

MINUTES OF THE e-GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Deena Horst at 3:35 p.m. on February 8, 2001, in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except Representatives Wilson, Henderson, Alldritt and Levinson, all of whom were excused.

Committee staff present:

Audrey Nogle, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Gary Deeter, Temporary Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dan Stanley, Secretary, Kansas Department of Administration.

Others attending: See attached sheet.

The minutes for the January 30, February 1, and February 6 meetings were approved. (Motion, Representative Faber, second, Representative Gatewood)

Dan Stanley, Secretary, