

Council Meeting Agenda

DATE/TIME: Monday, March 30, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

PLACE: Online via MS-Teams

A G E N D A

	<u>Page</u>	<u>Presentation by:</u>
I. Introduction		
1. Call to Order		Doug Austin, Chair
2. Introduction of Council Members, Staff, Observers New Members: Tammy Ellison, Culver Stockton College and Angela Anderson, DESE		Doug Austin, Chair
3. Call for Additional Agenda Items and Adoption of Agenda		Doug Austin, Chair
II. Action Items		
1. Minutes of December 15, 2025, MOREnet Council Meeting Approval	3	Doug Austin, Chair
III. Discussion/Information Items		
1. MOREnet Core Network Equipment Refresh Project – Information	5	Ivan Moore
2. Ed-Fi Data Interoperability Project Update – Information	6	Ivan Moore
3. Cybersecurity After Action Incident Summary – Information	7	Ivan Moore/Gloria Stephenson
4. Renewed Focus on Healthcare Services and Programming – Information	8	Matt Parris
5. Review and Update MOREnet Council MOU and Service Policies – Information	9	Natasha Angell
6. 2026 Priority Projects – Around the Room – Discussion		Everyone
7. Future Meeting Schedule		
a. Monday, June 8, 2026 via Teams 1:00-2:30pm		
b. Monday, September 14, 2026 via Teams 1:00-2:30pm		
c. Monday, December 7, 2026 via Teams 1:00-2:30pm		
IV. Open Time for the Public to Address the Council		

*Public may attend by emailing loyds@more.net in advance to receive the required call-in information.

MOREnet Council Members

First	Last	Position	Organization	E-mail	Phone	Term Ends	
Angela	Anderson	Chief Data Officer	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education	Angela.Anderson@dese.mo.gov	(573) 522-8310	No Term	
***	Natasha	Angell	Executive Director	MOREnet	angelln@more.net	(573) 882-9025	No Term
Tony	Arbisi	Director of Technology	Belton School District	tarbisi@bsd124.org	(816) 892-1332	12/31/2026	
*	Doug	Austin	Chief Technology Officer	Special School of St. Louis County	daustin@ssdmo.org	(314) 989-8156	12/31/2026
Ben	Canlas	Vice President for Information Technology and MU Chief Information Officer	University of Missouri	canlasb@umsystem.edu	(573) 884-2767	No Term	
Janet	Caruthers	Interim Missouri State Librarian	Missouri State Library	janet.caruthers@sos.mo.gov	(573) 526-4783 (573) 526-1087	No Term	
Carrie	Cline	Director	Neosho Newton County Library	carrie@neosho.lib.mo.us	(417) 451-4231	12/31/2027	
Rick	DeCaro	Director of Information Technology Services	Logan University	rick.decaro@logan.edu	(636)230-1760	12/31/2026	
Samantha	Dickey	Assistant Commissioner for Postsecondary Policy	Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development	Samantha.Dickey@dhewd.mo.gov	(573) 751-1798	No Term	
Tammy	Ellison	Director of Information Technology and Operations Instructional Technology	Culver Stockton College	tellison@culver.edu	(573) 288-6000 Ext. 6641	12/31/2029	
Megan	Gretzinger	Director of Instructional Technology	Clinton School District	mgretzinger@clintoncardinals.org	(660) 885-2247 x3101	12/31/2028	
John	Laurent	Chief Information Officer	Office of Administration Information Technology Services Division	john.laurent@oa.mo.gov	(573) 751-1504	No Term	
Sue	Lightfoot	Director	Livingston County Library	director@livcolib.org	(660) 646-0547	12/31/2027	
**	Christa	Van Herreweghe	Director	Kirkwood Public Library	christa@kplmo.org	314-821-5770 x1016	12/31/2028
Andy	White	Vice President of Information Technology and Cybersecurity	Mineral Area College	alwhite@mineralarea.edu	(573) 518-2255	12/31/2027	

MOREnet Council Alternates
(vote only when serving as proxy for their above Council member)

