MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

November 14-15, 2006
Room 526-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Senator Tim Huelskamp, Chairperson
Representative John Faber, Vice-Chairperson
Senator Janis Lee
Senator Mike Petersen
Senator Vicki Schmidt (Tuesday only)
Senator Chris Steineger (Tuesday only)
Representative Nile Dillmore (Tuesday only)
Representative Harold Lane
Representative Joe McLeland
Representative Jim Morrison

Staff

Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Matt Spurgin, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norm Furse, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees

Duncan Friend, Project Manager, Kansas Department of Administration
Dr. Loren Phillips, State Registrar and Director, Center for Health and Environment Statistics, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Amy Biel, Director, Disease Surveillance and Data Management, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Tony Folsom, Deputy Director, Property Valuation Division, Kansas Department of Revenue
Trevor Wohlford, Executive Director, Kansas Board of Tax Appeals
Barry Greis, Statehouse Architect
Dave Larson, Director, Computer Services, Legislative Administrative Services
Larry Kettlewell, Security Council Co-Chair, and Chief, IT Security, Kansas Information Technology Office
Tim Blevins, Security Council Co-Chair, and Chief Information Officer, Kansas Department of Revenue
Ivan Weichert, GIS Director, Kansas Information Technology Office
Marcia Nielsen, Executive Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority

Christiane Swartz, Administrator, Kansas Health Policy Authority
Becky Ross, Acting Director, Data Policy and Evaluation, Kansas Health Policy Authority

Tuesday, November 14
Morning Session

The Chairperson welcomed Duncan Friend, Project Manager, Financial Management System, Kansas Department of Administration, who provided an update on the proposed enhancement to the statewide financial management system (Attachment 1). He said a needs assessment performed in 2001 by Accenture under contract offered a baseline for reconsideration of the project; and that a new contractor, Salvaggio, Teal and Associates, was awarded the needs-assessment contract in August 2006, with the project scheduled for completion in December 2006. He noted that a project governance structure was developed, project sponsors appointed, and a steering committee established. He commented that, to date, over 130 participants from 25 agencies provided input into the proposed project. Answering questions, Mr. Friend said the Regents have limited involvement in the project and that he has no knowledge of how much duplication occurs between the Regents systems and the proposed state system. Mitt Salvaggio, representing the contractor, replied to another question regarding meeting federal requirements and indicated that the present system is not out of compliance with federal regulations, but that various state agencies must meet different federal guidelines. Mr. Friend said the 2001 study estimated the cost of a new system to be $30 million. Mr. Salvaggio said other states have built similar systems in the $40 to 45 million range.

Dr. Loren Phillips, State Registrar and Director, Center for Health and Environment Statistics, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), reviewed the Vital Statistics Integrated Information System Reengineering Project, which began in January 2001 (Attachment 2). He said Phase II (Point of Sale, Vital Statistics, and Electronic Birth Registration System) began in June 2003 under contract with ManTech Solutions and Technologies Corporation and was completed February 28, 2006, providing web-based entry of information by hospitals, courts, abortion providers, physicians, coroners, and limited entry by funeral homes, also creating two-way links to Social Security Administration (SSA), the National Center for Health Statistics, and electronically capable states. He noted that Phase III, after receiving Executive Chief Information Technology Officer (CITO) approval, will proceed by issuing a Request for Proposals resulting in development and implementation of an Electronic Death Registration System. He discussed challenges to the present system, such as impending federal requirement of a photo-identification driver's license linked to a birth certificate and educating 2,600 physicians, 300 coroners, and 1,000 funeral directors in the use of electronic death registration. He explained that the federal Social Security provided software for registering death events and provided $383,400 to assist in building the system. He estimated the total cost of the system to be $1.3 million, none from the State General Fund (SGF).

Next, Dr. Phillips also briefed the Committee on the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, a federal mandate going into effect in late spring 2007, that impinges on each state's vital records system. The federal act addresses three major areas—Electronic Birth Registration System, Electronic Death Registration System, and Electronic Verification of Vital Events—and will have a significant impact on how vital records are handled. He noted that a federal funding mechanism has not yet been defined.

