

TIJIS Steering Committee Minutes  
Thursday, January 13, 2005

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. The meeting was called to order at 8:46 a.m. by Les Smith. After introductions of members and guests, Les Smith gave a brief explanation of the history and purpose of the TIJIS Steering Committee.
- B. Motion was made by David Gavin, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2004 meeting, with the exception of bolded items which were included in the Unfinished Business section of the agenda.

**II. REPORTS AND BUSINESS**

A. Texas Conference of Urban Counties (CUC)

1. Dallas County Juvenile and Adult Information System Presentation

The Honorable Commissioner Mike Cantrell of Dallas County presented an update on the Dallas County Juvenile and Adult Information System. His report is included in these minutes as Attachment A.

Tonya Brenneman of Info Integration, demonstrated the system with screen shots of the software program and explanations of its features and functionality.

This system will be a first step toward a goal of a single statewide network. Regional meetings will start January 20, 2005 in Dallas to bring in others in the region to the project. TechShare is in discussion with the Department of Information Resources (DIR) and the University of North Texas regarding a possible regional data center. It is hoped that Homeland Security funding will be secured for the project. Such funding would be limited to law enforcement; and therefore other funding sources will be needed for role-out and development of the project. The question was raised as to whether this system would replace local records management. It is not intended to replace the local level management; and some reporting and local 911 call centers will remain separate. Data warehousing will be depending on needs on the state level.

2. TechShare Update: Texas Common Integrated Justice System (TCIJS) Phase III

Charles Gray, TechShare Program Manager, gave a brief history and update on the TCIJS Phase III. His presentation is included with these minutes as Attachment B. Mr. Gray presented a Resolution of Support for a TCIJS grant application for approval of the Committee. After discussion, the Resolution of Support was amended to read:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas Integrated Justice Information System Steering Committee does hereby support the Urban Counties effort to seek funding for the acquisition of the Urban Counties’ CIJS cross-jurisdiction data sharing solution and urges local, state and federal funding agents to support this initiative with sufficient funds.”

Motion to approve was made by Robert Canterbury, seconded and unanimously approved as amended.

B. County Information Resources Agency

Gayle Latham, CIRA Director reported that, through the OCA/CIRA Court Connectivity Project, 46 counties and 151 courts will have high-speed Internet access by the end of the project in August 2005. CIRA has also been exploring possibilities of regional hubs for Internet access with DIR/HHSC and private vendors. These regional hubs would provided the basis for regional networks, leading to the statewide county network.

C. State of Texas Department of Public Safety

David Gavin, DPS Crime Records Division, reported on the development of the Texas justice data dictionary and related XML strategies. He reported that not much progress has been made since his last report. The CCH (Computerized Criminal History) redesign and implementation has been delayed. The challenge lies in the juvenile arena because there was no inclusion of the juvenile elements in the national dictionary. Roland Silva is participating in the group targeted on adding those elements, but this will be a long process nationally. Roland will chair the XML subcommittee, which has not met at this time. David reported that he has met with the Juvenile Probation Commission Assistant Director to identify their role in the effort. He is also keeping in close contact with TechShare Program Manager Charles Gray.

D. Users Advisory Group and Sub-Committee Updates

1. Geographical Information Systems:

Stan Reid, CIO of the Texas Association of Counties, reported that HB1117 passed during the last legislative session, presented the opportunity to get a state-wide county roadmap, promoting the regional concept of the COG's as the GIS hump to pump road information to TNRIS for access by everyone. The Federal Government and NACO are getting involved to force better GIS, standardizing GIS data for use at state, federal and local levels. The missing piece is standardization and the growth process – how do we get people to begin to assign GIS geospatial elements to criminal information. Work has begun with DPS to create geospatial standards.

Mike Ouimet, DIR, reported that the Office of Domestic Preparedness Grant Fund has opened up to allow for GIS equipment and data for the first time. Local entities are starting to put in proposals. There is a fear that the same thing that has happened at the federal level will happen at the state level – disparate systems will not be able to talk to each other. GIS and criminal justice must work together to provide guidelines for local governments to build GIS systems with data that will be interoperable up to the state level.

**III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. Amendment to establish a Texas Integrated Justice Information Systems (TIJIS):

Motion was made by Robert Canterbury , seconded by David Gavin and unanimously approved to finalize the amendment by completion of the signature page. It was agreed that in the future TIJIS will need governance documents.

B.. Action was taken on the following items requiring consideration from the minutes of the October 15, 2004 meeting:

1. Schedule of Activities Items 5, 12: After discussion, it was decided that it is premature to seek endorsement from a potential sponsoring organization for TIJIS; and that the organization should instead work toward a future legislative proclamation in recognition of the group. It was also suggested that a TIJIS website might be created, perhaps hosted by CIRA.
2. Schedule of Activities Item 7: Les Smith once again extended the invitation to committee members to attend the April 8-9<sup>th</sup> Tarrant County Public Safety Summit.
3. Schedule of Activities Item 9: XML Sub-Committee: Roland Silva has agreed to chair this committee.
3. Schedule of Activities Item 11: Mike Ouimet of the Department of Information Resources (DIR) is that agency's representative to TIJIS.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:** There was none.

**V. COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next TIJIS meeting will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> during the TCJIUG Conference. It will be held from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Omni Bayfront Hotel in Corpus Christi, Texas.

**VI. ADDITIONAL BRIEFING ITEMS**

1. FBI System – NDEX. National (criminal information ) Data EXchange. David Gavin  
Attachment C

David Gavin, DPS, reported on the NDEX, the FBI's initiative to build the rudiments of a national RMS to enable data generated at the state level to be accessible at the national level. The system does not exist yet, but is a concept at this time. After 9-11, the paradigm shifted with the realization that we must share more information than has previously been possible. The core functionality would be in the sharing of incidents and back-end comparison of the commonalties of the incident information. There is a de-emphasis on intelligence at this time, but rather simply an incident sharing system. There are significant privacy issues regarding victims' names included in incident reporting. An assessment of the privacy impact is in progress. The Dynamic between NDEX and UCR is under development at this time and is a very important aspect of NDEX and its success. It is a challenge to present the concept in a manner that really demonstrates the value and functions. In March, the FBI will make a presentation to all states to be involved with NDEX and the TIJIS Steering Committee will be updated after that meeting.

2. Proof of Concept – Governors' Office of Homeland Security - Steve McCraw  
Attachments D, E

Steve McCraw applauded the energy, effort and vision of IT working together to improve the business process, but expressed concern about insuring that all pertinent information is getting to the first responders, law enforcement officers. This needs to include not just the latest threat warnings, but the underlying elements. Different issues make it difficult to find a cost effective solution to the issue of linking law enforcement databases. 9-11 set a milestone that we cannot afford not to share data. Some systems are in place with some improvements, but no one has sufficient staff to 'code and load' the data.

Sometimes the private sector is able to provide such services faster and at less cost, so outsourcing may need to be considered.

If the state can quickly do something cost effective that will not conflict with NDEX, the only requirement will be that such a solution be NDEX-ready. The vision is to maximize technology, growth of standards, and develop a business process of law enforcement with upgraded capabilities. If data is standardized, there will be a need to move to a lower level of city/county data that has not been covered by the state (DPS). This will involve other issues, such as the infrastructure to pass the data and building the statewide network.

Steve McCraw requested that TIJIS Steering Committee members forward any information to him as quickly as possible as the project is on a fast track. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to approve the concept of TDEX.

## **VII. ADJORNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.