

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

December 18, 2025

The Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services Board met via livestream, on Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. for the regularly scheduled December monthly meeting.

Members Present:

Christa Alexander, Chair

Bill Cook, Vice-Chair

Thomas A. Wicker

Keith Van Camp

Members Not Present

Mark Henderson

Legislative Advisors Present:

Senator Bart Williams, Technology Committee, MS State Senate

Representative Jill Ford, MS House of Representatives

Staff Members Present:

Craig P. Orgeron, CPM, Ph.D., Executive Director

Jay White, Chief Information Security Officer

Holly Savorgnan, Chief Administrative Officer

Stephanie Hedgepeth, Chief Strategy Officer

Steve Patterson, Data Services Director
Lisa Kuyrkendall, Telecom Services Director
Hailey Tucker, Human Resources Director
Renee Murray, Procurement Services Director
Tabatha Baum, General Counsel
Nita Caylor, Accounting Manager
Michelle Walker, Procurement Process Specialist
Alec Shed, Technology Consultant
Vershonda Grindle, Technology Consultant
Denetta Durr, Technology Consultant
Matthew Livingston, Technology Consultant
Debbie Parker, Technology Consultant
Tina O'Neal, Technology Consultant
Richard Crout, Public Cloud Manager
Leslie Swilley, Administrative Specialist

Others Present:

Brian McGarity, Mississippi Department of Education
Dorthy K. Young, Mississippi State Department of Health
Jameshya Ballard, Mississippi State Department of Health
Amanda Netadj, Mississippi State Department of Health
Mark Allen, Mississippi Department of Human Services
Jackie Surrell, Mississippi Department of Human Services
Chase Callaway, Mississippi Department of Human Services
Trey Breckenridge, Mississippi State University
Grant Banks, University of Mississippi Medical Center

Rob McClure, AT&T
Bethany Stanfill Ricks, BSS Global
Ben Lane, C Spire
Trace Donata, C Spire
Chris Keller, Genesys
Janero Washington, Koitecc Solutions
Dylan Lee, SailPoint
Lesli Leakey, Vertafore

Christa Alexander called the meeting to order and asked guests to send an email with their name and the entity they represent to meetingminutes@its.ms.gov.

Agenda Item No. 1: Christa Alexander directed the Board's attention to the first agenda item, approval of the minutes from the ITS Board Meeting on November 20, 2025.

On motion by Bill Cook and second by Tom Wicker that the minutes of the meeting on November 20, 2025, be approved as written:

Motion carried; unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 2: Vershonda Grindle and Brian McGarity, Director of Safe & Orderly Schools, presented the recommendation for Project No. 49280 to utilize the award of an RFP, issued by the Mississippi Department of Education, for the acquisition of a School Safety Platform for the **MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (MDE)**. The staffs of ITS and MDE jointly

recommended the selection of nSide, Inc. to provide a School Safety Platform at a total 1-year lifecycle cost of \$1,400,000.00.

On motion by Bill Cook and second by Tom Wicker that the staff recommendation be approved:

Motion carried; unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 2.5: Matthew Livingston, Chad Allgood, Division of Early Childhood Care and Development Director, and Mark Allen, Chief Information Officer, presented the recommendation for Project No. 49273-3677 for the continuation of and increase to the Agreement with WELS Systems Foundation for Web-Based Early Learning System subscription and support for the **MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (MDHS)**. The staffs of ITS and MDHS jointly recommended approval of the continuation of and increase to the Agreement with WELS Systems Foundation through February 8, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$2,812,555.00 for Web-Based Early Learning System subscription and support. With this continuation, the revised total not-to-exceed 10-year lifecycle cost of this project is \$4,979,432.28.

On motion by Tom Wicker and second by Keith Van Camp that the staff recommendation be approved:

Motion carried; unanimously.

Christa Alexander directed the Board's attention to hear Agenda Item No. 4 out of order of the published Agenda, before hearing Agenda Item No. 3.

Agenda Item No. 4: Denetta Durr, Dr. Dorothy Young, Assistant Senior Deputy, and Amanda Netadj, Immunizations Director, presented the recommendation for Project No. 49315-3558, for

the continuation of and increase to the Agreement with STChealth for the operation and maintenance of the Immunization Registry for the **MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (MSDH)**. The staffs of ITS and MSDH jointly recommended approval of the continuation of and increase to the agreement with STChealth through December 31, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$4,632,802.58 for the operation and maintenance of the Immunization Registry. With this continuation, the total 18-year life cycle cost is \$29,264,797.71.

On motion by Bill Cook and second by Keith Van Camp that the staff recommendation be approved:

Motion carried; unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 3: Matthew Livingston, Dr. Dorthy K. Young, Assistant Senior Deputy, and Jameshya Ballard, WIC Director, presented the recommendation for Project No. 49321-3884 for the continuation of and increase to the Agreement with Conduent State and Local Solutions, Inc. for the WIC Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Solution for the **MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (MSDH)**, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The staffs of ITS and MSDH jointly recommended approval of the continuation of and increase to the Agreement with Conduent State and Local Solutions, Inc. through March 31, 2027, in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,905,452.00 to provide the WIC EBT Solution. With this continuation, the revised total 8-year lifecycle cost of this project is \$5,630,198.00.

On motion by Tom Wicker and second by Keith Van Camp that the staff recommendation be approved:

Motion carried; unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 5: Stephanie Hedgepeth, Chief Strategy Officer, and Renee Murray, Procurement Services Director, presented the recommendation for Project No. 49325 to establish a statewide Master Agreement between Carahsoft Technology Corporation and **MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS)**, on behalf of the State of Mississippi, for the use of OpenAI's ChatGPT Platform. The staff of ITS recommended approval to establish a statewide Master Agreement with Carahsoft for the use of OpenAI's ChatGPT. The staff further requests that the ITS Board delegate the use of this Master Agreement to the ITS Executive Director.

On motion by Tom Wicker and second by Keith Van Camp that the staff recommendation be approved:

Motion carried; unanimously.

The Board acknowledged Agenda Item No. 6 regarding the summary of equipment, software and services, exemptions and sole source procurements approved by the ITS Executive Director.

The Board discussed verification of quorum for the next ITS Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 15, 2026.

There being no further business, Christa Alexander adjourned the meeting.

Christa Alexander, Chair

Bill Cook, Vice-Chair