

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

March 30, 2011
Room 144-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Joe McLeland, Chairperson
Senator Marci Francisco
Senator Tom Holland
Senator Vicki Schmidt
Representative Mike Burgess
Representative Terry Calloway
Representative Nile Dillmore

Members Absent

Senator Garrett Love
Senator Mike Petersen
Representative Harold Lane

Staff

Aaron Klaassen, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norm Furse, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees

Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer

Others Attending

See attached sheet.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and welcomed Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer, Don Heiman, who reviewed the need for additional staff funding (\$295,000) and the implementation status of the Kansas Legislative Information Systems and Services (KLISS). He stated that savings from KLISS (\$379,500) could fund additional staff (Attachment 1). He said two positions currently are authorized; four more would need to be authorized. He also encouraged the Committee to recommend the creation of an Office of Information Technology to coordinate Information Technology (IT) services for the Legislature. He referenced an organizational chart to illustrate the function of the proposed office.

Mr. Heiman reviewed progress in implementing KLISS during the past two weeks, noting the work priorities completed, such as PDF conversion and the delta system interface between the Revisors' Office, Legislative Research Department, and the two legislative chambers. He also provided data to show increasing use of the legislative website. Further information was distributed regarding the status of the software application (Attachment 2).

Members discussed the process of creating new positions: they questioned current budget-allocated positions, the use of temporary positions, and how to approach centralizing IT services. Terri Clark, Deputy Director, Legislative Computer Services, explained that temporary employees were being used to augment work on the delta interface, that the workload required payment of overtime for technical support, and that other work had been postponed in order to increase legislative support services. Mr. Heiman added that unfilled positions were being used to supplement staff budget shortfalls. Members requested that Mr. Heiman obtain from Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department, a clear designation of funding for each line item and each FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) in the budget.

The JCIT minutes for the March 16 meeting were approved. (Motion by Representative Burgess and seconded by Senator Schmidt)

Mr. Heiman, responding to members' discussion about the KLISS savings, replied that the \$379,500 savings is available and can be used to fund the proposed IT Office. The Chairperson suggested that Mr. Heiman include the proposed savings in discussing budget items with Mr. Conroy.

Members requested that KLISS users report on their recent experiences with the system. Pat Saville, Secretary of the Senate, reported that conference committee reports continue to be erratic and unreliable and that she is still unable to provide enrolled bills for the Secretary of State. Val Carter, IT support for the Office of the Revisor of Statutes, commented that feedback given to the developers appeared to be ignored, that many of the fixes did not improve the system, and that no simple path was provided for work-arounds.

Members requested to be included in all updates regarding the problems and progress of the system.

The meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by Gary Deeter
Edited by Aaron Klaassen and Julian Efirid

Approved by the Committee on:

April 27, 2011

(Date)