MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

November 15-16, 2001
Room 531-N—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Jim Morrison, Chairperson
Senator Tim Huelskamp, Vice Chairperson
Representative John Faber (Friday)
Representative Doug Gatewood
Representative Tom Burroughs

Staff Present

Richard Hays, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Audrey Nogle, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees

John Campbell, Senior Deputy Attorney General
Glenn Newkirk, InfoSentry Services
Don Heiman, Executive Chief Information Technology Officer
Jim Bingham, Chief Information Officer, University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC)
Dr. David Cook, Director, Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth, KUMC
Pam Shaw, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, KUMC
Gary Doolittle, Clinical Liaison, KUMC
Carol Smith, Professor, Nursing, KUMC
Joan Hunt, Professor, Anatomy and Cell Biology, KUMC
Helen Connors, Associate Dean, School of Nursing, KUMC
JoEllen Greischar-Billiard, Clinical Instructor, School of Nursing, KUMC
Jill Ducey, Educational Technologist, KUMC
Judy Warren, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, KUMC
Chris Ross-Baze, Project Manager, Child Care Licensing and Registration Project,
    Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Tom Day, Legislative Liaison, Kansas Corporation Commission
Janet Buchanan, Chief of Telecommunications, Kansas Corporation Commission
Mark Evans, Deputy Superintendent, Wichita USD 259
Cal Cormack, Superintendent, Basehor-Linwood USD 458

Thursday, November 15
Morning Session

John Campbell, Senior Deputy Attorney General, provided the status of the state's lawsuit against Microsoft (Attachment 1). He traced the history of the lawsuit from 1994, at which time the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) sued Microsoft. In 1995, the district court approved a consent decree between Microsoft and DOJ, a decree which was found to be unenforceable, and which produced another lawsuit in May 1998, which was joined by Kansas and 17 other states. The court found Microsoft to be in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act and ordered the company to be broken up. An Appeals Court ruling affirmed the findings of the lower court; however, the U.S. Supreme Court sent the lawsuit back to the district court to consider other remedies, at which time a settlement was reached with Microsoft. The Kansas Attorney General, along with eight other states and the District of Columbia, did not join the settlement on the grounds that the language of the agreement was vague and open to interpretation. Mr. Campbell stated that the present goal is to clarify the language of the original settlement. Answering questions, Mr. Campbell said to date Kansas has spent $6,400 on the lawsuit. He declined to discuss details of the suit until after a hearing on December 7, 2001.

Richard Hays, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer, reviewed legislative Information Technology (IT) activities. He said a Department of Administration steering committee is reviewing options for a new financial management system, working with vendor Accensure to develop a business case and a cost-benefit analysis. He said that new Dell computers and monitors were being deployed to all legislative staff, a process to be completed before the 2002 Session. Members noted the need for additional Internet access ports in committee hearing rooms. Mr. Hays introduced Glenn Newkirk, InfoSentry Services, who updated the Committee on the Document Database Management System (Attachment 2). He said the first phase, a data repository, has been implemented. The next phase, a bill-tracking system, is presently at the needs assessment stage which should be completed December 5, 2001, at which time the System Review Team will make recommendations to the Legislative Coordinating Council. He noted three options for a recommendation:

- Enhance the current mainframe system;

- Buy and customize a vendor system; or

- Develop and build a Kansas-specific system.

Mr. Newkirk noted that the present mainframe-based bill tracking system is still viable, having been thoroughly updated and maintained. He observed that vendor-supplied systems may be at risk, given the attrition rate of software companies. After stating that he will employ user teams to evaluate the system before finishing the design, members requested a copy of the review-team draft be sent to them.

