

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Budget and Finance

AGENDA ITEM: 3 – N

DATE: May 11-12, 2016

SUBJECT: Capital Asset Purchases Greater than \$500,000

The Regents Information Systems (RIS) group will begin the process to upgrade the technology environment supporting our systems this summer. While this is a planned upgrade, we deferred moving it forward until we had the information necessary to support an accurate assessment of what's needed to support the software applications in our environment. There are a number of components incorporated together to form our environment and the initial five year maintenance for those first implemented in 2010 started to expire in the fall 2015 timeframe. We have since been purchasing maintenance on those individual components in advance of this replacement cycle. We deferred replacing them in the fall timeframe until we better understood the requirements of the student system on the Oracle platform when operating in a production environment. Until we moved the system to production in March of 2016, our load testing was largely comprised of simulated load. While that's not an uncommon approach, it's also difficult to exercise the underlying technology in a way that is consistent with the type of load introduced when operating in the actual production environment. Instead of making configuration decisions for the replacement hardware based on projections, we waited until we had experience in the production environment and could make configuration decisions based on actual experience. That experience has provided insights and direction that is reflected in the configuration of the system being proposed.

RIS requests a replacement and upgrade of the production server for the Board of Regents finance, human resource, and student systems at an estimated cost of \$785,000. This purchase includes a computer server, operating system and five years of maintenance on those products. Funding for this purchase will come from the RIS Capital Improvements fund.

DRAFT MOTION 20160511_3-N: I move to purchase a system production server, operating system, and maintenance at an estimated cost of \$785,000 from the RIS Capital Improvements fund and authorize the Executive Director to execute this contract.