

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

February 15, 2011
Room 144-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Joe McLeland, Chairperson
Senator Mike Petersen, Vice-chairperson
Senator Marci Francisco
Senator Tom Holland
Senator Garrett Love
Senator Vicki Schmidt
Representative Mike Burgess
Representative Terry Calloway
Representative Nile Dillmore

Member Absent

Representative Harold Lane

Staff Present

Aaron Klaassen, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, 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
Alan Weis, Assistant Director for Applications and Software, Kansas Legislative
Information Systems and Services
Terri Clark, Assistant Director, Legislative Computer Services

Others Attending

See attached sheet.

The Acting Chairperson called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Representative Dillmore and seconded by Senator Schmidt to elect Representative McLeland as Chairperson and Senator Petersen as Vice-chairperson for the 2011 calendar year. The motion passed unanimously.

Alan Weis, Assistant Director for Applications and Software, Kansas Legislative Information Systems and Services (KLISS), outlined the progress on the KLISS project (Attachment 1). Noting that the training for the Office of the Revisor of Statutes staff was completed in December and the Law Making and Chamber Automation were implemented January 10, 2011, he commented on the KLISS support-structure staff (15 members), who were provided by vendor Propylon; the staff will work in tandem with in-house staff through 2011. He also reviewed some of the corrective measures being taken to address certain issues:

- Bill and amendment proofing;
- Package validation function;
- System optimization; and
- Continued training, including one-on-one training, as needed.

Mr. Weis said that, to date, the system has processed 537 bills, 40 resolutions, and various committee reports and floor amendments; the four environments (production, testing, development, and failover) provide stability as KLISS is deployed and maintained.

Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer, gave a status report on KLISS (Attachment 2). To illustrate the old bill system, he showed a bill with amendments physically pasted to the bill. He then reviewed the history of the project (begun in October 2004) and noted key dates in the project's development. The project was estimated to cost \$13.5 million; however, the project's final cost is \$2 million under budget. Mr. Heiman said the project, set to "go-live" by January 1, 2011, was four weeks late; to date, the project is behind schedule one week. He provided a series of technical details to show functionality implementation and commented on hosting of the public website, which was moved from the Information Network of Kansas to the Division of Information Systems and Communication (DISC), a process accomplished without relying on any State General Funds. Noting the need for additional staff, he itemized savings from KLISS (e.g. \$127,000 by eliminating clipping and file clerk services) that can provide new staff as well as contract Propylon support services for 2012.

Terri Clark, Assistant Director, Legislative Computer Services, reviewed the services provided through the KLISS infrastructure (Attachment 3). Acknowledging the guidance of COBIT (Control Objectives for Information and related Technology), she said that the KLISS data center replaced four data centers and added a KLISS failover center in Wichita; the center is able to operate 130 virtual servers with one staff member. In one month, the Customer Help Desk processed 2,192 trouble tickets; the KLISS war room processed an additional 265 tickets and had no severity level that would stop computer processes. She commented on the third-party technical support, explained the procedures by which changes are implemented, and noted the support provided by network services. She said a prototype for authenticating and preserving the state's electronic records is scheduled for completion on February 22, 2011, and she noted pending grants to assist in building a records archive as well as a grant to develop video services. She also noted that, beginning this summer, Unified Communications will be deployed in the Statehouse.

The Chairperson thanked the conferees and opened the meeting for discussion regarding the uneven deployment of KLISS. In various ways, members expressed frustration, commenting on the problems associated with installing the new system. Items mentioned were:

- The old system of Kansas.gov, even if it could not be interfaced with the new system, should have been maintained rather than being prematurely supplanted by the new system;
- Access to bills and other information has been erratic and unreliable;
- The Senate and House support personnel have to struggle to make the system work, often resorting to manual workarounds;
- The KLISS pages are not intuitive or simple to navigate; and
- Services to the public have been compromised.

Mr. Heiman acknowledged the problems, promised at least 70 percent functionality by the weekend, and requested that the Committee assist him in setting priorities. Responding to questions, he traced the procedures by which the decision was made to deploy KLISS. Members agreed to meet regularly to monitor the project. Responding to another question, Morey Sullivan, Deputy Director, DISC, traced possible savings through Unified Communications (UC), primarily through increased efficiencies. He said a pilot VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) would first be deployed, followed by UC. He commented that a model UC office has been established in the Landon State Office Building.

The Chairperson thanked members and conferees for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned. The next two meetings are scheduled for 7:00 a.m. in Room 144-S on March 2 and March 16.

Prepared by Gary Deeter
Edited by Aaron Klaassen and Julian Efird

Approved by the Committee on:

March 16, 2011
(Date)

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

GUEST LIST

DATE: FEBRUARY 15 2011

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