Approved: 2/15/2011
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Representative Mike Burgess, Chair, at 3:30 p.m. on February 3, 2011, in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:
Iraida Orr, Legislative Research
Katherine McBride, Revisor of Statutes
Renae Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes
Linda Herrick, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
Jerry Younger, Kansas Department of Transportation
Cort Buffington, Executive Director, KanREN
Kevin Halgren, Washburn University
Jeremy Blanton, USD #111

Others attending:
(see attached list)

Chair Burgess asked if there was anyone who would like to request any bills to be introduced. At committee meeting several days ago, there was some discussion about an employee award program for suggesting efficiency or cost saving ideas. It was moved by Chair Burgess and seconded by Representative Pete DeGraaf to introduce such a bill designed to award state employees for cost savings and efficiency suggestions. The Chair asked for any discussion. There was a suggestion that this program be extended to all Kansas citizens, not just state employees. The Chair noted that language used from a bill proposed last year provided for awards for only state employees. However, this would be good discussion on the hearing for this bill. After this discussion, the committee unanimously voted to approve the motion.

Chair Burgess then introduced Jerry Younger, Deputy Secretary for Engineering and State Transportation Engineer, Kansas Department of Transportation. Mr. Younger briefed the committee on Kansas Department of Transportation excess property, particularly excess right of way property (Attachment 1).

Chair Burgess thanked Mr. Younger for his presentation to the committee.

The second presentation was a briefing on KanREN (Attachment 2). Chair Burgess introduced Cort Buffington, Executive Director, KanREN (Kansas Research and Education Network). After his presentation, Mr. Buffington introduced Kevin Halgren, Assistant Director, Information Systems and Services, Washburn University. Mr. Halgren gave a short presentation supporting KanREN. Mr. Buffington also introduced Jeremy Blanton, Information Technology Director, USD 111 Doniphan West. Mr. Blanton gave a short presentation in support of KanREN. Chair Burgess thanked Mr. Buffington, Mr. Halgren and Mr. Blanton for their presentations.

There was no other business to come before the committee.

The next meeting will be Monday, February 7, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

HOUSE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND FISCAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

GUEST LIST

DATE: 2-3-11

NAME	REPRESENTING
Kevin Halgren	Washburn / KanREN
Jeremy Blanton	Doniphan West USD 111 / KANREN
Cort Buffington	KanREN
Craig Grant	KanREN
Melissa Ward	Hein Law Firm
Bill Brady	C.S
Jerry Hanson	

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Deb Miller, Secretary | Kansas Department of Transportation | Sam Brownback, Governor

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

REGARDING EXCESS RIGHT-OF-WAY

February 3, 2011

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Good afternoon Mister Chairman, members of the committee. I am Jerry Younger, Deputy Secretary for Engineering and State Transportation Engineer for the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), here today to present KDOT's system of keeping inventory records of real property and real estate transactions, in accordance with K.S.A. 75-3516.

KDOT, Bureau of Right of Way maintains an inventory system of all real property, from buildings to right-of-way holdings in order to keep accurate records and locate potential excess property. Non-infrastructure inventory includes all land which is not part of the highway system.

Since the inception of the Right of Way Inventory and Disposal unit, the agency has completed the review of every mile of state highway to determine any potential excess right of way*. As reported last year as a 2010 goal, all 105 counties have been analyzed for possible tracts of excess. Currently, 1,182 tracts have been identified as potential excess.

Tracts of potential excess right of way tracts are forwarded for internal review to determine if they are in fact excess right of way. Those found to be excess are then analyzed for marketability. In FY 2010, 179 tracts were reviewed, of which 97 tracts were considered marketable, while 82 were not considered marketable.

After a parcel of land is determined to be excess right-of-way that is marketable, it can be appraised and presented for sale to a private individual or business. During FY 2010, 30 tracts of property were sold with $111,276.00 received for these sales, resulting in a sale of 92.84 acres of excess right of way.

In addition, there are several categories of property or property interests that are released to federal, city or county authorities. In FY 2010, 26 such tracts or interests were released by KDOT with no financial consideration received.

