

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Committee on Innovation, Data, and Educational Analytics

AGENDA ITEM V-H

Consideration of approving the recommendation to solicit and enter into staff augmentation and technology service contracts to support implementation of the data modernization initiative.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Total Project Cost: Up to \$6,450,000

Source of Funds: Federal funds allocated through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Funds

Background Information:

At the October 2020 meeting, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) staff reviewed the status of the Data Modernization Initiative, a planning effort to inform the design of a modern data infrastructure to facilitate improved insight and actionable data for THECB stakeholders. The Data Modernization Initiative includes three related work streams, each of which is supported by consulting experts, funded by the Texas Higher Education Foundation, as noted below:

- Technical and data architecture – Alvarez and Marsal
- Data governance – Nancy Smith, Ph.D.
- Website reorganization and upgrades – Minerva Consulting

Planning efforts are completing and the THECB team is moving forward to secure the resources needed to begin implementation. Specifically, THECB proposes to solicit and engage in a staff augmentation contract for additional skilled technology staff and a contract for cloud technology expertise to provide additional technology-skilled staff, expertise, and technical assistance to implement the technical and data architecture plan.

THECB staff recommend approval for soliciting and entering into these agreements in order to secure the technology resources necessary to move forward with implementation of projects related to the Data Modernization Initiative.

Ms. Lori Fey, Deputy Commissioner for Data Analytics and Innovation, will present this item and be available to answer questions.