Terry	Blauvelt	Library Development Coordinator	Missouri State Library	terry.blauvelt@sos.mo.gov	(573) 526-4783	No Term
Jennifer	Zimmerman	Chief of IT Operations	Office of Administration Information Technology Services Division	jennifer.zimmerman@oa.mo.gov	(573) 751-1504	No Term
Lynn	Burgan	Chief Financial Officer		burganl@more.net	(573) 884-2316	
Chip	Byers	Director Strategic Initiatives		chip@more.net	(573) 882-9787	
Ivan	Moore	Interim Director Infrastructure		mooreic@more.net	(573) 882-9029	
Sherry	Loyd	Executive Staff Assistant II		loyds@more.net	(573) 884-2666	
Matt	Parris	Chief Relationship Officer		parrism@more.net	(573) 882-8697	
Gloria	Stephenson	Associate Director Cybersecurity and LAN Services		stephensong@more.net	(573) 882-7238	

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MOREnet Council Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2025

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Member Attendees:

Jeff Schneider, Chair
Tony Arbisi
Doug Austin
Ben Canlas
Janet Caruthers
Carrie Cline
Samantha Dickey
Megan Gretzinger
John Laurent
Sue Lightfoot-Horine
Christa Van Herreweghe

Staff Attendees:

Natasha Angell
Lynn Burgan
Chip Byers
Sherry Loyd

- **Council Member Elections and Appointments:** Jeff led the MOREnet Council through the election of Doug Austin as Chair and Christa Van Herewegge as Vice Chair for 2026. Carrie moved to accept Doug's nomination as Chair, with Christa seconding. Doug moved to accept Christa's nomination; Ben seconded, and the council unanimously voted to approve both appointments.
- **FY27 Budget and Membership Fee Adjustments:** Lynn presented the FY27 draft budget and proposed membership fee changes, including a 4% increase in service packages and reductions in network connectivity fees, which were discussed and unanimously approved by the council. Christa moved to approve the FY27 member fees and draft budget and Tony seconding.
 - **Membership Service Package Fee Changes:** Lynn proposed a 4% increase in both full and basic membership service packages, expected to generate \$195,000 in additional revenue. The last increase was in FY23, and the council was informed that nonprofit agency packages would be reviewed for potential adjustments.
 - **Network Connectivity Fee Reductions:** Lynn announced a reduction in network connectivity fee revenue by \$732,000 for FY27, enabled by surplus and bandwidth growth. The fee schedule reflects decreases across all tiers, with reductions ranging from 5% to over 20% depending on bandwidth.
 - **Approval of Membership Fee Adjustments:** Christa moved to accept the new service package and network connectivity fees, Samantha seconded, and the council voted to approve the changes as presented.
- **Quantum Learning and Research Initiatives:** Chip provided an overview of MOREnet's quantum learning opportunities.
 - **Quantum Education Pipeline:** Chip described efforts to build a pipeline for quantum education, targeting learners from trade schools to PhD students, and emphasizing the importance of early STEM engagement for Missouri students.
 - **Partnerships and National Network:** MOREnet is partnering with the Great Plains Network (GPN) and the University of Missouri System to participate in a national quantum networking initiative, aiming to join other states in developing a national quantum network.
 - **QCaMP and K-12 Engagement:** Chip highlighted Sandia Labs' QCaMP model, which introduces K-12 teachers and students to quantum concepts through hands-on activities. MOREnet sent two instructors to QCaMP in New Mexico and plans to launch a similar program in Missouri, starting with teachers in June.