Don Heiman, Executive Chief Information Technology Officer, updated the Committee on the Microsoft licensing changes (Attachment 3). He said that in a previous report in September 2001 he had estimated the increased licensing costs might reach $15 million. However, Microsoft reversed their licensing policies regarding upgrades and

downgrades and opened negotiations with customers on a case-by-case basis. By including local units of government in his aggregate volume, Mr. Heiman estimated the price increase will be limited to about $4 million, a savings of $11 million and would be spread over a multiyear period. Mr. Heiman said his original estimate of $185 per desktop license projected an increase of $15 million in licensing costs, but that Microsoft's reversal of policy on October 4 will allow a cost avoidance of at least $11 million. He said it may be possible to mitigate nearly all of the remaining $4 million increase as well.

Mr. Heiman also reviewed the 42 current IT projects (Attachment 4). He said the Budget Division's State Budget System had been implemented; that the SHaRP upgrade to Peoplesoft 8.0 fit analysis was progressing; that the Juvenile Justice Information System was on course; and that the Kansas Bureau of Investigation's Criminal Justice Information System was being recognized nationally. He noted that the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System's Imaging and Workflow Project was on hold awaiting a project plan and that testing and deliverable delays in the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services' Managed Care Systems Integration Project had put them behind schedule.

Mr. Heiman also distributed the latest version (9.0) of the Kansas Statewide Technology Architecture, a description of the information systems infrastructure that supports IT statewide. The document delineates all IT used and planned for use within the state for the 2001-2003 time frame (selected pages comprise Attachment 5; the complete document is on file at the Kansas Information Technology Office). Mr. Heiman presented a draft of the latest Strategic Information Management Plan, a document outlining the strategic vision for electronic government and electronic economy in the state (Attachment 6). It envisions a virtual government linked with electronic commerce that is life-event driven, enabling any citizen to complete government, personal, and commercial transactions online. Mr. Heiman noted that the document traces the development of IT governance, assessment metrics, a balanced scorecard, control objectives standards, and initiatives for the future. He said that even though Kansas is a leader in IT, the state only spends 2.3 percent of its budget on IT (as compared with the national average of 6.1 percent).

Mr. Heiman responded to questions asked previously after receiving updated information. He said the Department of Administration's Budget Management System cost $1.8 million for Phases 1 and 2, and that the entire system, including Phase 3, which will be completed in December 2001, totaled $2.5 million. He said the project under contract with Affinity Solutions came in on time and within budget parameters.

Asked about the KCC information system being offline for weeks, creating problems for truckers, Mr. Heiman said he had investigated and found that a transition from one system to a new one had been delayed after the old system was taken down. The interruption lasted about one month before the new system was operational.

Afternoon Session

The members and staff traveled to Kansas City to review the University of Kansas Medical Center's telemedicine, research using IT, and distance education. The presentations and demonstrations included the following:

- A review of IT resources at KUMC, Jim Bingham, Chief Information Officer;

- Telemedicine and Telehealth, Dr. David Cook, Director, Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth;

- TeleKidCare, Pam Shaw, Associate Professor, Pediatrics, a pilot project to treat school children;

- TeleOncology, Gary Doolittle, Clinical Liaison;

- Home Health Care via telemedicine and telehealth, Carol Smith, Professor, Nursing;

- Biomedical research infrastructure network, Joan Hunt, Professor, Anatomy and Cell Biology;

- Nursing distance education, Helen Connors, Associate Dean, Nursing; JoEllen Greischar-Billiard, Clinical Instructor, Nursing; Jill Ducey, Educational Technologist; Judy Warren, Associate Professor, Nursing.

Friday, November 16
Morning Session

Christine Ross-Baze updated the Committee on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Child Care Licensing and Registration Information System (CLARIS) (Attachment 7). She stated that CLARIS was developed as part of a comprehensive response to a Post Audit report faulting the agency for inadequate oversight in safeguarding Kansas children in day care, foster care, juvenile detention, and residential treatment. She explained that CLARIS will make information more widely and more immediately available to staff, parents, the court system, and other interested individuals. She said the cost of the system ($1.1 million in FY 2002) is financed through a federal Child Development Block Grant administered by SRS.

