmers Mutual Insurance Company during the period of January, 1998 through July, 1998 was 5,955. During the month of September, 1998, the number of records provided was reduced to 1,229. This was a reduction to the above funds of \$14,178. Over the course of a one-year period, this reduction could amount to as much as \$170,136.

As a point of comparison, our contract with Explore has generated an income of \$45,216 during the past year (September, 1997 through August 1998).

Jim, I will expect a response from you by October 19, 1998. If you have any questions, or wish to discuss this request, please feel free to contact me at 402-471-3888.

Sincerely,

Betty Johnson, Program Manager

**Driver Records Division** 

CC:

Alvin Abramson, Director

Scott Moore, Secretary of State

APPENDIX TO AGREEMENT FOR PILOT PROJECT BETWEEN NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND RAM CENTER, INC., d/b/a EXPLORE INFORMATION SERVICES

### Formula for Monthly Payment

of drivers monitored by Explore x .28 ÷ 12 x \$3.00

#### Monthly Procedures

- 1. By the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, Explore will supply the Department with the number of drivers monitored by Explore as of the 15<sup>th</sup> of that month.
- 2. On the last business day of each month, the Department will produce the data for Explore and send it within three (3) business days via Federal Express overnight delivery using Explore's collect account number. Explore's collect account number is 1149-6667-3. Each month, a report listing the number of records on the computer tape(s) and an invoice for the current month's tape(s) will be mailed to Explore within the first five (5) business days with payment due by the 25th of the month.
- 3. Explore will ensure that there are adequate tapes on hand at the Department for this application. The Department will inform Explore when the number of tapes on hand is getting low.
- 4. The Department will ensure that the previous month's invoice has been paid before the next month's data will be run.
- 5. The department and Explore shall review the "formula for monthly payment" for accuracy on November 1, February 1, May 1 and August 1 of each year. On such dates the formula mat be modified if both parties agree.

## PROPOSAL FOR CREATING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION NETWORK IN ASSOCIATION WITH NEBRASKA INTERACTIVE, INC.

By: Craig A. Schroeder August 12, 1998

#### BACKGROUND:

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Local governments across Nebraska are facing the difficult challenge of doing more with less. Recent changes in property tax and state aid policies are putting increased pressure on school, city and county budgets. Meanwhile, inflation and more significantly, Federal and State regulations and mandates continue to drive the cost of providing services up. The pressure from these combined forces is being felt first by small political subdivisions which have higher fixed costs as a percentage of their total budgets and fewer non-mandated services from which to cut costs.

The magnitude of this issue is further compounded by the fact that Nebraska has a very high percentage of small towns and sparsely populated counties. Out of the 535 Nebraska communities, 90% have 2,500 or fewer citizens and 60% have 500 or fewer citizens. Eighty-eight Nebraska communities have 100 or less residents. Thirty-two of Nebraska's 93 counties are classified as Frontier, meaning they have 6 or fewer residents per square mile. Thirty-nine more are counted as Rural with 6 to 20 residents per square mile. Only six Nebraska counties are classified as Metropolitan: Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster, Dakota, Washington and Cass which are geographically clustered in the Eastern one-forth of Nebraska.

Meanwhile, political subdivisions are a significant economic sector of the State's economy. The Nebraska State Auditor's office reports that in 1997-98, total city budget expenditures exceed 1.6 billion dollars. K-12 school district budgets are nearly 2.3 billion dollars and counties are over 850 million dollars, for the same period. Together these three sectors represent over 4.75 billion dollars in local government spending in Nebraska annually. Excluding Omaha and Lincoln city and school budgets, as well as Douglas and Lancaster counties; total city, K-12 school district and county budgets exceed 3.46 billion dollars in 1997-98.

In comparison, the 1997-98 Nebraska state government budget is 5.27 billion dollars of which approximately, 656.6 million dollars is provided to local governments in state aid, according to the Governor's Budget Office. There are is no accounting available for annual mandate costs to the State of Nebraska or political subdivisions. However, recent work by the Nebraska Mandates Project indicates that un-funded mandates represent 25% to 40% of city budget expenditures, excluding the impact of the current budget lid.

Nebraska's large geographic size and high percentage of small towns and sparsely populated counties creates inherent economic inefficiencies in local resource allocation.