Thank you for the opportunity to update the committee on KDOT's inventory systems and excess right of way. I would be happy to answer questions at the appropriate time.

*Potential excess right of way is defined as an area of 0.25 acre or more, located from a point at least 50 feet or more beyond the construction limits of a project extending to the right of way line and which appears to be excess to the present or future needs of the state highway system.

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Attachment: 1 - 1

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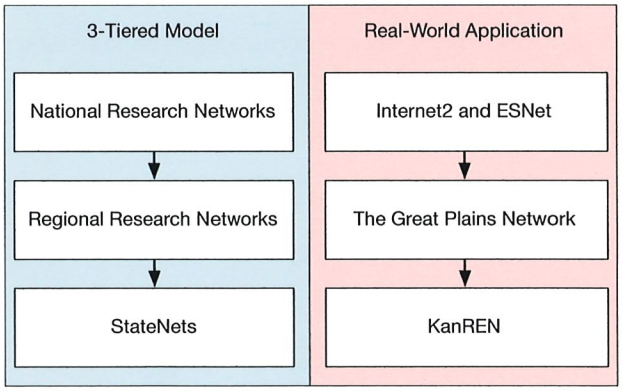
The Best Kept Secret in Kansas Research and Education

KanREN brought The Internet to Kansas and continues to provide critical, world-class broadband infrastructure and innovation to the Kansas research and education community. As a member-driven not-for-profit organization, the Kansas Research and Education Network has and continues to focus on advanced network services for all its members. Reaffirming our leadership role, KanREN will connect Kansans to the upcoming $62.5mil Community Anchor Institution network and play an integral part in meeting both national and state broadband goals.

History, Governance, and Ecosystem

Founded in 1992, the Kansas Research and Education Network (KanREN) is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization serving Community Anchor Instutitions (CAI) and education or research focused organizations.

KanREN serves the StateNet role in the 3-tiered model for education and research entities. The 3-tiered model has been proven a cost effective, efficient, and scalable solution for meeting the unique connectivity needs of education and research.



Member-Focused Structure

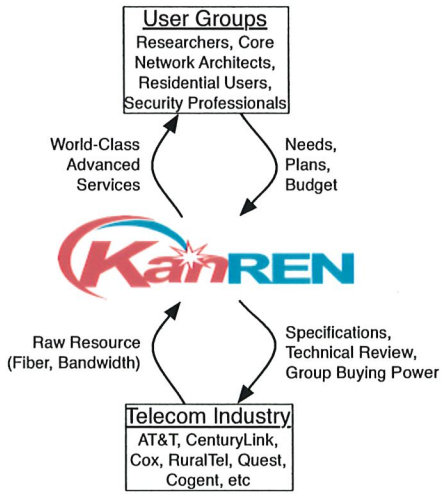
KanREN operates on a self-sustaining cost recovery model. Our initial funding, provided by The National Science Foundation (NSF), was quickly transitioned to the current, long-term, stable methodology. Members pay exactly what it costs to deliver services.

KanREN is governed by our members. Working Groups provide an opportunity for member interaction and the introduction of new ideas into our ecosystem. The Board of Directors evaluates and refines working group recommendations and sets long-term organizational direction, vision, values, and mission. Most importantly, all members have opportunity to vote on major resolutions; including rate and fee structure changes. Because all decisions are fully vetted and debated among members, KanREN's services never lose their fiscal responsibility and member focus.

Private-Public Partnership

KanREN is a perfect example of a successful public-private partnership. KanREN purchases raw connectivity building blocks, converting those inputs into innovative network services. KanREN has the unique skillset to understand the needs of diverse user groups (residence halls to security professionals to researchers) and convert those needs into required raw resources.

The world of connectivity moves quickly and requires a nimble organization. KanREN's status as a private business allows us to move quickly in conjunction with telecom industry partners. KanREN's member ecosystem allows for open discussion and keeps the organization moving forward with solid financial and technical plans for emerging technologies.