Answering questions, Ms. Ross-Baze said the block-grant funds being used are not available for other kinds of services. Staff noted that the same project and funds were approved in 1999, at which time Phase 1 of the project was completed (Attachment 8). The present project represents Phase 2 and 3 of the 1999 project. Answering further questions, Ms. Ross-Baze said the vendor CTA was selected without competitive bid. A statewide contract with CTA through the Division of Information Services and Communications (DISC)

allowed KDHE to generate an additional task order for the project. She said the cost avoidance figure listed in her report would not reduce staff nor show any actual dollar reductions in the agency budget.

Tom Day, Legislative Liaison for the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC), reported on the registration process of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) mandated by KSA 66-2011 that addresses end users who do not have local dial-up Internet access and who may receive access for a flat long distance rate of $15 (limited) or $30 (unlimited) in charges (Attachment 9). He noted that the present law does not apply to Digital Service Lines, cable, or wireless Internet access services. He said the registry is used to determine eligibility for the flat-rate service and to provide a single authoritative listing of ISP access numbers for local telephone companies to use. He stated that 145 ISPs, representing 115 Kansas localities, are currently registered on the KCC website.

Janet Buchanan, KCC Chief of Telecommunications, replying to questions, said that the KCC investigates complaints and is authorized to remove a telephone company from the registry, making the company ineligible for subsidies. She said the 1996 law was amended in 1998 to remove certain technical aspects, allowing the law to accommodate technological advances. She stated that the law does not allow the KCC to regulate an ISP's rate structure. She noted that, at present, no school district is registered as an ISP, and some ISPs who do not wish to be eligible for the $15/$30 plan or who do not offer dialup service may operate in Kansas unregistered.

Members discussed a recommendation to raise the present minimum baud rate from 19.2 kilobits per second to at least 28.8. Ms. Buchanan said that, if a complaint of slow transfer speed is lodged, the KCC can require a telephone company to increase the transfer rate. Mr. Day noted that funds are available from the Federal Communications Corporation to assist telephone companies to increase their transfer speeds. Members encouraged the KCC to disseminate the availability of these funds more widely among Kansas telephone companies.

Mark Evans, Deputy Superintendent, Wichita USD 259, outlined the district's eSchool, their online education program for K-12 students (Attachment 10). He said the district, with 49,147 students and 7,000 staff, serves 250 home-school students. The district provides a computer, printer, and phone line in each home and, using Tegrity streaming audio/video service, enhances the home education of these students and allows them to meet district and state education standards. He said a Boeing grant provides for teacher training, that the district receives the state's per-pupil stipend of $3,870 for eSchool students, and that the program requires students to participate in field trips, testing, and other face-to-face activities with their online teachers. Answering questions, Mr. Evans said the district spends a total of $100,000 for the program beyond what is received in state aid, a cost of approximately $8,000 per student. He stated the program is not a diploma program, but provides core education for home-school students.

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, State Board of Education, replying to questions, said that for rural areas, for schools with declining enrollment, and for schools needing an alternative education program, Interactive Television could be an excellent resource. He said the KAN-Ed initiative will help, especially in rural areas. He noted that presently there

are 30 charter schools in Kansas and that federal grants are available to help with startup costs for charter schools.

Dr. Cal Cormack, Superintendent, Basehor-Linwood USD 458, reviewed the district's Virtual Charter School, one of 15 original charter schools in Kansas (Attachment 11). He said the school was offered to provide a wider range of choices for parents, making the educational resources of the district available through the Internet. The district's interactive web pages allow students to communicate with their teachers. He stated that the virtual school offers assessment to meet district and state standards for online students, offers an accredited diploma for graduation, and, by utilizing the best of the district's teachers, gives instructional support to parents. He noted that presently 37 of the district's teachers provide instruction for the Virtual Charter School, serving 354 students from all over the state, 95 percent of whom have never been involved in public education.

Prepared by Gary Deeter
Edited by Julian Efird

Approved by Committee on:

    December 14, 2001