However, small government is also more conducive to direct accountability to local tax payers and customers. In an effort to gain government efficiencies, we should not make government less accessible or accountable to its constituents. What is needed is a means to enhance efficiencies, yet provide political subdivisions the flexibility and control to prudently manage themselves and their unique circumstances locally. Information technologies and 98% statewide local Internet access offers Nebraska the first opportunity to potentially meet both of these objectives simultaneously.

FAX NO. 1

The development of a state-wide electronic information network would be of considerable value to local governments in meeting the challenge of enhancing efficiency and maintaining local accountability and control. For example, a network could allow local leaders to identify other cities or counties which have equipment or certified personnel they need and schedule the use of those resources. Local governments could coordinate joint purchases of inventory and receive larger volume discounts from suppliers. They could form inter-local agreements and purchase equipment jointly or hire specialized staff which they are required to have by law, but cannot afford individually. Inter-local accounting functions could also be automated and linked to appropriate state agencies such as the Department of Revenue for sales tax filing. The system could also allow local governments to share best practices and work together to solve problems.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE NETWORK:

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The potential exists to extend the knowledge and development tools of Nebraska Online, the State of Nebraska's official Internet information service, to local government. Nebraska Online also offers the potential for seamless integration of state and local government transactions.

It is proposed that a Limited Liability Company be created to operate a new local government network as a separate, but administratively linked venture with Nebraska Online, with Nebraska State Records Board approval. The LLC will lease a portion of Nebraska Online's server and proprietary software required to operate the network. Nebraska Online will host the staff required to create, maintain and enhance the network under contract with the LLC.

#### **NETWORK ADMINISTRATION:**

The LLC will contract with Nebraska Online for programming and administrative support services. Initially, the LLC will contract for development and marketing services required to make the network operational. Once the network is generating sufficient cash flow, the LLC may hire a full-time manager to coordinate the network's operation, interact with clients, and market the network to new clients.

## **NETWORK REVENUE:**

Revenue for operation of the network may be derived in three ways: 1) hosting fees to local governments who maintain information services on the network, 2) transaction fees to recipients of services from the network, and 3) indirect revenues derived from hosting and transaction fees to support services which do not produce adequate revenue to sustain themselves, but which are essential to users and the success of the network.

Specific fees will be established based upon development and support costs, volume of users and value of the service. For example, a database which allows five cities to share the cost of a \$90,000 street sweeper may be worth several thousand dollars to each community if it provides a convenient way to schedule the equipment and automate the accounting among the participating governments. A database which also allows local governments to search for specific equipment they need, purchase inventory jointly at volume discounts, and share certified personnel, may be worth significantly more. Simply stated, a network that saves \$100,000 per year in local operating costs may be worth \$5,000 or \$10,000 in annual user fees.

Another funding mechanism is membership fees based upon a per capita basis which allows small villages, sparsely populated counties as well as larger cities to afford access to the network. Another method may be to shift revenues from larger cities to subsidize smaller community and county services. A third method would be to only support local governments which can afford actual non-subsidized network service fees. However, this approach would diminish the potential impact of the network to reduce costs of smaller governments who could not afford to participate. It would also eliminate potential revenues to larger political subdivisions who wish to provide services to smaller governments through the network.

#### **ISSUES:**

There are several issues which must be considered in evaluating this proposal. They include:

The Nebraska State Records Board and the Nebraska Legislator must concur with the extension of Nebraska Online's technical resources in support of creating greater local government efficiencies through an electronic network. The network will be a separate entity from Nebraska Online, but a portion of its server and staff resources would be allocated to this venture through contract.

Some joint purchases by unlike political subdivisions are currently prohibited by law. For example, school districts cannot purchase fuel under a joint contract with cities or counties. The LLC may wish to work with organizations such as the Nebraska League of Municipalities and the Nebraska Association of County Officials to promote the removal of these road blocks impeding greater efficiency in local government.

Conversely, local contracts could be lost to large volume suppliers outside the community or region if joint purchases are made in units too large for the local supplier to fill. However, there are many inputs local governments purchase for which there are no local suppliers. In general, the economic benefits of volume purchasing will often outweigh the social costs, but the network should be flexible enough to avoid cases where small savings result in closed storefronts and lost jobs which have a much greater negative impact on a community's economy.

Computer phobia, staff training and Internet access at local government offices are all barriers to use of the network by local governments. Effectively conveying the value of the network in terms of cost savings and efficiency will help overcome these barriers, particularly the equipment access issue. With the cost of computer equipment rapidly declining, it should not be a barrier for any local government to gain access to the Internet if the value of doing so is clearly demonstrated. It will be important for the network to partner with local community colleges and other educational providers to help local staff receive the training they need to operate the network. The network may also need to assist participating governments in training citizens to use the services provided to them through the network. Good software design will be key in controlling training and technical support costs to the network and participating political subdivisions.

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

- 1) Nebraska Interactive, Inc. is asked to evaluate this proposal and request additional research and information needed to fully consider its merit. Upon initial approval, a business plan should be developed to more fully evaluate the viability of the project.
- 2) If and when this venture is approved by Nebraska Interactive, Inc., a proposal will be made to the Nebraska State Records Board requesting permission to allow use of a percentage of Nebraska Online's server and staff resources under contract with the LLC.
- 3) With State Records Board approval, a limited liability corporation will be formed, seed capital will be raised to fund the Network's start-up costs. Administrative functions within the Nebraska Interactive, Inc. office will be established.
- 4) Focus groups will be conducted with key local government officials to define specific information services which will be of the greatest value to them. This information will be compile into the Network Development Plan. The Network will conduct a marketing campaign promoting its services to local governments. The Network will develop a web site to demonstrate the proposed services and benefits to local governments. The network development plan will be refined as additional input is received.
- 5) The Network will create information services based upon demand by local governments and potential revenue generation to the Network. Projects with the greatest

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT NEBRASK@ ONLINE DECEMBER, 1998

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# FINANCIAL REPORT (NEBRASK@ INTERACTIVE, INC.)

	1 MONTH ENDED 1 NOV. 30, 1998	1 MONTHS ENDED NOV. 30, 1998		
REVENUES COST OF REVENUES:	\$. 213,005	\$ 2,584,703		
PAID TO STATE	144,369	1,727,590		
OTHER	<u>3,548</u>	36,070		
GROSS PROFIT	65,088	821,043		
OPERATING EXPENSES	49,840	<u>627,660</u>		
INCOME(LOSS) FROM OPERATION	ONS 15,248	193,383		
OTHER INCOME(EXPENSE)	<u>132</u>	(404)		
NET INCOME(LOSS) - PRETAX	\$ <u>15,380</u> \$	192,979		
VARIANCE FROM PLAN	5	32,621		
Revenue Contribution(Current Month .Dept. of Motor Vehicles(Batch-D	(LRs) = 67.8%			
.Dept. of Motor Vehicles(Inter. &	,	•		
.Sec. of State Services(Inter/Batch				
.Other (Agencies, Time, Subs., etc.	.) = 1.8%	•		
Balance Sheet (11/30/98):				
Current Assets \$ 452,7		\$ 373,841		
Fixed Assets 38,0	E	Long-Term Liabilities 43,500		
Other Assets <u>223,249</u> Stockholders' Equity <u>296,710</u>				
<u>\$ 714,0</u>	<u>051</u>	<u>\$ 714,051</u>		

#### TECHNICAL PROJECT REPORT

Project	Programmer	Estimated Completion	Status
DLR Interactive Leg. Changes	Sam T	12-31-98	Completed
JUSTICE	Sam T	1st Qtr 99	Pending Approval
Personalized Plate Availability	Dave	12-31-98	Pending Approval
DLR Interactive - Full History	Sam T	12-31-98	Pending Approval
New Billing System	Sam	01-29-99	In-Progress (98%)
Online Employment Form	Jeff	01-22-99	In-Progress (95%)
3270Serv Updates	Ben	01-29-99	In-Progress (95%)
Nebraska Sales and Use Tax Filing	Jeff	01-29-99	In-Progress (90%)
Online Birth Certificate Request	Jeff	01-22-99	In-Progress (90%)
Sec of State Corporate Database	Kevin	01-04-99	In-Progress (85%)
SOS Rules and Regulations	Kevin	01-15-99	In-Progress (85%)
NE Rural Dev. Comm. Database	Jeff	02-27-99	In-Progress (50%)
NE State Government Web Index	Dave	03-01-99	In-Progress (35%)
Product Support	All		On Going
Business Continuity Plan	All		On Going
EDI Functional Acknowledgment	Kevin		On-Hold
First Report - CICS	Sam T		On-Hold
Netscape Enterprise 3.0 Upgrade	Ben		Cancelled
DMV/Corrections File Transfers	Sam T		Cancelled

## **Completed Projects**

## **DLR Interactive Legislative Changes**

As of January first 1999 the DMV will report a five-year history on their reports as well as allowing restrictions and endorsements on permits. These changes have been made to the interactive service and will be turned on January 4th.

