

Approved 3/29/2012
(Date)

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mike Burgess at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

- Rep. Grange - Excused
- Rep. Meigs - Excused
- Rep. Roth - Excused
- Rep. Ruiz - Excused

All Committee staff was present except Julian Efird, Legislative Research, and Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes.

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Shane Myers, General Manager, Kansas.gov

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

Chair Burgess introduced Shane Myers. Mr. Myers gave an Overview of Kansas.gov (Attachment 1). Kansas.gov legislation (KS.A. 74-9301 et seq.) was passed in 1990 authorizing the creation of the Information Network of Kansas, Inc. (INK). In 1991, INK awarded Kansas Information Consortium (now a subsidiary of NIC, Inc.) the network manager contract and began eGovernment operations. The fundamentals are to provide efficiencies, value added delivered, and to focus on innovations and the possibilities for implementation in Kansas.

Mr. Myers presented a diagram which was similar to Mr. Hollingsworth's presentation yesterday, but another layer has been added to give visibility to the NIC organization. Kansas.gov has a contract with INK as a network manager to state and local agencies and has been in place for 20 years. All eGovernment great ideas started in the State of Kansas. Today, there are 28 portals. The home office is in Olathe, Kansas. Kansas.gov staff will number 25 by the end of the year. There are employee teams for project management, development, creative services/design, marketing, customer service, and accounting. The NIC mission statement is to be the best partner the government has ever had, best place our employees have ever worked, and best investment the shareholder has ever made.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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Mr. Myers spoke to the self-funded model in which KIC absorbs the costs to build the portal's technical infrastructure and develop eGovernment services. The model is designed to help states build solutions without requiring tax appropriations. Governments charge a modest efficiency fee (in addition to any existing statutory fees) to provide value-added online services that are primarily targeted to high-volume business users. These efficiency fees provide the basis for funding a state's electronic government program. The statutory fees for online services continue to be deposited into state accounts on an agreed-upon frequency. A high percentage of all efficiency fees collected are reinvested in the infrastructure and local KIC personnel required to build, manage, and enhance the state's eGovernment initiatives—including the rapid introduction of information and services available at no cost to citizens.

Regarding cost savings for NIC in other states, in West Virginia, self-funded eGovernment delivered \$10 million in value during the first two years of the contract by eliminating infrastructure, technology, and application development costs for the state. Utah's four-day work week, which Utah.gov helped make possible because more than 600 services were available online when state offices were closed, reduced state spending by more than \$4 million in the first year. Utah has 600 services and Kansas has 180. Mr. Myers explained that the number count of services depends on how services are combined or grouped by category, etc. Utah has won Best of the Web and has a great approach to their onsite visibility. Mr. Myers will follow-up on the differences between Utah and Kansas and report back to the Committee.

In response to a question, Mr. Hollingsworth noted there is a GIS initiative within the legislative website to readily identify constituents and how each would be affected by proposed legislation.

The hits to the Kansas Business Center website are increasing. The site is an online resource for anyone wanting to start a business in Kansas. Mr. Hollingsworth added that they worked for several months with several agencies on what a user has to do to start a business in Kansas. Individuals starting a business can find out who to contact on personnel, state filing, and tax issues. Restaurants are the most frequently started business in Kansas. The failure rate of businesses in Kansas is 80%. Mr. Hollingsworth will provide information to the Committee on the number of people using the Kansas Business Center.

The focus over the next few years is making applications mobile so information may be viewed no matter where the user goes. Emerging technologies will be enhancements to iPads, advances in touch technology, and augmented reality.

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Chair Burgess thanked Mr. Myers for his presentation.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

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