

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Terrie Huntington at 1:30 p.m. on March 12, 2009, in Room 786 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Valdenia Winn- excused

Committee staff present:

Rena Jefferies, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Jennifer Horchem, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Kay Scarlett, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Brad Williams, Chief Information Officer & Kan-ed Executive Director, Kansas Board of Regents

Others attending:

See attached list.

Brad Williams, Chief Information Officer & Kan-ed Executive Director, Kansas Board of Regents, presented an overview of the Kan-ed program administered by the Kansas Board of Regents. By statute they are to provide for a broadband technology-based network to which schools, libraries, and hospitals may connect for broadband internet access and intranet access for distance learning. He discussed membership, services, network growth, needs, and funding for the Kan-ed program in Kansas. (Attachment 1)

Representative McLeland, Chairman of the House Budget Committee, reported that he had received a copy of *The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* as it pertains to education from the Kansas Department of Education. He doesn't believe the state should accept this federal stimulus money for higher education until all the restrictions are known. Copies will be sent to members and staff.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m. The next meeting of the House Higher Education Committee is scheduled for March 17, 2009.