

Mississippi Management and Reporting System
Steering Committee Minutes
January 12, 1998
Sillers 9th Floor Conference Room

Mr. Stringer presented agenda item 2: Present status of MERLIN.

Julie Allen presented the MERLIN status. In summary, MERLIN is on target to complete phase 3 in February and planning for phase 4 is almost completed. A copy of the presentation outline is attached to the minutes.

Mr. Stringer asked whether all MERLIN information will be available via MERLIN.net. Ms. Allen responded that the interface will be similar to the current analyst view. Cindy Jenkins added that both public access and secured levels of access will be supported. Mr. Stringer agreed with Ms. Litchfield that most information within MERLIN is public information.

Mr. Litchlitter asked what other agency data warehouses will be investigated in phase 5. Ms. Allen responded that MDECD, DFA's Office of Insurance, and MDOT all are building data warehouses that MERLIN may reference.

Mrs. Litchfield presented the following items to the Committee for approval:

MERLIN platform:

- Two 512 MB nodes for the SP2 @ \$64,900 each plus maintenance
 - SP2 Control Work Station @\$20,680 plus maintenance
 - DB2 UDB Version EEE for 2 nodes @\$35,000 plus Support Line
- Total: \$220, 480 plus maintenance/Support Line.

Mrs. Litchfield stated these are budgeted for FY1999 and are currently in DFA's Legislative Budget Recommendation. Mrs. Litchfield also stated this must be ready for June 1998 acquisition since IBM will remove the control work station and two development nodes from the system.

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MERLIN Phase 5:

- Approval to spend up to \$1,000,000 in FY1999 from July - December 1998 to continue to expand MERLIN as discussed in Ms. Allen's status update;
- Approval to accomplish Phase 5 by amending the existing Agreement between IBM and the State.

Mrs. Litchfield stated these are budgeted for FY1999 and are currently in DFA's Legislative Budget Recommendation. Mrs. Litchfield stated this must be ready to proceed in July 1998. Mrs. Litchfield also stated that any further expansion of MERLIN beyond Phase 5 will be put out for bid.

On a motion by Mr. Litchlitter, seconded by Mr. Stringer, all MERLIN acquisitions were approved.

Mr. Stringer presented agenda item 3: Present status of SPAHRS.

Mr. Davidson reported there are no critical negative issues and no highly acclaimed positive issues with the SPAHRS project. Current activities include heavy emphasis on payroll testing and correcting production human resource incidents. Mr. Davidson reported that approximately 400 production incidents have been reported with approximately 150 of these still outstanding. Mrs. Litchfield stated that by comparison there were over one thousand incidents reported the first few weeks of SAAS production. Mr. Davidson also reported that there has been a major breakthrough in payroll testing during the past weekend.

Mr. Stringer stated biggest issue with SPAHRS is changing the mind set to that required for working with an online system. This has been an issue with SPAHRS HR and will become more magnified with payroll. Mr. Stringer stated this must be reinforced during agency training.

Mr. Davidson also provided an update on the most critical HR issues: duplicate approval records (data and process corrected), future actions (COEs and inter-agency transactions are working; intra-agency transaction are still a problem and are complex in that they involve many actions with Mental Health Direct Care Workers), PAR issues (resolved).

Mrs. Litchfield presented the following items to the Committee for approval:

Change Orders:

- Additional 1000 hours @ \$132,560 to be used to address performance tuning, security and approvals system modifications, and other issues as identified.

Mr. Stringer asked how much would remain after the modifications required for the security and