- **Quantum Innovation Center Collaboration:** The University of Missouri's Quantum Innovation Center provides access to a quantum computer for undergraduate faculty, and recently invited GPN members to facilitate faculty use of IBM's quantum resources.
- **Salesforce Agentforce AI Implementation:** Lynn reported on MOREnet's recent Salesforce Agentforce AI implementation, conducted with Green Irony consultants, focusing on account summaries and searchable case comments to enhance member engagement and support efficiency.
 - **Project Scope and Training:** MOREnet partnered with Green Irony for a six-week engagement to implement Salesforce Agentforce AI and train the applications team for future use case development.
 - **Account Summary Use Case:** The first use case involved creating automated account summaries from member data stored in MOREnet's Salesforce system, enabling the member service group to identify at-risk and engaged members more effectively.
 - **Searchable Case Comments:** The second use case enabled advanced search and filtering of case comments and resolution suggestions within Salesforce Data Cloud, allowing technical support to resolve issues more efficiently using historical data.
 - **Sustainability and Best Practices:** Green Irony provided hands-on training to ensure sustainability, and the project adhered to Salesforce and AI best practices for security and governance.
- **AI Policy, Implementation, and Challenges Across Member Institutions:** Council members, including Jeff, Tony, Megan, Benj, Sue, Christa, Samantha, Natasha, Chip, Janet, and Doug, shared updates on AI policy development, implementation, training, and challenges in their respective organizations, covering education, libraries, and state operations.
 - **Policy Development and Data Protection:** Jeff described College of the Ozarks' approach to AI policy, focusing on academic and employee guidelines, data protection, and explicit use cases, with IT supporting policy rollout and emphasizing responsible use.
 - **AI Tools and Classroom Use:** Tony and Megan discussed their school districts' adoption of AI tools like Gemini, ChatGPT, and Magic School for staff, with ongoing debates about student access, policy enforcement, and balancing instructional needs with concerns about cheating.
 - **Faculty, Staff, and Research Applications:** Ben reported that Mizzou is addressing AI use across faculty, staff, healthcare, and research, approving ChatGPT and Copilot for enterprise use, and focusing on training and policy development, especially regarding agentic tools and real-time classroom use.
 - **Library and Ethical Considerations:** Sue and Christa highlighted library-specific concerns, including intellectual property, ethics, and the need for staff training to assist patrons with AI-related inquiries, while Janet noted a conservative approach at the Missouri State Library due to leadership caution.
 - **Business and Legislative Applications:** Samantha described the Department of Higher Ed and Workforce Development's use of AI for a statewide re-engagement campaign and to analyze data for legislative compliance, leveraging chatbots and AI platforms to meet operational and reporting needs.
 - **Training and Course Offerings:** Natasha shared that MOREnet offers 13 one-hour courses on AI topics, including Google Gemini, literacy, and ethics, to support both teaching and learning across member institutions and a specific library focused course option.
 - **Policy and Regulatory Perspectives:** Chip discussed the importance of policy, transparency, and risk assessment, referencing the EU's AI Act as a model, and noted the need for clear guidelines on AI-generated content and national versus state oversight.
 - **Implementation Challenges and Shadow IT:** Doug described the challenges of evaluating and supporting multiple AI tools, training staff, and managing shadow IT, with efforts to standardize tool use and develop departmental use cases.

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
CORE NETWORK EQUIPMENT REFRESH PROJECT

AGENDA ITEM

Core Network Equipment Refresh Project

DESCRIPTION

MOREnet has operated a 100 Gbps, ~3,600 mile fiber network successfully since its last equipment refresh more than ten years ago. It is anticipated that members will require exponential bandwidth capabilities over the next decade and more to support emerging data pipeline utilization. Continued member circuit growth along with diminishing manufacturer support windows are driving the need to refresh our infrastructure. Following our defined Plant Fund guidelines, MOREnet will use existing capital equipment replacement funds to support our core network equipment refresh projects.

To this end, MOREnet currently has three distinct network upgrade projects in motion:

- Domain Name Services (DNS) platform migration
- Refresh of core network routers and switches
- Optical hardware refresh to support a minimum of 400 Gbps speeds and greater

MOREnet is committed to ensuring our statewide fiber network remains robust, reliable and secure as we anticipate increased capacity requirements for our member connections and ensure overall network capacity to support Missouri's research and education goals. Additionally, emerging industries will require a pipeline of various skilled workers for facility construction, hardware maintenance, and related trades; through hardware design, engineering and software coding; and finally advanced research and development and advanced technologies like AI and quantum.

