

Approved: March 8, 2005

Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:10 a.m. on January 20, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Eric Carter - Excused
Representative Annie Kuether - Excused
Representative Melody Miller - Excused

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee: Michael Kirksey, SBC, Dallas, TX
Richard Lawson, Sprint, Jefferson City, MO

Others attending: See Attached List

Chairman Holmes welcomed Michael Kirksey, General Manager-Emerging Technologies for SBC, to the committee. Mr. Kirksey shared a power point presentation on Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) ([Attachment 1](#)). Mr. Kirksey outlined the basic workings of PSTN as well as the emerging technology of VoIP. He also provided an FCC Consumer Facts sheet on Voip/Internet Voice ([Attachment 2](#)). Mr. Kirksey responded to questions from the committee.

Richard Lawson, Vice President of Sprint, spoke to the committee regarding the proposed Sprint United and Nextel merger ([Attachment 3](#)). Mr. Lawson stated that this was a "merger of equals" and would be called Sprint Nextel. In addition, Sprint will be spinning off its local telecommunications business. He told the committee that the executive headquarters would be in Reston, VA with the operation headquarters in Overland Park, KS. Mr. Lawson responded to questions from the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

The next meeting is Friday, January 21, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.