## **Projects Pending Approval**

#### JUSTICE:

We are hopefully in the final approval stage for the JUSTICE project. We are hoping that this service will be made available in February. All five services have been completed. Key service and search items are listed along with their individual status below.

#### Case Inquiries -

Includes the General Index, which allows the user to select a set of cases based on search criteria. After cases are selected, a case inquiry produces a report on each case. The format varies for different case types.

#### Judgment Inquiries -

This includes the judgment index, which allows the user to select cases, which have judgments. There will probably also be a link from the case inquiry report.

#### **Associated Case Information -**

Includes associated parties, balances due, documents related to a case, and inheritance tax information. These items will probably be linked from the main case inquiry report.

#### Probate -

Includes an index into the wills and inquires about selected wills. Claimants and amounts against an estate are included.

#### Bonds -

Includes bond inquires and lists of all bonds associated with a case.

#### Personalized Plate Availability:

The Department of Motor Vehicles has requested that we design a simple search service that will allow people to look up personalized license plates to see if they are currently assigned. This will be a free service available from the Department of Motor Vehicles home page.

## **DLR Interactive - Full History:**

We will be adding the ability to get the complete listing of a Driver's License inquiry. Currently we do not list conviction information that is more than 5 years old. Now that this information is available to the public, some of our customers have asked for this information to be available online.

We are awaiting review by the Department of Motor Vehicles on the full history service.

#### **Projects In Progress**

#### **New Billing System:**

We have completely rewritten the billing system for Nebrask@ Online. The new system enters transaction into the billing database as they occur. This allows us to:

- + Speed up the billing process
- + Give acurate up to the second billing information to the user in a timely fashion
- + Have up to the second billing information available for internal reporting and auditing.

All that is left with this project is the dial-in time computation and then another month of auditing to insure 100% accuracy.

#### **Online Employment Form:**

This form will allow people to apply for jobs online. The form will forward the data to the Department of Personnel in a format that is easily integrated into their internal database.

We are in the final stages of working out the file transfer format with the Department of Personnel. We sent them an updated test file at the end of December and are awaiting feedback.

## 3270Serv Updates:

We are in the process of updating the 3270 application server. The changes will increase the throughput on the server and this should speed up the latency time on searches.

We are currently testing the new server and are in the final bug-squashing phase.

#### Nebraska Sales and Use Tax Filing:

The Department of Revenue has targeted their Sales and Use Tax form as a candidate for online filing. This service will allow Sales and Use Tax filers to file the required forms online. The forms will handle the computation in the form and will write the data out so that it can be fed into the Department of Revenue's databases without the need for the information to be rekeyed in their office.

The Dept of Revenue is reviewing the single filer pages and we are waiting on comments.

We also had a meeting with the Dept of Revenue and went over the multiple filer screens. They have a few minor changes, which have been made, although they decided that they wanted to allow filers to move between the various schedules, which means some internal changes.

#### **Online Birth Certificate Request:**

We are currently working with the Department of Health and Human Services - Vital Statistics to implement an online request for an official birth certificate. Vital Statistics wanted to be able to receive payment for these requests via credit card online. We have tested the CyberCash software and are currently working on the data transfer between Nebrask@ Online and the Department of Health-Vital Statistics Division.

The Department of Health and Human Services have requested that we add a multiple copies mechanism to the online requests. We should have this portion done in the first week of January and hope to finish final reviewing and go live in mid-January.

#### **Sec of State Corporate Database:**

We have met with the Secretary of State's office and Sterling Software about implementation of the existing Corporate database services with the new Corporate database being implemented by Sterling Software. The tentative switch of the databases is set for the beginning of next year and we anticipate that we will be ready for the switch at that time. We have scrapped the Java version due to size and speed concerns and rewrote the server in C using the freeTDS library.

We have reimplemented the existing information which is available. Our next goal will be to insure there is no additional information that should be made available via the online search.

#### Secretary of State Rules and Regulations Database:

We have received all of the available Rules and Regulations files from the Secretary of State's office. We are nearly finished converting and indexing the files. Once this is done we will need to add the search index and link to the statutes database.