Overview of Projects:

- DNS Hosting: MOREnet has selected PowerDNS to handle DNS resolution, replacing an in-house developed solution to improve security and providing better protection. It is an open-source platform with robust community support. MOREnet is procuring additional product support and a GUI from a third party vendor. The software will be hosted on MOREnet's existing virtual server environment, configured to provide increased redundancy and eliminate single points of failure. This approach will also minimize required configuration changes by members. Anticipated completion: May 2026
- Core Routers and Switches Refresh: These units have been ordered and deliveries are expected in the coming weeks. No member impact is expected as we schedule equipment replacement during defined maintenance windows. Anticipated completion: September 2026
- Optical Equipment Refresh: MOREnet expects to award an RFP by the end of March 2026. As of early March, the field of respondents has been narrowed and we are completing reference checks we are expect to be on target to award in time to submit an E-Rate application for eligible components, which is due April 1. Once an award has been made, a detailed deployment plan will be created in conjunction with the selected vendor, prioritizing minimal impact to connected members. Anticipated completion: August 2027

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

None

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
ED-FI DATA INTEROPERABILITY PROJECT UPDATE

AGENDA ITEM

Ed-Fi Data Interoperability Project Update

DESCRIPTION

Following completion of two projects funded by Ed-Fi grants from the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, MOREnet has signed a contract with Education Analytics (EA) to create a new, standards-based, Missouri-focused service: 'KIDS Ed-Fi'. This service is available to K-12 district members and provides streamlined, time-saving access to toolsets for data collection and transformation including two analytics platforms, Rally enabling insights at the classroom level and Podium for district level views, all in one package.

Education Analytics Platform Includes:

- **StartingBlocks Ed-Fi ODS and API:** a platform to bring together data from multiple sources to enable faster and easier access and analysis. ODS is the Ed-Fi database
- **Stadium Data Warehouse:** a dimensional data warehouse that transforms Ed-Fi data and creates metrics for use in analysis and data visualization
- **Podium:** business intelligence reporting, including out-of-the-box and custom report creation capabilities, which enable school-wide inquiry and group analysis tailored to administrators and leaders
- **Rally Analytics Platform:** a custom web application, created for on-the-ground educators, to enable easier access to and understanding of a wide variety of data types for their classrooms and students

We are excited to provide support and service to Special School District (SSD), which has been involved in this new offering since the beginning and serves as an anchor for the project. SSD provides services to all special education students in St. Louis County. The central challenge involves establishing secure data sharing with 22 partner districts. Under our contract, EA is developing custom linkage between Ed-Fi databases, allowing creation of a combined ODS database that contains essential data for all the special education students served. This will allow SSD to use both Podium and Rally to view their students' data on one platform. Districts are onboarded individually. SSD's goal is to connect all 22 districts in St. Louis County within the next 3 years. MOREnet provides each district the opportunity to subscribe to the service and realize the benefits for their entire district or to only allow data-sharing with SSD.

Staff will provide support with onboarding, tier one and two support, and member training. We are pleased to offer this robust solution at an affordable and less than market price as compared to alternative solutions. KIDS Ed-Fi is a great option for any district that does not yet have an analytics platform or that may be looking to switch.

For more information please visit the service page:

<https://www.more.net/stop-wrangling-data-and-start-supporting-students-introducing-kids-ed-fi/>

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

None

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
CYBERSECURITY AFTER ACTION INCIDENT SUMMARY

AGENDA ITEM

Cybersecurity After Action Incident Summary

DESCRIPTION

The following incident summary was shared with MOREnet members on March 19. Staff welcome Council member questions or comments regarding our real-time response, this follow-up summary and the actions we will continue to take to better ensure our ongoing preparedness for protecting our network against cybersecurity incidents going forward.

Between March 2 – 4, 2026, MOREnet experienced a significant Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack. A DDoS attack is an attempt to overwhelm a network with excessive internet traffic, causing disruptions in normal operations. The attack specifically targeted one of our members, generating unusually large volumes of traffic that passed through key parts of the MOREnet statewide backbone. As a result, several members temporarily experienced brief periods of degraded or intermittent connectivity issues.

MOREnet has completed our after-action review process and as promised, we are providing a summary of the incident for all members.

