

## Pre-bid Conference Summary

1. This Summary shall be referred to as "Addendum 1" and should be appended to each of the three respective RFP's and be incorporated into the same by reference.

Meeting convened: 10:33a.m.

Attendees: (Exhibit 1)

Presentation: Guy M. Cahill, Director of Finance and Operations

### 2. Background and Scope of Project

Mr. Cahill reiterated the scope of the WAN, LAN, and maintenance projects as contained in the respective RFP's found at [www.pekin.net/civicnet/](http://www.pekin.net/civicnet/).

Mr. Cahill outlined to the respective bidders that the civicNET Members have committed \$1.3 million for the procurement of a dark fiber Wide-area Network including preventative, non-catastrophic maintenance for the first 10 years. \$0.8 million has been set aside for the procurement of the necessary 25Mbs. ATM switches and associated routers for the Local-area Networks with OC-3 up-links to the WAN. These monies do not include any discounts that might be available from the FCC's USF.

### 3. Universal Service Fund

Mr. Cahill noted that civicNET would be built either with or without FCC USF funding. He noted that discounts were believed to be available for that portion of hardware dedicated to the LAN. He also noted that discounts were believed to be available for (1) the maintenance of networks including WAN's maintained by non-common carriers based upon a "private letter ruling" received by the district, and , (2) that portion of a leased WAN used exclusively for Internet traffic and provisioned by either a common or non-common carrier. Authoritative information as to the availability of discounts may be obtained from the National Exchange Carriers Association (the FCC's administrative agent) WEB site at [www.neca.org/funds/fasl.c.htm](http://www.neca.org/funds/fasl.c.htm)

It will be the intent of civicNET to dedicate 45Mbs of bandwidth along the WAN backbone to Internet Traffic (as that is the maximum throughput available from the State Board of Education's Internet POP), 45Mbs to video traffic along the WAN backbone, 45Mbs of data traffic, and 20Mbs of bandwidth to voice telephony.

### 4. Preferences

Mr. Cahill outlined to the prospective bidders what the civicNET preferences would be in evaluating a response to its WAN RFP to procure 'dark fiber'.

1st Preference: 1 to 5-year lease with option to buy at a stated, fixed price or a 99-year lease with an up-front payment with no recurring charges except for maintenance and then at a pre-determined, fixed annual rate and not beginning until the eleventh year; both assume preventative, non-catastrophic maintenance the cost of which is to be included in the first ten years.

2nd Preference: A partnership with one or more providers wherein civicNET and its Partner(s) subsidize each others interests including WAN maintenance; assumes an up-front payment with no recurring charges.

3rd Preference: Either of the first two preferences with a subsidy from the FCC's USF, and then only to the extent permitted by law, rule, or regulation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the FCC, and/or Universal Service Fund.

4th Preference: Reject all bids and proceed with separate negotiations with local interests having expressed a desire to build and maintain a high bandwidth WAN, possibly re-bidding at a future date.

5th Preference: Something less than the 1st through 3rd preferences in terms of length of lease, option to buy, or other factors.

#### 5. General Questions/Responses

- Do the fiber strands 'home-run' back to the QST/ISBE POP in Peoria? No. The network topology shows both a 'daisy-chaining' and 'star' deployment of fiber wherein certain prescribed locations are daisy-chained to one another with each forming a 'HUB' location. From each HUB are one or more 'spokes' creating a star to the remaining buildings.

- Are the HUB and Spoke locations depicted on the map provided the required locations. No; the map provided is for illustrative purposes only; Providers with existing networks may find other locations to be more advantageous for the location of HUBS.

- What do the different fiber run colors on the map relate to? The colors reflect the minimum number of strands required to support civicNET needs on the illustrative map with one exception: two additional strands are required between the E. Peoria campus of Illinois Central College and their downtown Peoria location; Otherwise, a minimum of 4-strands (two primary, two back-up) are required to each location.

- How many fibers are needed at each location if a provider chooses to use an existing network? With the exception of ICC, a minimum of 4-strands (two primary, two back-up) are required to each location. In addition, ICC requires four more strands dedicated to the interconnect of their three campuses: ICC-East Peoria, ICC-Health and Public Safety Building, Peoria, and ICC-Perley Campus-Peoria.

- What existing LAN infrastructure is in place at each of the buildings of the civicNET members the investment of which needs to be protected? (This question has been asked of each Member and the answer will be forthcoming by location.)

- How will you know what equipment will be needed if the HUB and spoke locations are not set? We will award the WAN-RFP first and negotiate changes to the LAN-RFP to the extent the number of OC-3 ports to support the WAN change from location to location; all other aspects of the LAN-RFP routers and the base ATM switch and associated LAN ports to support 25Mbps to the desktop should remain unchanged.

- Can a bidder respond to more than one RFP and can they submit multiple responses? Yes and yes.