Amy Biel, Director, Disease Surveillance and Data Management, KDHE, reported on the progress of the Kansas Electronic Disease Surveillance System, which will provide a baseline for infectious diseases in Kansas (Attachment 3). She stated that the new web-enabled system will replace the current system, and should result in enhancing functionality, improving security, and

enabling communication between critical systems and the state's public health information infrastructure. Phase I, which received CITO approval September 28, 2006, will identify core system requirements, implement five pilot sites, and be completed June 29, 2007. The $673,357 cost for Phase I is funded entirely from Center for Disease Control (CDC) Emergency Preparedness Grants.

Tony Folsom, Deputy Director, Property Valuation Division, Kansas Department of Revenue, provided an update on implementation of Orion, the new Computer-Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) system (Attachment 4). He said the contract with Tyler Technologies to develop and implement the Orion system in ten beta counties was completed in August 2006. In-house staff will implement Orion in the remaining 95 counties during the next four years, according to the schedule in Attachment 5, with licensing fees paid to Tyler in four annual payments of $342,332. He noted Tyler's support for the software will cost an additional $253,905, and service support for Marshall and Swift Valuation adds a further $293,905. Answering questions, Mr. Folsom acknowledged that the project is behind schedule by one year and that some counties are on the new system and others are preparing to migrate to it. He added that no beta county has yet run through a year's cycle to fully validate Orion. He explained that the new system is needed because there is no longer support for the AS/400 technology that runs the current system. Members expressed concern that no penalties were included in the Tyler contract. Mr. Folsom said the original contract was established in December 2003. Denise Moore, Executive CITO, explained that after a project is approved, an agency is responsible for creating a contract with the vendor. Don Heiman, Legislative CITO, added that the original legislation (SB 5) set out a process by which a project and Request For Proposal (RFP) receive Executive CITO approval, after which the agency develops a contract, which then is sent to the Division of Purchases. The Committee members asked for additional information from the agency about this matter.

Afternoon Session

Trevor Wohlford, Executive Director, Kansas Board of Tax Appeals, presented the initial stages of a project to migrate from paper records to an electronic base for agency services (Attachment 6). He said a $325,000 grant from the Information Network of Kansas (INK) will enable the agency to acquire off-the-shelf software to create electronic filing, docketing, disposing, communicating with other systems, and allowing public access to agency information. On October 30, 2006, the agency posted a Request for Information to identify available software packages and is working with the Kansas Information Technology Office. The agency plans to have the system active by the end of the summer of 2007.

On motion of Representative Morrison and seconded by Representative Lane, the JCIT minutes for September 7-8, 2006, were approved.

Don Heiman outlined the implementation schedule for the Kansas Legislative Information Services System (K-LISS), saying that the 19 projects fall into two categories–infrastructure projects and application development initiatives (Attachment 7). Answering questions, Mr. Heiman said XML will be the new computer language standard. He said no state presently has a fully integrated legislative system.

Barry Greis, Statehouse Architect, provided information on the Capitol Restoration, saying the east wing of the Capitol has been completed; the west wing will be finished by November 2007; the Docking tunnel will open in November 2007; south wing renovation will extend two years, from December 2007 to December 2009; and the north wing restoration will begin January 2010 with completion in 2011.

Dave Larson, Director, Computer Services, Legislative Administrative Services, reviewed the FY 2007 and FY 2008 IT budgets ($1.26 million and $1.19 million, respectively) and commented on the expenses for K-LISS initiatives (Attachments 8 and 9). He then discussed security issues regarding legislative e-mail, noting that in order for legislators to use their Information Network of Kansas accounts, a port was opened into the legislative network, creating security vulnerabilities. Representative Morrison explained that permutations to the system had developed over the years. Tracy Smith, Network Manager, Kansas Information Consortium (KIC), responding to a query regarding INK services, replied that legislators would receive orientation packets for the upcoming session. As members discussed the issue, several approaches were suggested: forwarding legislative mail; using only web mail; installing an authentication server; or closing INK's access to the legislative network. The final consensus was to express concern to the legislative Information Systems team and recommend that whatever expenses are created by the solution should receive legislative funding support.

