MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

November 9, 2007
Room 526-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Joe McLeland, Chairperson
Senator Tim Huelskamp, Vice-Chairperson
Senator Janis Lee
Senator Mike Petersen
Representative Jim Morrison
Representative Mike Burgess

Staff

Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Aaron Klaassen, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Scott Wells, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees

Denise Moore, Executive Chief Information Technology Officer
Eldon Rightmeier, Deputy Director, Bureau of Telecommunications, Division of
    Information Systems and Communications
Lisa Hoopes, Division of Post Audit
Bill Roth, Chief Information Technology Architect
Brad Williams, Chief Information Officer, State Board of Regents
Robert Waller, Chief Administrator, Kansas Emergency Medical Services
Joe Morland, Project Manager, Kansas Emergency Medical Services
David Marshall, TRCC Project Manager, Kansas Department of Transportation
Chris Tilden, Director of the Office of Local and Rural Health, Kansas Department of
    Health and Environment
Christine Swartz, Deputy Medicaid Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority

Morning Session

Denise Moore, Executive Chief Information Technology Officer (CITO), presented a review of the Summary of Quarterly Information Technology (IT) Report concerning agency activities in the July, August, and September 2007 time period (Attachment 1). She summarized the activity, saying that of the 37 active projects, 31 are in good standing, one project is on hold, two are in caution status, two are in alert status, and one has been recast. Four other projects were completed during the period. She then commented on specific projects.

The Department of Administration has completed the assessment for the statewide Financial Management System (FMS), which will replace the STARS (Statewide Accounting and Reporting System).

Ms. Moore said the Department of Animal Health Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) project has been completed. A member encouraged Ms. Moore to monitor the Agency to assure that the Agency files project reports on the remaining project. She noted that the Post-Implementation Evaluation Report (PIER) remained to be filed on the completed project.

Regarding the replacement of the Kansas Lottery online gaming system, she said the Agency signed a new 10-year contract with G-Tech Corporation. The contractor will finalize requirements by December 2007 to upgrade all 1,900 retail locations and renew the infrastructure. She replied that to date no one has contacted her regarding a new project linked to the expanded gambling legislation that passed during the 2007 Session.

Ms. Moore stated that the Racing and Gaming Commission, responding to SB 66, has contracted with Ambient Consulting to modify an Iowa gaming system, thereby reducing the project cost from $5.5 million to $1.8 million. Members considered possible outcomes if a court case challenging the legislation is successful. Ms. Moore said a fit analysis of the Iowa system and other options were being undertaken.

Ms. Moore noted that two agency projects were in alert status due to deliverable delays: the Department of Revenue Apportioned Internal Registration System Replacement and the State Board of Tax Appeals Case Management System.

She also said the Kansas State University (KSU) Legacy Application System Empowered Replacement (LASER) has been recast and the deliverable date has increased, warranting a caution status. She noted that Dr. Elizabeth Unger had retired as KSU Chief Information Officer (CIO). She replied to a question that Lyn Carlin was acting CIO.

Regarding the Kansas Legislature's installation of the International Roll Call Voting Board, she said a two-week delay would be overcome.

Commenting on the completed projects, Ms. Moore stated that the Statewide Human Resources and Reporting and Payroll (SHaRP) upgrade went live in July 2007 and that the Kansas Payment Center in Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) has completed vendor transition from Tier Technologies to J.P. Morgan.

She noted a number of new projects, including the Department of Administration's Kansas Wide-area Information Network (KAN-WIN) upgrade, the SRS Network Refresh Deployment Project, and the SRS Statewide Protection Report Center.

Ms. Moore's comments about the University of Kansas' planned Financial System Upgrade 9.0 prompted discussion among Committee members. A member commented that the planned project should be merged with the FMS. Another member suggested statutory incentives to merge Regents systems with the FMS. Ms. Moore commented that presently, the Regents payroll is tied to SHaRP, but that many Regents functions are not compatible with STARS or FMS. She observed that if a merger were to be considered, there should be a feasibility study undertaken and, if the project goes forward, the merger should be done in two phases - first, a merger of all Regents systems, then merge with FMS. Brad Williams, Chief Information Officer, Kansas Board of Regents, noted that Pennsylvania's attempt at such a merger was very costly. He said a fit and gap analysis plus a feasibility study would be needed before making any decisions regarding a merger.

Ms. Moore continued commenting on new or planned projects. The Department of Corrections, responding to Committee recommendations, is planning an enterprise architecture project before proceeding with Offender Management Information System (OMIS) and Total Offender Activity and Document System (TOADS).

She said the Health Policy Authority (HPA) is working with SRS to develop a Medicaid eligibility and enrollment system that includes a premium assistance program and is responding to a federal initiative to develop a health information exchange.

She noted that the Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) has submitted a plan to combine four systems into one integrated system.

She explained that SRS projects related to billing for the state hospitals require significantly different codes not compatible with the FMS, noting, however, that Financial Accounting Resource Management System (FARMS) would, under the new FMS, be incorporated into the Medicare and Medicaid Information System (MMIS).

Ms. Moore stated that the Department of Wildlife and Parks planned to complete the Agency's automated licensing system by adding automated campsite reservations.

Following a comment by Ms. Moore regarding the Governor's initiative to save energy by shutting down computers, members discussed various approaches to the issue and how much savings might occur. Ms. Moore said that KDOT is assessing net savings from various approaches.

Eldon Rightmeier, Deputy Director, Bureau of Telecommunications, Division of Information Systems and Communications, reviewed network initiatives recommended by the contractor, Calence, for a single-vendor server environment. The Bureau is refreshing the network with Cisco switches, is migrating access ports to the new network, enhancing the service platform, and laying the foundation for a UC (Unified Communication) platform to handle voice, data, and video (Attachment 2). He stated that the $5.9-million project will extend over four years (begun in October 2007; to be completed March 2009), will migrate the SRS network into KANWIN, and will consolidate KAN-Ed into the network. He said an RFP will be issued December 1 with a contract award planned for February 5, 2008; the tight schedule required to meet the KAN-Ed e-rate window.

Afternoon Session

Mr. Rightmeier and Mr. Williams responded to members' questions regarding consolidation of KAN-Ed with KANWIN and KANREN (Kansas Research and Education Network). Mr. Williams said KAN-Ed runs on a Cox Cable system, whereas the KANWIN backbone is AT&T. Mr.

Rightmeier, referencing the Calence report, said the Kansas Board of Regents has more dynamic network needs and requires different bandwidth, obviating the possibility of a merged network. He replied that KAN-Ed covers 1,200 sites with demands quite different from the university sites. Mr. Williams suggested that vendor Calence could further brief the JCIT at a later date.

The minutes for October 18 were approved (motion, Representative Morrison; second, Senator Huelskamp).

The Chairperson announced an invitation to a dinner for members on December 17. Don Heiman, reporting on a previous meeting's request, stated that installing network printers for legislative members would cost $35,000 and that, although it had not been budgeted for the fiscal year, was in the strategic plan and could be accommodated.

Lisa Hoopes, Division of Post Audit, reviewed the findings of a KAN-Ed audit to determine whether KAN-Ed is achieving its intended results (Attachment 3). She said KAN-Ed has 806 (out of 899 eligible) members, 19 access points, and is funded by the Kansas Universal Service Fund until FY 2009, at which time funding will transfer to the State General Fund (SGF). She related that 90 percent of eligible entities have become members of the KAN-Ed network, although "connected" membership (for whom a full range of broadband services is available) which grew to 271 (out of 806), has increased at a slower rate recently (119 new members in 2005; 29 new members in 2007). Regarding how KAN-Ed funds have been spent to maximize connections, Ms. Hoopes said KAN-Ed has received about $24 million since its inception. The report recommends expanding promotion efforts, using funds to expand services to members rather than spend monies on excess bandwidth, and developing accountability procedures for KAN-Ed grant programs.

Answering questions, Ms. Hoopes said there was no compelling reason to move the administration of KAN-Ed from the Regents to another entity. Mr. Williams said Regents' institutions connect to KAN-Ed through a peer connection with KANREN. He acknowledged that after the present contract expires, KAN-Ed and KANREN networks could be merged, but since KANREN is an independent entity, its policies are set by a separate board of directors who may not be amenable to such a recommendation. Ms. Hoopes replied that Calence is doing an in-depth study of network utilization; the study is due in December. The Chairperson referenced the list of KAN-Ed members (Attachment 4).

Bill Roth, Chief Information Technology Architect, responding to a JCIT motion at the September 21 meeting and briefed the Committee regarding information architecture for the Traffic Records Coordinating Council (TRCC), the Kansas Emergency Medical Information System proposed by Kansas Emergency Medical Services (KEMS), and the Kansas Health Policy Authority (Attachment 5). He explained that the TRCC is a multi-agency initiative to develop a statewide Traffic Records System (TRS) based on a 2006 Memorandum of Understanding among agencies. He said most event data originate with KDOT, KEMS, Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP), or local law enforcement and flow to any number of agencies. The TRS would be a central repository that can be accessed by multiple agencies. He commented that KEMS records 275,000 runs a year, 16,000 of which are traffic accidents that generate 9,600 Trauma Reports; a KEMS information system would enable the Agency to create single data entry, a standardized system, and establish needed boundaries between different systems.

Joe Morland, Project Manager, KEMS, said the agency has established a pilot project with 30 local EMS entities to test an information system. He stated that an RFP issued in September prompted responses from six vendors, one of whom will be awarded a contract in December 2007. After Kansas IT Office and JCIT approval, the pilot project is scheduled for implementation in January 2008 with a three-year roll out to all services.

Robert Waller, Chief Administrator, KEMS, continued the report, saying that funding for the project will come from the Agency operating budget and federal sources. He outlined estimated costs, from least ($371,000) to moderate ($827,530) to greatest ($1.1 million).

David Marshall, TRCC Project Manager, KDOT, presented a TRS timeline from a crash incident to multiple-agency reports.

Chris Tilden, Director of the Office of Local and Rural Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), traced how a Trauma Report is handled. He said the Kansas Trauma Program was initiated in 1999 with the creation of the Trauma Registry, a system which receives reports from hospitals; it has expanded its services from collection of data to include regional analysis and reporting of data. Answering a question, Mr. Tilden said KDHE shares data with all neighboring states.

Christine Swartz, Deputy Medicaid Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority, explained KHPA's relation to data collection and reporting, noting that a planned project, Data Analytic Interface, will be an integrated data warehouse and reporting tool related to health concerns and integrated with the MMIS. Answering a question, Mr. Roth said the Chief Information Technology Architect Office helps agencies to adopt best practices as new projects are considered.

Prepared by Gary Deeter
Edited by Julian Efird and Aaron Klaassen

Approved by Committee on:

   December 18, 2007
(Date)