

MINUTES OF THE E-GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Deena Horst at 3:39 p.m. on March 14, 2002, in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except Representatives Williams and Cook, who were excused.

Committee staff present:

Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes' Office  
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes' Office  
Robert Chapman, Legislative Research Department  
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary  
Dean Samuelson, Secretary

Conferees:

Keith Meyers, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Administration  
Duncan Friend, Manager of Internet Services, Division of Information Services and Communications  
Robert Knapp, General Manager, Information Network of Kansas

Others attending: See attached sheet.

The Chair opened the hearing for **SB 605**. Staff Jim Wilson said the bill alters the statutory reporting requirements of certain agencies, directing them to submit annual reports to the Legislature electronically on the Internet rather than by paper. Tom Day, Legislative Liaison, Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC), said the bill was requested by Senator Brownlee when she realized how much paper was consumed by these reports. Members discussed the merits of eliminating paper reports and the process of finding a report through an Internet address. Representative Holmes noted that, for certain reports, the KCC issues reports electronically on a compact disk as well as in print. With no opponents or proponents speaking to the bill, the Chair closed the hearing on **SB 605**.

The Chair referred the bill to the State and Local Government and to the Technology sub-committees for further consideration. She suggested that the bill might be expanded to include electronic reports from other agencies as well.

The minutes for the February 26, 2002, meeting were approved as printed. (Motion, Representative Morrison; second, Representative Levinson)

Keith Meyers, Deputy Secretary, Department of Administration, reported on the Kansas Grants Clearinghouse, a centralized Internet site to allow Kansans more ready access to available federal grants and federal revenues, thus maximizing funds coming to Kansas. Patterned after a similar Illinois initiative, which increased federal funding by 16% after implementing its web site, the Kansas site provides consolidated links to online information about grant availability, training, and tutorials.

Duncan Friend, Manager of Internet Services for the Division of Information Services and Communications, provided a live demonstration of the website, Kansasgrants.org. Following links for Foundation Resources, Training, Tutorials, State Grant Information, and Federal Grant Information, a person can access a catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance that offers a cornucopia of funds. As an example, Mr. Friend showed a Department of Agriculture initiative for rural development that provides grant funds for pilot broadband deployment. Mr. Meyers noted that Kansas is 39<sup>th</sup> of 50 states for use of grants, saying that Kansans are not maximizing their opportunity for bringing federal money to the state. Answering questions, Mr. Meyers said that the grants clearinghouse allows agencies one-stop access to grants information. He said the links are regularly updated to provide current information.

Robert Knapp, General Manager, Information Network of Kansas (INK), outlined the services provided by INK. (Attachments 2 and 3) He traced the organizational structure integrating INK, a private/public quasi-state agency, with state government (Chief Information Technology Officers, Information Technology Executive Council, Information Technology Advisory Board, Agency Chief Information Officers, including 83 planning agencies under in the Strategic Information Management plan) and the private sector (the Kansas Information Consortium [KIC], which serves as Network Manager). He said INK, a self-funding agency, operates as the official gateway to Kansas state government. He noted that,

following the e-Government Committee's recommendation, INK has placed all board records online. He said the KIC contract expires December 31, 2002, noting that according to the contract, 2% of gross revenue is retained by INK; 19% of gross revenue goes to KIC as Network Manager; and 79% of gross revenue is returned to state agencies. He said 90% of INK services is available at no cost to the public.

Tracing INK's services, Mr. Knapp said that in 2001 Kansas was ranked #1 in digital services by the Digital State Survey, noting that in 2001 61 different services and web sites were developed; as an example, he cited the Secretary of State's UCC filings are now 80% performed through the Internet. He said after initiating State Board of Nursing online verification, back-office calls were reduced by 90%. About 60% of Kansas trucking permits are now issued online. An INK goal now being realized is the integration of agency services, such as the Kansas Business Center, uniting applications from the Secretary of State, Kansas Department of Revenue, and Kansas Department of Human Resources into one access point for new businesses in Kansas. Another goal being implemented is "branding," developing consistent patterns for web sites.

Answering questions, Mr. Knapp said that, working with DISC, INK has addressed security issues. He said no barriers exist for state agencies to develop online applications; he noted most agencies want to proceed with initiatives faster than INK can develop applications. As one example, he said that INK has saved the Kansas Department of Agriculture \$100,000 through an online application form.

The Chair announced sub-committee meetings will be held on Tuesday, March 19, and the next e-Government Committee meeting will be Thursday, March 21, at which time the Kansas Information Technology Office will brief the committee on the Strategic Information Management plan. The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.