Upon detecting the abnormal traffic on March 2, MOREnet immediately initiated real-time traffic analysis, activated our Cyber Incident Response Plan, and began working around the clock with our external mitigation partners. Additional safeguards were deployed on March 3 to filter and divert malicious traffic aimed at the targeted member site—ultimately preventing the attack from impacting the entire network.

As of 11 a.m. on March 4, MOREnet backbone network traffic was stabilized, and the status of the mitigated attack was shared with members via our status page. The protections continue to operate as a small volume of attack traffic persists; however, it is not hitting the MOREnet network.

MOREnet will continue working closely with our key partners to further strengthen network resiliency and ensure ongoing protection of Missouri’s education, research, and public-service infrastructure. This event underscores the increasing frequency and scale of internet-based attacks nationwide, and we remain committed to proactive security, rapid response, and transparent communication.

We appreciate the patience and collaboration of all members throughout this event.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

None

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
RENEWED FOCUS ON HEALTHCARE SERVICES AND PROGRAMMING

AGENDA ITEM

Renewed Focus on Healthcare Services and Programming

DESCRIPTION

MOREnet staff are actively pursuing a strategic expansion into the healthcare sector, specifically focusing on current and potential members supporting rural healthcare services, training and programming.

There are several federal funding vehicles and state-level initiatives that we are exploring. With the recent launch of the federal Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) and ongoing updates to the FCC Rural Health Care (RHC) program and the Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF), there is a significant opportunity for MOREnet to better support and add essential value to Missouri's rural healthcare ecosystem through connectivity and cybersecurity.

Historically, MOREnet has focused on Higher Education, K-12 and Public Libraries. However, the technical needs of rural healthcare providers—including high-capacity broadband, HIPAA-compliant security, and telehealth infrastructure—align closely with MOREnet's core competencies.

Key drivers for this renewed focus include:

- FCC Rural Health Care (RHC) Program: Consisting of the Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) which provides a 65% discount on eligible broadband expenses. Nearly two dozen members currently benefit from this program funding for their connections.

- Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP): A landmark \$50 billion federal initiative (FY2026–2030). Missouri recently secured a \$216 million initial award for 2026. A portion of these funds is earmarked for "Technology Innovation," including telehealth, connectivity, and cybersecurity—areas in which MOREnet can potentially enable new or shared services.

- Member Audience: Expanding the MOREnet member base to include services to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), community health centers, and rural hospitals strengthens the consortium, reinforces the network sustainability and further complements communities where schools, colleges and libraries are already connected to MOREnet.

We invite your suggestions and input if there are community members in your area that we should engage with. Introductions are always welcome.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

None

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
REVIEW AND UPDATE MORENET COUNCIL MOU AND SERVICE POLICIES

AGENDA ITEM

Review and Update MOREnet Council MOU and Service Policies

DESCRIPTION

MOREnet has started an internal review of both the MOREnet Council MOU and our published Service Policies that govern all our services. The goal is to ensure both documents are reflective of current procedures, the current information technology and cybersecurity climate and that members and MOREnet are properly represented in the terms and conditions included in each document.

MOREnet Council MOU

Originating in 2003 establishing the MOREnet Council, the MOU was rewritten in 2011 following the loss of state funding for MOREnet. Our goal is to ensure the Council MOU is reflective of current operating procedures and practices which have changed over the last fifteen years.

Current Council MOU: <https://images.more.net/council/council-mou.pdf>

MOREnet Service Policies

Originating around 2008, the published service policies govern all MOREnet services including eligibility, roles, acceptable use, inspection and security expectations. The last update was in 2015.

Service Policies: <https://www.more.net/service-policies/>

We invite one Council representative from each member group (K-12, libraries and higher education) to work with staff through this process. Staff will consult with University of Missouri Office of General Counsel on appropriate updates and proposed changes and will share drafts for discussion and further improvements with Council representatives during up to two virtual meetings, including review and feedback via email, between April 6 and May 15.

Our goal is to have final revisions to share with the full Council at the June 8, 2026, meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None

ATTACHMENT(S)

None