



Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC) Meeting
Claiborne Building | Marbois Room 1-137
November 9, 2022 | 10:00 A.M.

Committee Members/Representatives Present

Greg Trahan
Rick Bateman (Proxy – Paul Spivey)
Gabriel Fagbeyiro (arrived after roll call)
Les Guice (Proxy – Michael Khonsari)
Paul Helton
Tavares Walker (arrived after roll call)

Bonnie Chelette
Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed
Brian Landry
Daphne Williams

Staff Members Present

Clint Coleman
Carrie Robison
Jennifer Stevens

Committee Members Not Present

William Bradley

I. Welcome and Agenda Overview

Dr. Coleman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcomed the attendees, and called the roll. He noted quorum was not established and asked Chair Trahan to begin the meeting. Mr. Trahan provided an overview of CEMC for the proxies and new members. Dr. Coleman introduced a new Council member for Louisiana Economic Development, Mr. Paul Helton, Executive Director of LED FastStart. Since quorum was not obtained, approval of the second quarter meeting minutes was deferred to the first quarter meeting in 2023.

II. Old Business

Mr. Trahan noted that rather than hosting a Council meeting in August, CEMC management had decided to provide an opportunity for members to attend a briefing of the Louisiana Cyber Assurance Program (LCAP) on September 13, 2022. He provided a high-level overview of LCAP, which was established because of increased ESF-17 responses, stating its purpose is to be more proactive by building an internal architecture to deploy hardware on campuses for threat monitoring. Participation is voluntary.

Dr. Fagbeyiro noted a concern for smaller institutions' participation and the likelihood of continued funding after the first year. Mr. Trahan stated he believes they are still finalizing the mechanics. His understanding was that the deployment of these devices will be supported by the state of Louisiana for an initial period. After this period, institutions would be responsible for the costs or additional funding would have to be identified.

III. New Business

Dr. Coleman provided some history of the Request for Applications (RFA) and programs selected over the past two years, noting that 2023 would be the third cycle. He reviewed the changes made to the new RFA, including deadline changes and the addition of third-party reviewers to assess the applications. He also went through the timeline and the rubric.

Mr. Walker asked about the process of a third-party evaluation, who would select reviewers, and what kind of expertise would be sought. Ms. Carrie Robison, Board of Regents, stated the idea is to assess the proposals in the same way Regents assesses other proposals, by utilizing out-of-state experts in the field of cybersecurity that are not in Louisiana or at Louisiana institutions. Mr. Walker asked about the alignment of the proposed process with statute, which gave CEMC and the Board of Regents authority to make funding decisions. Ms. Robison clarified that external evaluations would be advisory. The Council members discussed the statutory provisions for distribution of funds and

CEMC members' sole authority to make recommendations to the Regents. After reviewing the process used in previous years, the Council determined that the current process was appropriate and no external assessment was necessary. Mr. Spivey requested placing the topic of RFA processes on a future agenda to discuss the possibility of an earlier timeline and the allowability of a process for secondary feedback. Mr. Trahan suggested that the Council encourage members representing entities submitting applications for funding recuse themselves from scoring those applications, and that an average based on the number of members assessing be calculated and used for discussion, to ensure unequal numbers of scores submitted do not affect funding decisions.

Dr. Khonsari noted the previous minutes mentioned a \$560 million industry match and asked for more information about that. Mr. Trahan explained that every proposal had to have at least a 25% in-kind industry match. Dr. Coleman added that the 25% industry match is required in statute.

IV. Next Steps

Dr. Coleman noted that the RFA would call for an internal rather than external review, per the decision of the Council. Mr. Trahan added that the review will be conducted virtually, with Ms. Stevens circulating the applications and rubric to all members, then tallying averages based on members' scoring. He noted that if the Council moves forward with an institutional recusal process, then that would be incorporated into the tallies. Dr. Coleman noted that discussions of the RFA process and timeline would be added to the first quarter agenda as requested.

V. Dates for 2023 CEMC Meetings

The quarterly meeting dates are as follows:

- January 12, 2023
- May 2, 2023
- August 15, 2023
- November 14, 2023

VI. Adjournment

There being no other comments or business to come before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Fagbeyiro and seconded by Dr. Khonsari. With all in agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.