

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

March 2, 2011
Room 144-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Joe McLeland, Chairperson
Senator Mike Petersen, Vice-chairperson
Senator Marci Francisco
Senator Garrett Love
Senator Vicki Schmidt
Representative Terry Calloway
Representative Nile Dillmore
Representative Harold Lane

Member Absent

Senator Tom Holland

Staff Present

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

Conferees

Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer
Alan Weis, Assistant Director for Applications and Software, Kansas Legislative
Information Systems and Services
Terri Clark, Assistant Director, Legislative Computer Services

Others Attending

See attached list.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and welcomed Don Heiman, Chief Information Technology Officer, who introduced the other conferees.

Alan Weis, Assistant Director for Applications and Software, Kansas Legislative Information Systems and Services (KLISS), provided a status update on the deployment of KLISS ([Attachment 1](#)). He reviewed the status of the law-making software and the quality assurance related to its implementation, the options related to committee report amendments (balloons), decision support, and chamber automation. He commented on the new legislative interface and the testing associated with new software releases.

Mr. Weis provided the following information as a timeline for implementation of the new features of KLISS.

- The basic system set-up with software loaded will be done by Friday, March 11.
- The system for handling committee minutes, supplemental notes, and fiscal notes will be ready by March 16.
- Training for Revisors and Revisor secretaries will be completed by Friday, March 4.
- Deployment of the Adobe PDF converter will be ready by March 16.
- No firm date can be presently established for bill amendments; completion depends on vendor Propylon. Mr. Weis will send an e-mail to members when a date can be determined.

Terri Clark, Assistant Director, Legislative Computer Services, outlined the progress on testing and maintaining KLISS ([Attachment 2](#)). She commented on the test environments, test plan, test tools, and external interface which is hosted by the Division of Information Systems and Communications. She noted that when the system is fully deployed, the committee minutes and committee agendas, created in XML, Word, and PDF versions, will be combined with the ability to manage conferee documents electronically. She also noted the KLISS maintenance schedule.

Mr. Heiman briefed the Committee on the current three-tier information technology governance structure and the KLISS project management governance structure. He requested the consolidation of current staff into a new entity, the Kansas Legislative Office of Information Technology ([Attachment 3](#)). Mr. Heiman then listed thirteen KLISS work priorities. The top five were:

- Close severity level 1 and 2 tickets within one day;
- Automate the PDF converter;
- Complete the legislative interface for substitute bills;
- Post the supplemental and fiscal notes and the conference committee report briefs at the same time that they are sent to the state printer; and
- Improve the bill history section of House and Senate Calendars.

Mr. Heiman, noting the moneys saved on the KLISS contract and the savings that could be realized from consolidation, repeated the need for additional staff and for renewal of the Propylon contract (Attachment 4).

The Chairperson requested that a survey provided by Dave Larson, Director of Legislative Computer Services, be distributed at the next meeting.

Mr. Weis responded to members' questions, replying that a delta document is one of the amendment options—using red for an original bill and blue for an amendment to a bill. The IT staff are weighing the best option for marking up bills (balloons). He said that chamber automation is nearly complete. A member recommended that the sponsor of the bill be included in bill information. Pat Saville, Secretary of the Senate, noted that several issues have yet to be resolved. Mr. Weis replied that the order of bills and the "tails" for bills will be functional by Friday, March 4. He said Propylon is working on the "Current Activities" and "Now in Session" functions of the legislative website.

The Chairperson thanked members and conferees for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting was scheduled for March 16, 2011, 7:00 a.m., Room 144-S, Statehouse.

Prepared by Gary Deeter
Edited by Aaron Klaassen and Julian Efird

Approved by the Committee on:

March 16, 2011

(Date)