MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Morrison at 3:39 P.M. on January 24, 2008, in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except Representatives Johnson, Tafanelli, Wilk, and Frownfelter, all of whom were excused.

Committee staff present:
>   Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research
>   Jennifer Thierer, Kansas Legislative Research
>   Renae Jefferies, Office of Revisor of Statutes
>   Gary Deeter, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
>   Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer

Others attending:
>   See attached list.

The Chair welcomed Don Heiman, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer, who outlined the vision for legislative information technology, saying that KLISS (Kansas Legislative Information System Strategic Plan) will make Kansas a national leader (Attachment 1).   He introduced Dave Larson, Director of Legislative Computer Services, and Alan Weis, KLISS Project Manager, and then provided details of the KLISS project, giving the objectives, infrastructure and application status, planned new initiatives, and projected costs.

Mr. Heiman stated that the project was approved by the Legislative Coordinating Council in 2004; currently the infrastructure is being built. The end-user computers have been deployed and the telecommunications network is being built in concert with the Capitol Restoration Project. He noted that the data centers include a production center and a room in House chamber, with an additional Disaster Recovery Center projected to be built in Wichita. When the infrastructure is complete, the Capitol will have 13 hearings rooms, all web-enabled, as well as secure wireless internet access throughout the building and outbound video broadcast capabilities ("K-Span").

Mr. Heiman commented on the software development with vendor Propylon, saying that the 15 modules will be built around three service groupings–law making, chamber automation, and decision support. He said the applications will be integrated using the principle of "no wrong door," making navigation simple and quick for legislative members and the public. He explained that the open standard will simplify modifications and enable a long lifespan for the system.

Providing a cost timeline, Mr. Heiman said the total estimated cost of $8.9 million will be apportioned over several fiscal years:

•   FY 2009, $2.8 million, already included in the Governor's budget;

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- FY 2010, $4 million
- FY 2011, $2.1 million.

Mr. Heiman responded to members' questions:

- Switching technology will continue to change, but the fiber backbone will hold up for 20-25 years.
- The wireless system includes two levels--guest access and encrypted access, the latter more secure than wired access.
- Presently there are two cameras at the rear of the House chamber, but Mr. Heiman wants to add a third.
- The Strategic Plan includes the ability to conduct electronic town hall meetings from the Capitol.
- The use of Open Office will include training to help staff make adjustments to a new system.

The Chair invited members to try remote testimony through the KAN-Ed network.

Representative McLeland expressed gratitude to Don Heiman and Dave Larson for their work in providing integrated remote meeting sites for the Joint Committee on Information Technology.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 28, 2008.