

Minnesota Eligibility Technology System Executive Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Details

- May 24, 2022
- 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Room 1100, Minnesota Senate Building, 95 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN 55155

Participants

Voting Members

- Nate Clark, MNSure - present
- Janet Goligowski, Stearns County - present
- Kari Ouimette, Scott County - present
- Chuck Johnson, DHS - present
- Kari Koob, MNSure - not present
- Cynthia MacDonald - present

Non-Voting Members

- Jon Eichten, MNIT - not present
- Greg Poehling, MNIT - present

Guests

- Colleen O'Brien, MNIT - present
- Jackie Hippen, MNIT - present

Agenda Items

Call to Order & Welcome

Greg Poehling, MNIT

Greg Poehling, co-chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Members introduced themselves. Greg reviewed the meeting agenda.

Administrative Items

ESC Members

Minute Approvals

The committee needed to approve the April 12, 2022, minutes as that is the last time the METS ESC met.

MOTION: Janet Goligowski moved to accept the draft [April 12, 2022 meeting minutes](#). Kari Ouimette seconded. All voting members present voted in favor and the motion was approved.

Finance Update

Jackie Hippen, (title) MNIT Services @ DHS/MNsure

Jackie Hippen of MNIT presented the [METS Fiscal report For FY 2022, quarter 3](#) which is the Minnesota Eligibility Technology System Fiscal Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2022.

- For FFY22 the total development budget is \$38.8M, which is approx. \$95K greater than the budget shown in Q2.
 - The total APD budget in the FY22 column equals \$38M - approx. \$11M from the FFY21 award and \$27M from the FFY22 award. Funding for development related to the METS APD is matched by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and awarded on a federal fiscal year, so the FY22 budget represents a blend of two federal awards. Only a portion of the current award is represented in FY22 and the remainder is in FY23.
 - Also included in the FY22 development total is approx. \$50K for MNsure-only development, as well as \$735K for COVID-related enhancements funded by the American Rescue Plan. The COVID-related budget represents the \$95K increase over last quarter, as a third enhancement project was approved and began within the past few months.
- The total FY22 operations budget is approx. \$37.6M.
 - The operations budget in FY22 is higher than in previous or future years due to three significant enhancement efforts being funded thru operations this year. One has already been completed, while the other two are expected to continue into SFY23 and will require a budget shift closer to the end of the year.
- For the SFY22 Report in the Development area, on a budget of \$38.8M, we expect to spend \$31.7M, leaving an underspend of \$7.1M.
 - This includes \$6.8M underspend in the APD development budget and \$300K underspend in the MNsure-related development funded by the American Rescue Plan.
 - For the APD, we are underspending in all cost categories. This appears to be the result of over budgeting - meaning the projects continue to be on track, but are requiring less resources than anticipated. Looking at HW/SW specifically, about half of the underspend will be shifted forward to SFY23 to satisfy obligations in the last quarter of the FFY22, or first quarter of SFY23. We also show underspending in MNIT-Central services and General administration; both of those cost categories contain budget based on the number of people expected to work or track time to development projects. Underspend in resources results in underspending in these categories, as well.
 - For the MNsure/ARPA development work, we expect about \$100K of the underspend to shift forward into SFY23 as the current project work wraps up in the first quarter of next year.
- For the SFY22 Report in the Operations, on a budget of \$37.6M, we expect to spend \$34.8M.

- Two of the system enhancement projects being completed in Operations will continue into SFY23. We expect about \$1.8M will be shifted into SFY23 to fund the work needed to complete the projects.
- Our goal is to be within 5% of budget within each cost category, and we still expect to end the year very close to that mark in operations.

MOTION: Janet Goligowski moved to approve the [Q3 Fiscal Report](#) as written in the document. Nate Clark seconded. All voting members present voted in favor and the motion was approved. The report will then be sent to the committee.

METS IT Program Status Update

Colleen O'Brien, METS Program Manager, MNIT Services @ DHS/MNsure

Colleen O'Brien of MNIT presented the [METS ESC Update slide deck](#). Slides of note are described below:

End of Public Health Emergency (PHE)

The public health emergency is officially expected to remain active at least through July 15, 2022. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary has committed to providing a 60-day notice to states before the end of the emergency and because July 15 is less than 60 days away, we are now expecting the emergency to be extended beyond July 15.

Renewals Self-Service Project

The goal of this project is to mitigate some of the renewals burden that will take place when the public health emergency ends. The project's scope will enable public program enrollees to complete their renewal process online if they wish. Renewals completed online will eliminate the need for county and DHS workers to enter renewal data manually.

