

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Communication, Computers and Technology

The meeting was called to order by Representative Mike Meacham at
Chairperson

3:30 ~~am~~ p.m. on March 22, 1983 in room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Love (excused)

Committee staff present:

Sherry Brown, Fiscal Staff, Research Department
Chris Stanfield, Fiscal Staff, Research Department
Betty Ellison, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

(No conferees)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Meacham. Sherry Brown of the research staff gave a presentation in which she answered several questions that committee members had in a round table discussion of the proposed telecommunications system on February 24, 1983.

In regard to the question, Does KU have a Bell Dimension System?, staff learned that KU does have for one building--the computer center.

Regarding the question, What are other states doing?, staff found that some states have invested some money in planning but none has in place a system of the scale proposed here. Staff reported that most states have in use switches or switches with microwave lengths; there is some small use of fiber optics but none of the magnitude in this proposal. However, from the literature available, fiber optics appear to be the coming thing.

Staff told the committee that an option recommended by the Senate Ways and Means Committee was to provide no new money but that whatever the Department of Administration could do in-house on the basis of current funds was fine. Staff felt that the options considered now by the Department of Administration were:

1. Do we proceed as we can in-house?
2. Is the legislature willing to provide additional dollars to bid the switches?

In answer to a question by Representative Rolfs regarding the cost of a switch, staff said that the Topeka switch would cost \$7.1 million, the Kansas City switch \$4 million and the Wichita switch \$2.7 million or \$13.28 million for those three switches.

Representative Chronister suggested that the committee send a memo to the Ways and Means Committee or to their subcommittee that is dealing with this question. The memo would contain a series of recommendations as follows:

1. That we put out for bid switches only in the Kansas City, Topeka and Wichita areas for FY 1984 and that those bids be made after January 1, 1984.
2. That the bids be under the competitive bid law.
3. Our recommendation would be for no additional dollars.
- * 4. That we look at the fiber optics system at a later point in time--next year or the year after.

Representative Chronister submitted her suggestion (above) as a motion. Representative Ramirez seconded the motion.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Communication, Computers and Technology
room 522-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on March 22, 1983

Representative Rolfs expressed favor of the motion except for the fiber optics portion of it. He suggested that the question be divided, taking up 1, 2 and 3 as a group and then vote on 4.

Chairman Meacham then stated that the motion was divided and the committee was considering bidding switches at Kansas City, Topeka and Wichita only, any or all, under the competitive bid law, for either lease or lease purchase or outright acquisition after January 1, 1984, with no new dollars added to the Department of Administration Budget in FY 84.

The committee again discussed the cost of each switch. Staff added that the Topeka switch would include a central computerized network control and surveillance system which would be an additional \$200,000.

A vote was taken on the first part of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

After more discussion of fiber optics, Representative Chronister withdrew the fourth section of her motion with the acceptance of her second, Representative Ramirez. *(See section 4, page 1)

Representative Chronister then moved that the final part of the memo contain language couched in the terms that the fiber optics system of transmission not be eliminated as a possibility at a later time. Also to include that this does not indicate that the committee feels that the state should own it, but that the options should continue to be examined in this area. Representative Rolfs seconded the motion. *(See section 4, page 1)

The chairman called for the question on the motion to make no recommendation on state ownership of fiber optics but that as a technology, it should receive continuing consideration. The motion carried. *(See section 4, page 1)

Chairman Meacham said that the draft would be ready tomorrow and amendments or changes could be made at that time. Final action will be tomorrow so that this can be transmitted to the Ways and Means Committee in time for Department of Administration Budget consideration on Friday.

The chairman asked the committee for topics that might be of interest for an interim study pertinent to this area. He said that he will be sending a list to the leadership soon.

The meeting was adjourned by the chairman at 4:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the committee will be held at 3:30 p.m. on March 23, 1983.