Quick Facts:

- Registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization
- Self-funded – No on-going state or federal funds
- Full financial disclosure to members
- Governed by members
- Facilitate group purchases, increasing vendor discounts
- Founded in 1992, before "the Internet" as we know it existed
- Consistently leading the nation in technology and capabilities
- Lawrence, KS small business – member funds stay in Kansas

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Expert Support Services

Wide Area Networking (WAN) requires a very specific skillset that does not typically coincide with enterprise LAN skillsets. Most institutions find hiring WAN experts is an extremely expensive process due to relative lack of a properly trained worker pool in the Midwest. KanREN staff are dedicated, passionate WAN experts; we know the technologies, terms, requirements, and troubleshooting methodologies associated with operating world-class, feature rich Wide Area Networks.

KanREN's members and contractors depend on our expertise 24x7x365 to reduce their FTE, equipment, and support expenses; saving KanREN's members hundreds of thousands of dollars per year. From helping members with advanced routing architectures to proactive monitoring of network components, all of KanREN's 185,000+ users enjoy the same world-class support services.

Building Infrastructure

KanREN leverages relationships with service providers to build fiber optic infrastructure for our members. Typically building fiber optic infrastructure is an expensive, time consuming process. KanREN helps reduce infrastructure build costs for its members by centrally managing buildout projects and amortising costs over time. This gives KanREN members the ability to acquire the services needed today but spread the initial expenses over time while enjoying KanREN's extremely low overhead.

Technology Pioneers

KanREN has consistently lead the nation in advanced technology deployments; with a focus on stable, scalable, production-ready services and features.

Many of KanREN's "old" network services are still not available from commodity service providers.

- 1993 – Bleeding-edge T1 deployment
- 1994 – Frame-Relay forerunner
- 1997 – ATM First-adopters
- 1998 – First entity nationwide connected to Internet2
- 2001 – Full suite of Multicast features deployed
- 2001 – Advanced Quality of Service deployment
- 2003 – Adoption of Metro Ethernet WAN circuits
- 2004 – Production IPv6 Deployment
- 2005 – RIR Classification for IPv6 numbers
- 2007 – Optical, ring backbone deployment
- 2008 – Full MPLS feature deployment
- 2009 – Internet2 DCN testbed deployment
- 2010 – Advanced BGP features deployed
- 2010 – Multi-Layer Quality of Service deployment
- 2010 – Internet2 ION feature deployment
- 2010 – Announcement of CAI connectivity capabilities

Major KanREN Stakeholders

What Our Members Say

"Since the beginning of our interactions with KanREN, our relationship with them has been great. From input and insights on architecture and routing, to troubleshooting and operations, we have received outstanding support from the KanREN organization. Their knowledgeable and experienced staff along with the resources, services, and information they are able to provide has been a great complement to our Network Team here at JCCC."

Don Campbell
Manager, Network Communications
Johnson County Community College

"Fort Scott Community College has been a KanREN member since 1996. KanREN provides us advanced services we could not obtain from our local Internet providers like direct connectivity to Internet 2 and native, global IPv6 connectivity. They let us choose the level of service and support that makes sense for our institution. KanREN gives us the buying power of a statewide consortium, and the leverage with our local service providers to get bandwidth levels, prices, and services that we could not convince them to provide on our own. My organization uses KanREN because there's no other bandwidth provider in the state who understands the needs of our non-profit institution better."

Casey Russell
Director, Information Technology
Fort Scott Community College

"The new KanREN backbone has enabled KUMC to more efficiently obtain high speed connectivity to our sites throughout Kansas. No longer do we need to purchase expensive T1's back to Kansas City, but we can simply connect our sites to the redundant KanREN backbone and securely transfer voice, video and data. KUMC researchers are also benefitting from the high availability design and the vastly increased bandwidth to both I1 and I2."