- Where does the fiber terminate in Peoria? Two locations. For the Internet, the termination point is at QST Communications on Southwest Adams. For ICC's downtown campus, at the ICC Perley Campus and the Health and Public Safety Campus both on Southwest Adams with the later adjacent to QST Communications.

- How many fibers does ICC require? Four will be dedicated between ICC's E. Peoria and two downtown locations; Four additional will come 'into' and 'out of' the E. Peoria and Health and Public Safety Campuses as part of the main civicNET backbone.

- What is the maximum distance between hardware along a fiber run? With the exception of the main Internet run from a point in Pekin District 108 to the

State Board of Education POP at QST Communications in Peoria 20 kilometers; for the Internet run, 40 kilometers.

- What is the maximum distance of a fiber run? See response above.
- What is the minimum supported speed required? The fiber plant and network hardware along the WAN must support 155Mbps ATM and be scaleable to 622Mbps ATM without anything more than a change in the modules of the base unit; the base unit investment must be protected. To the classroom, the LAN switch must support 25Mbps ATM across CAT-5 cabling.
- What is the fiber type along the WAN? LAN? Along the WAN, single mode fiber must be supported; LAN, CAT-5 cable
- Where does the fiber along the WAN terminate? With the exception of the ICC East Peoria campus, termination will be on the inside wall of each building at an easily accessible location near the point of entry; WAN providers will not have to run fiber within the buildings as part of this project but will be required to fusion-splice into the fiber provided by each building/district at the point of entry. (There may be an opportunity for said same provider to run the necessary fiber to the appropriate wiring closet.) For ICC East Peoria Campus, the fiber will enter a utility tunnel and transverse the same to an ICC designated location within the main building just off the utility tunnel.
- Who will be responsible for the addressing scheme? What addressing scheme will be used? The addressing scheme will be 'configured' by the hardware provider as determined jointly by the Pekin Public Schools, Illinois Central College, the Illinois State Board of Education/Learning Technology Hub Region 3, and the hardware provider. Information pertaining to the same will be forthcoming as the question has been re-directed. The costs for and extent of such services shall be included in the bid response.
- How do you define preventative, non-catastrophic maintenance? This is addressed in the Maintenance RFP as a minimum. However, providers are encouraged to further define their definition of what is and what is not included in their maintenance agreement and what the costs are for those items excluded. This should be shown on a separate schedule labeled: "Schedule 4: Maintenance Service Clarification."

#### 6. Provider SPIN Numbers

If all or part of your response to the civicNET RFP will rely upon FCC USF discounts, you must provide with your response the SPIN number for use by the District in completing its FCC Form 471 and by you in completing FCC Form 486. The following information related to SPIN numbers may be helpful to those providers who have yet to obtain the same. It comes to us and is forwarded to you by the Area 3 Learning Technology HUB, an arm of the Illinois State Board of Education.

- As districts submit their Forms 471, they should have SPIN (Service Provider Identification Numbers) for every vendor listed in items 15 or 16. SPIN will definitely be needed for the submission of Form 486. Vendors who do not have SPIN can get one by calling 973-560-4440 (soon to be changed to an 800 #). I am also including below the details from the SLC web site [www.slcfund.org/reference/](http://www.slcfund.org/reference/). This number is required by the Feds.
- This number should be shown on a separate schedule labeled: "Schedule 5: Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN)."

#### 7. Deadline for Asking Questions/Receiving Clarifications/Bids Due

Bids are due Monday, March 23, 1998 at 10:30 a.m. (CST). All questions or requests for clarification must be made by no later than Wednesday, March 18, 1998 in order that we might prepare a response and communicate the same to all respective bidders.

8. It has been agreed that all communication shall occur via electronic mail (e-mail) and may be posted on the civicNET WEB site at:  
[www.pekin.net/civicnet/addendums](http://www.pekin.net/civicnet/addendums)

9. Questions concerning the map and related analysis should be directed to:  
Bob Smith, Network Construction Management, 4215 Shoreline Drive, Earth City,  
Missouri 63045 (314) 309-0995.

EXHIBIT 1

CivicNET  
PRE-BID CONFERENCE

NAME  
COMPANY

Guy M. Cahill  
Pekin Public School Dist. #108  
Chris Burch  
Sprint  
John Linhart  
Cisco Systems  
Frank Walters  
AllTech Data Systems  
Wayne Richards  
Centron  
Michael Jensen  
GE Capital IT Solutions  
Todd Anderson  
McLeod USA  
Jim Huff  
Network Construction Management  
Ron Gibson  
TCI Network Solutions, Inc.  
Bill Barnes  
QST Communications  
John Gregory  
Tel-Star Cablevision, Inc.  
Pat Chambers  
IBM  
Marc Dukes  
Daily Times