MinnesotaCare Eliminate the Family Glitch

In April 2022, the project team pivoted to implementing a newly issued federal mandate, which corrects the family glitch for both public (MinnesotaCare) and private (MNsure) programs

Pending sale of Watson Health Assets

The sale is still expected to be complete by the end of June 2022, and the impact of the sale to the state (whether positive, negative, neutral or a mix) will likely be unclear for another year or more. DHS, MNsure and MNIT leadership are continuing to monitor the situation closely.

FFY 2022 Roadmap

There are two changes since our last meeting. These changes are project status changes that do not require METS ESC approval.

1. In the top left chart, the status of the **1095-B Tax Year 2021** project shifted from In "Progress" to "Completed".
2. Also in the top left chart, a note was added that the **1095-B Tax Year 2022** project will start in August 2022.

Rolling Deliverables Schedule

New Development Projects

There were no changes to the Rolling Deliverable Schedule since our last METS ESC meeting. The rolling deliverable schedule was reviewed.

Ongoing/Annual work

1. *1095-B Tax Year 2021* shifted from the Closure phase to Closed.
2. *Curam Upgrade 2022* shifted from Initiation to Planning.

End of Spring 2022 Release Timeframe

There were no changes to the Release Timeframe since our last METS ESC meeting. The Release Timeframe was reviewed.

Summer 2022 Release Timeframe

There were no changes to the Release Timeframe since our last METS ESC meeting.

“Note” - The M&O Non-Project Work recently got approval to implement a mechanism to “revert back” changes that were previously implemented to support the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The revert back will be effective starting January 1, 2023.

Fall 2022 Release Timeframe

There were no changes to the Release Timeframe since our last METS ESC meeting. Renewals Self-Service is working to be accepted into this release.

Q from Greg, The Renewals Self-Service project, if the timelines are met, it would be part of the fall release timeframe. Correct? Yes.

Q from Nate, Reinstate the 400% FPL threshold will be available during OE and planned shopping for effective dates of January 1. That is correct.

Spotlight Report

Of the 15 projects: two are in red, four are yellow, and nine are green.

- Red Projects
 - Data Access & Management Reports - FFY2022 is RED due to risk and schedule issues. In particular, the team is experiencing resource constraints in delivering reports requested by several projects in the METS portfolio. The team is actively working to identify options for meeting the demand for reports but is not expecting to have the matter addressed until sometime in June at the earliest.
 - DataMart 1.5 is RED due to risk and schedule issues. A change request to re-baseline the schedule, accounting for a missed requirement for capturing historical data, was approved by the sponsors. The METS SGG will consider the change request for approval in late May.
- Yellow Projects
 - Infrastructure Improvements - IAM MNSure MFA & Dev Enhancements is Yellow due to schedule issues. The project is behind in its rollout of multi-factor authentication to Counties. The team is targeting June 1st to be back to green.
 - Unique Person ID (UPI) is Yellow due to risks regarding a delay in a report the project team is working to deliver. The project will turn

green once the report requirements are approved within an attainable delivery schedule and a resource constraint is mitigated.

- Renewals Self-Service project was Yellow due to late requests for changes to a portion of the work. The project has already resolved the concerns that came up and expects to be back to green with its next report.
- MinnesotaCare Eliminate the Family Glitch is Yellow due to the scope change mentioned earlier, and an outstanding question about how funding will be handled, given the pivot. The project is working on gathering new estimates, resolving the outstanding funding question, and assessing the impact of the pivot to the schedule.

Question - Data Access & Mgmt. Reports- Sounds like a number of discrete reports are needed. Are any of those reports intended to support the unwinding activities? Can reach out off-line.

Comment - The SGG does a huge work, congratulations on what they do.

Legislative Update

Presenter: Cynthia MacDonald (DHS)

- The legislative session came to a close very late Sunday night. Not able to reach a deal on budget issues across the board. Some discussion of a special session, or whether the Health and Human Services items would be considered in that discussion, but do not know what will happen.

Presenter: Nate Clark (MNsure)

- The two items MNsure have been most focused on are the IT modernization and the Navigator grantee funding. But absent a special session, it appears our next opportunity for funding for these efforts would be the 2023 legislative session.

New Business

- Chuck Johnson will be retiring July 5, 2022
- Co-chair will be Cynthia MacDonald after Chuck Johnson retires.
- Nina Eagin is leaving MNIT to start a new job at a non-profit. We are thankful for her work here at the State and wish her well.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Adjourn

Greg adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Next meeting is expected to be held June 28, 2022, at 10 a.m.