Matthew Fuoco
Director, Telecommunications and Networking
The University of Kansas Medical Center

"We at K-State University (and GpENI) would like to thank KanREN for their support of network research. In particular, we appreciate your efforts in facilitating L2 connectivity to I2. This connection allows us to interface with the network community and conduct much needed networking research. For example, we are currently involved in an experiment with Stanford, Georgia Tech, BBN, and Rutgers, which will be one of the highlights of the meta-scale deployment of GENI (a global scale research facility) in Washington, DC. This and other opportunities would not be possible without your assistance, and for this reason, we thank you."

Don Gruenbacher
Department Head, Electrical and Computer Engineering
Kansas State University

What National Networks Say

"The KanREN community's aggressive efforts in deploying IPv6 should be seen as a role model for our entire community."

Dale Finkelson
Senior Program and Service Manager, Network Services
Internet2

"Through KanREN's leadership we are able to reaffirm our community's belief in the importance of the end-to-end principal, one of the key bases of the Internet. We applaud their efforts and hope their work helps motivate others to act as well."

Michael Lambert
GigaPoP Coordinator
Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center

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February 3, 2011

To: The House Committee on Government Efficiency
Representative Mike Burgess, Chair

My sincere apologies for not being able to be with you today. I had hoped to be there in person to share with you my message about the Kansas Research and Education Network (KanREN) and the value that it brings to Emporia State University, and to answer any questions you might have had. I hope my comments below will convey this message. Feel free to contact me at any time and I would be happy to provide additional or more detailed information.

Emporia State University has been a member of the KanREN consortium for more than 15 years. During that time, the value that KanREN has brought to ESU and the faculty, staff, and students that it serves has been far greater than the dollars and cents would convey.

KanREN is unique in the services it provides and in the manner in which it provides those services. It was created by Kansas institutions of higher education to fulfill a distinct need – it was not created by legislative or other governmental action. It exists today because it continues to meet those needs in a way that no other entity could - acting directly for the purposes of extending the educational and research mission(s) of those institutions that are members. For ESU, that means high speed connectivity to other Regents institutions, to other member institutions, to the commodity Internet, and to Internet2. It also means the functionality and benefits that such high speed connectivity provides in terms of research and educational potential.

From fiscal perspective, the kind of connectivity that ESU requires – both in terms of bandwidth and in functionality – would be difficult to achieve – and would be far more costly – for ESU to do as a single institution than it is as a member of the consortium. KanREN provides monetary economies of scale that allow them to build infrastructure that is much larger and more robust than any single institution – especially ESU – could build on its own. From a more practical perspective, as a member of KanREN, ESU doesn't have to negotiate with multiple telecommunications and other vendors. We don't have to have staff resources with highly specialized knowledge about wide area network connectivity. We don't have to worry about 7x24 monitoring of a campus network with personnel resources that are already stretched. And when there is an issue, caused by a 3rd-party vendor, we have an advocate that has the highly technical knowledge required to ensure appropriate, timely response from that vendor, who knows the industry and the landscape, and who has the leverage of an entire consortium and multi-million dollar contracts backing them up. In this regard, the value of the consortium becomes more than significant – it becomes absolutely necessary in order for ESU to carry out its mission to students and faculty in an efficient and responsible manner.

As I participated in the statewide consolidation feasibility study this past year, it was readily and repeatedly apparent that the wide area connectivity needs of higher education institutions are dramatically different than other government agencies. As a member of the higher ed community, we helped to create an organization that meets those needs in a highly efficient manner, while at the same time being visionary in its planning and implementation. KanREN builds highly resilient, high-bandwidth networks – the biggest in the state by several measures – and it does so with minimal overhead, no profit motives, and no agenda other than to serve the needs of member institutions.

KanREN provides real value and benefit in a variety of ways to the Emporia State University community and to its students, and it does so in a manner that allows us to carry out our mission in a fiscally responsible way. We are proud to be a member of the partnership that continues to both rely upon and guide the evolution of KanREN - and it is our intention to continue that partnership far into the future.

Respectfully,

Michael D Erickson

Michael D. Erickson
Associate Vice President, Technology & Computing Services
Chief Information Officer
Emporia State University