

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharon Schwartz at 9:00 A.M. on January 31, 2007, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

### Committee staff present:

Becky Krahl, Legislative Research Department  
Aaron Klaassen, Legislative Research Department  
Amy VanHouse, Legislative Research Department  
Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department  
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes  
Nikki Feuerborn, Chief of Staff  
Shirley Jepson, Committee Assistant

### Conferees appearing before the committee:

Deb Miller, Secretary, Department of Transportation (KDOT)  
Denise Moore, Chief Information Technology Officer, Kansas Information Technology Office  
Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer

### Others attending:

See attached list.

- Attachment 1 Response Information from Department of Revenue
- Attachment 2 KDOT Update by Deb Miller
- Attachment 3 Candidate Projects for Construction After FY 2009 by Deb Miller
- Attachment 4 Presentation by Denise Moore
- Attachment 5 Presentation by Don Heiman

Representative Feuerborn moved to introduce legislation to require the Kansas Corporation Commission to provide an annual report on all costs passed on to taxpayers. The motion was seconded by Representative Gatewood. Motion carried.

Representative Wolf moved to introduce legislation to provide for oversight of all taxing and bonding authority. The motion was seconded by Representative Feuerborn. Motion carried.

Representative Carlin introduced John Grice, a senior at Manhattan High School, who is shadowing her today at the Legislature.

Representative Feuerborn introduced Joe Rogers and Chris Nicholson, students from Ottawa High School, who are shadowing him today at the Legislature.

Information from the Department of Revenue, as requested by the Committee, was distributed (Attachment 1).

Chair Schwartz recognized Deb Miller, Secretary of Transportation, who presented an update on the remaining work of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) (Attachment 2) and Candidate Projects for Construction After FY 2009 (Attachment 3). Ms. Miller also distributed copies of Completing the CTP:Remaining Projects 2007-09 and KDOT Quick Facts (copies available from Legislative Research Department).

Ms. Miller stated that presently projects totaling more than \$4.1 billion have been let for construction with approximately \$1.4 billion remaining to be let. The Department is working to create a pool of projects to be addressed after the completion of the current CTP in order to continue the stream of federal funds into the State. Ms. Miller reported that rising costs continue to be a challenge for the Department. Because of the number of fatalities on the roadways within the State, caused mainly by failure to wear seatbelts, KDOT is also focusing on education measures and possible legislation to address a tougher seat belt law and graduated driver license for teenagers. Ms. Miller

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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noted that hiring engineers is another concern of the Department; indicating that salary is a factor in maintaining longevity within the field. On many occasions, after an engineer is trained by the State, they move on to private enterprise or a higher paying job.

Responding to questions from the Committee, Ms. Miller indicated that the Department is working to create a stronger link with counties and local governments. There is a concern that the local tax base will not provide sufficient funding for county roads. With regard to quality of new construction, Ms. Miller stated she felt the failure rate of new construction is low. The Department hires some outside inspectors and engineers when the need arises.

The Chair recognized Denise Moore, Chief Information Technology Officer, Kansas Information Technology Office, who presented an overview of technology projects over \$250,000 (Attachment 4). Ms. Moore testimony included an explanation of procedures followed in the different phases of the technology projects.

The Committee expressed concern that the cost of a proposed financial management system was estimated at \$30 million when presented to the Joint Committee on Information Technology (JCIT); however, funding of \$40 million is being requested, representing more than a 10 percent cost overrun. Ms. Moore indicated that this project will need to be re-filed - a procedure that has not been done at this time. The Committee felt that the Kansas Information Technology Office should change procedures to avoid a project going forward whose cost is more than 10 percent over the original estimate until this information has been brought before JCIT.

Chairman Schwartz recognized Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer, who presented an overview of Legislative Information Technology Projects (Attachment 5). Mr. Heiman introduced Dave Larson, Director of Legislative Computer Services. Their testimony focused on the legislative strategic information technology plan and the \$250,000 plus projects required to implement the plan. The strategic plans calls for replacing the old system with one highly integrated system. There are five phases to the plan with phase one being completed in December 2006.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 1, 2007.

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Sharon Schwartz, Chair