

Approved March 31, 1986

Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY

The meeting was called to order by Representative Jayne Aylward at
Chairperson

3:30 ~~xxx~~/p.m. on February 20, 1986 in room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Representative Helgerson (excused)
Representative Sifers (excused)

Committee staff present:
Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department
James A. Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Jean Mellinger, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Marvin Troutt, IBM
Russell Wiedle, IBM

Chairman Jayne Aylward opened the meeting and introduced Marvin Troutt who spoke on the complexities of managing information systems.

Marvin Troutt said he was speaking not from the standpoint of IBM but from the standpoint of being a vendor. One important point, he said, was that he was not a lobbyist but at the request of IBM is spending time at the legislature to understand the enterprise of state government in this particular state. He said he was there because they want to sell the state equipment because they think it is the best solution to the state's problem. He invited the committee to some of their classes. He said this is a very sophisticated business and one where you bring in different levels of focus to work with different levels of the program. He stated that technology is faster and less expensive; but, until it makes someone more productive, it is not less expensive. He said in this very complex environment, he would wonder, if he were them, if he should be more interested in the cost of a product or more interested in the productivity of the people that would be impacted. He said a distributed system is not something you should or should not do but something that because of technology changes, you can do things.

Russell Wiedle said that in the early days they would put in the big mainframe computer, hook up the terminals to it and everybody would feed off the one central system, and now you can put thousands of terminals on the system. As time went on, they moved some material out to terminal computers. The way you decide which is the best approach, is what he calls "data domain." The next step was the personal computer or intelligent work station which works fine for a small amount of data. He said that if they break up all the information in the state into different categories, then they can start channeling their thoughts to whether they want to do something in one area or another and pursue the one they wish. Their goal when they get done is to be able to handle everything they have in there. He said one way to manage this is to look around at some entity that is bigger and see how they do it.

Representative Friedeman remarked that Dr. Hambleton said that they didn't have enough room on DISC to handle the data that he was talking about and was suggesting another system and this has become a concern of theirs primarily through the Water Database and asked about this. Mr. Wiedle said the size issue was not the whole problem, that the storage facilities they have now can hold about a billion characters; but other complexities come into it, for instance, having to integrate that into what is already on the computer. Sometimes it is easier or sometimes it is more expensive just to pull that off and treat it as a whole separate process. Representative Friedeman said Dr. Hambleton also said that he distrusted the data unless it was managed by them even though it is used by everybody else and said it would stay cleaner. Mr. Wiedle said that was right and the current concept on information is that for every piece of data out there, there should be one agency who owns that data and be responsible for it.

Representative Dean asked if the CPU was dedicated while transmitting data or if the data went to a holding tank and the computer was free and was told the computer was free.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY,
room 522-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~xxxx~~ a.m./p.m. on February 20, 1986

Representative Sallee asked when they started pulling out of their mainframe and go out on location, if they still have the same information in the mainframe and was told that they did and it was just a copy that went out.

Bill drafts 2171 and 2170 were distributed. Bill draft 2171 would put the Centers of Excellence in the Statutes. Representative Friedeman moved that the Committee introduce this bill. Representative Sallee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Bill draft 2170 allows the Centers of Excellence to negotiate bids. Representative Dean moved that the Committee introduce this bill. Representative Green seconded the motion. Representative Roper suggested that "or center of industrial innovation and technology transfers" should be inserted following "the centers of excellence." The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Committee will be at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 1986.