#### Nebraska Rural Development Commission Database:

We have another meeting with NRDC at the beginning of January and will be integrating new data that they have collected. We will also be going over the school/county user interface.

#### Nebraska State Government Web Index:

Now that the new Web Indexing Package is complete we are putting together a searchable index for all of .state.ne.us, and other state relation domains (such as nelottery.com). This global index will allow the public to search all of the Nebraska government web pages from a single location.

We are now working on identifying what should and should not go into the search index. For instance a complete copy of the Nebraska statutes is something we do not want in the index however we do want them to be able to get to the various statutes search pages.

#### **Ongoing Projects**

#### **Product Support:**

Product support includes a wide variety of phone calls fielded by our staff which, cover topics from installing our software to troubleshooting hardware, software and network problems on the user's systems in relation to our services.

#### **Business Continuity Plan:**

The Business Continuity Plan has been moved to the Ongoing Projects list. We feel that the plan should be listed here since it really is a project that will continue to be updated as the services and capabilities of Nebraska Online grow.

#### This month:

Finished batch DLR documentation.

Finished customer database documentation.

Started interactive DLR documentation.

Started corporation batch and special request documentation.

Started UCC batch and special request documentation.

## **Projects On Hold**

#### **EDI Functional Acknowledgment:**

We are investigating the feasibility of providing functional acknowledgments for the Nebraska Department of Revenue fuel tax submissions as part of their service. This will mean that when a filer submits their electronic filing we will immediately verify that the filling is in the correct format and if not let them know where the problem(s) occurred.

Although the functional acknowledgments appear to be working with smaller filers who use the Dept of Revenue's filing software, this project is currently on hold due to some filing format issues with some of the larger customers.

#### First Report - CICS

We have completed the Workers' Compensation Court First Report CICS interface. It is currently waiting for approval from the Workers' Compensation Court. The First Report system allows users access to Workers' Compensation Court First Report filings by searching on case number, name, date and social security number. The First Report database includes a single first report (form 1) and multiple compensation and expense reports (form 4) for each case selected.

## **Cancelled Projects**

#### Netscape Enterprise 3.0 Upgrade

We tested the Netscape Enterprise 3.0 server and have come to the conclusion that it does not meet our current or future needs. We are hoping to evaluate the Apache web server during the first quarter of the year to see if it will provide all of the functionality that we require.

#### **DMV/Corrections File Transfers:**

We met with the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles to discuss the possibility of Nebraska Online handing the information transfer between a dialup machine at the Department of Corrections and the AS400 at the DMV. We would handle the two-way transfer of plate order information between the two departments.

This project was cancelled since the Department of Corrections is getting a connection to the State's network.

#### MARKETING REPORT

#### **NEW SERVICES:**

.The Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System and Nebraska Crime Commission web sites were completed and made available on the Internet during the month of December.

#### **NEW CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:**

.The Nebraska Supreme Court submitted a new Interagency Agreement for approval by the Nebraska State Records Board, which will be discussed and reviewed at the January NSRB meeting.

#### PENDING CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:

.Contracts and/or agreements waiting further discussion and/or signatures are in the hands of the following: GIS Steering Committee, Nebraska Department of Water Resources, Foster Care Review Board, and Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.

#### **MEETINGS/DEMOS/ACTIONS:**

.We continued to have meetings with representatives from the Department of Motor Vehicles with regard to the special contract they have with Explore for providing access to Driver License Records and charging them based upon an agreed upon pricing formulae. As a result of DMV asking Explore for a review of the pricing formulae and Explore responding with some of their historical information and subsequently, DMV asking the pricing formulae be changed, Explore responded negatively and asked to meet with DMV to discuss and negotiate the price. No agreement was reached in the December meeting and Explore asked for more time to do some research within the Insurance industry before proceeding. This situation should continue to be closely monitored by the NSRB as it has the potential of having a negative impact on the financial viability of NOL on an ongoing basis, as well as a negative impact on the General Fund and DMV Cash Fund.

In conjunction with the Supreme Court Administrator's office, we finalized the wording on a new interagency agreement to include the "Justice System". It was put in final form and submitted to the Nebraska State Records Board for review, which will be done at the boards January meeting. In addition, we continue to coordinate with representatives from the Supreme Court and their technical staff to discuss the process we will have to follow to make the civil cases accessible from the Justice System, like we have already done with the Criminal & Traffic cases. We have scheduled additional technical meetings to determine what it will take to speed up response time of inquiries into the Justice System. We hope to offer the Justice System inquiry capability during February, 1999.