Barry Greis provided a tour of the Capitol restoration areas. Members saw the west wing under restoration, viewed the telecommunications control room, and toured the southeast vault (heating and cooling). Mr. Greis said the other vaults contained steam processing (southwest), electrical services (northwest), and water supply (northeast).

Wednesday, November 15
Morning Session

Larry Kettlewell, Security Council Co-Chair, and Chief, IT Security, Kansas Information Technology Office, and Tim Blevins, Security Council Co-Chair, and Chief Information Officer, Kansas Department of Revenue, testified regarding the increasing need to ramp up IT security measures (Attachment 10). Mr. Kettlewell said increasing attacks necessitated creating the Enterprise Security Office to manage intrusion prevention, initiate forensic examinations, and conduct vulnerability scans. He noted that the federal Department of Homeland Security has been slow to recognize cyberspace threats, further noting that funding for security comes from the KanWIN rate base, not DHS. He outlined further security plans, commenting that the Security Council has involved ITAB (Information Technology Advisory Board) and ITEC (Information Technology Executive Council), as well as enlisting 27 participating agencies to develop an annual, comprehensive, self-administered agency assessment tool, the new document following federal standards.

Mr. Blevins added further information regarding Security Council activities and policy updates. One such activity was to set aside $4 million for a statewide contract retaining a variety of private vendors to address security issues. Answering a question, Mr. Kettlewell said the Security Council includes Regents representation.

Ivan Weichert, GIS Director, Kansas Information Technology Office (KITO), provided an overview of the Kansas Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and their applications statewide (Attachment 11). He said the GIS, established in 1989 under Governor Hayden, creates a single repository (through the Data Access and Support Center) for a myriad of GIS web-available databases on numerous geo-spatial subjects: boundaries, environmental resources, aerial mapping, land surface/geology/soils, transportation, and water resources. Funded through the Division of Information Systems and Communications (DISC) rate base, the GIS offers specialized information to agencies and the public. He commented that a complete back-up system now resides in Little Rock, Arkansas. Answering a question, Mr. Weichert said that to date the master address file has obtained 1.5 million addresses.

Marcia Nielsen, Executive Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA), provided a written briefing on the agency's initiatives since becoming an independent entity, and introduced the two presenters for two projects to be reviewed (Attachment 12).

Christiane Swartz, Administrator, KHPA, explained that the NPI (National Provider Identifier) is a unique number assigned to each health-care provider, an innovation which requires modification of the Medicare and Medicaid Information System (MMIS). She said Phase I, completed August 2006, modifies MMIS to recognize, capture, and store NPI numbers. Phase II, which tests and deploys the modifications, is ongoing and will be completed October 2007 at a cost of $5.9 million. She assured the Committee that the system will be fully compliant with federal requirements and will meet the federal deadline of May 23, 2007.

Becky Ross, Acting Director, Data Policy and Evaluation, Kansas Health Policy Authority, reviewed progress on the Data Analytic Interface Project, commenting that the agency received a statutory mandate to develop a coordinated health policy agenda, collecting and disseminating data concerning utilization and cost of health care. She said information is being transferred from the Health Care Data Governing Board, KDHE, Kansas Health Insurance Information System, and Kansas Hospital Association, all of which data require a comprehensive data information system. She stated that the agency is including the project in the FY 2008 budget request, that an RFP is being developed, and that a project manager has been assigned to meet KITO requirements. A preliminary approval was received from the Executive CITO on October 12, 2006.

Representative McLeland reported on an upcoming KAN-ED meeting, commenting that KAN-ED is under the aegis of the Board of Regents, but that the KAN-ED system is being built on two state networks: Kansas Wide-area Information Network (KANWIN) and KANREN, the research and education network, noting that the original plan was to build the network using third-party resources.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for December 5-6, 2006.

Prepared by Gary Deeter
Edited by Julian Efird

Approved by Committee on:

    December 5, 2006
          (Date)

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