.We continued to make minor refinements to the State Webmasters Group Web Site and compiled the survey information the webmasters submitted and presented them at the Webmasters Group meeting on December 1st. The survey pointed out the most popular request

#### MEETINGS/DEMOS/ACTIONS(CONT)

being to learn more about web page design and then CGI scripting. Other interests were in databases, html tools, more efficient use of tables, JAVA and cascade tiling sheets. After discussion of what the group wanted to achieve at future meetings and giving a demonstration of the new Webmasters Group Web Site, it was decided to meet again during February.

.We implemented a new link from the NOL home page to Road Conditions provided on the Nebraska Department of Roads web site. This will be left in place during the winter months.

.We reviewed and implemented the newly developed web sites for the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System and the Nebraska Crime Commission during the month of December.

.We have begun working on a new NOL Inquiry Packet to send to persons inquiring about or needing more information on NOL. We are trying to encourage callers or inquirers to go to our home page where they can obtain the same information on-line and download a Subscriber Agreement. Also, with more subscribers gaining access to the Internet and not requiring our communication software, we will also be changing our Subscriber Response Packet and user manual we provide to them.

.We developed a new Outlook 98 (email) training manual and will be scheduling email training for the Crime Commission during the month of January.

. We completed enhancing the Subscribers On-line billing information to not only include all of their transaction activity, but also to include any adjustments to their accounts and subscription renewal information, which is a significant enhancement for those subscribers paying their bill via ACH or credit card.

. We attended a national Electronic Commerce Conference during the month of December, which was also attended by representatives from DAS-Division of Communications and DAS-Information Services. Based on the many speakers' projections for the use of electronic commerce in the future, we feel we are positioned well to take advantage of the many electronic commerce applications that will be required/needed for conducting business between government and the private sector.

## **NEW/OUTSTANDING ISSUES**

.We created a link on the NOL home page for the press release covering the signing of the Digital Signature Act by the Governor and the Secretary of State. This piece of legislation should help us when we want to implement future ecommerce applications that formerly required signatures on a paper document before it could be considered a legal instrument.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sam Somerhalder

Network General Manager

## SCOTT MOORE SECRETARY OF STATE



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> RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

> > JAN 0 8 1999

RECEIVED

STATE OF NEBRASKA

TO:

Members of the State Records Board

FROM: Scott Moore, Secretary of State, Chairman, Nebraska State Records Board

RE:

Next Meeting

DATE:

January 7, 1999

The next meeting of the State Records Board meeting has been scheduled for Friday, January 15, 1999, Room 1507, State Capitol, at 1:30 P.M. It is my understanding that the language for the pending agreement between the Supreme Court and Nebrask@ Online has been reviewed by Nebraska Interactive, Inc and the Supreme Court and will be reviewed by the State Records Board at the meeting for final approval. You will recall that the Supreme Court is exempt from the fee setting procedure established for the Board by statute, but as administrator of the network the Board still must review and endorse Additional information on this issue is enclosed. new agency contracts.

This office has also been contacted by Health and Human Services for the Visually Impaired Division regarding web page standards to allow state web pages to be used by the visually impaired, materials are enclosed. In addition the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice has contacted Board concerning the use of network information by local law enforcement.

One issue which will be on the agenda is the current contract between the Department of Motor Vehicles and Explore. When LB590 (creating the current duties of the State Records Board) was passed in 1997 an amendment to that bill specifically allowed the director of the Department of Motor Vehicles to enter into a contract to provide information regarding driver records (Laws, 1997 LB590, Sec. 2, codified at Neb. Rev. Stat. §60-483). Two issues have arisen which should be brought to the attention of the

Board. First, DMV is currently re-negotiating the contract, there is a legal question as to whether the rate setting portion of the contract needs to go through the hearing/review process established for the Board in Chapter 84, Article 12. The second issue is current rate in the contract itself, the rate is set at as a percentage of records provided, and there is some question as to whether this rate structure is eroding State Records Board Revenue. Although I do not anticipate formal action on this issue, I think it would be appropriate for the Board to be briefed on this issue at the meeting. Additional material is included to further clarify these issues.

Enclosed are the agenda and supplementary materials and reports for the next meeting. I look forward to seeing you soon and am glad to welcome the new members to the Board.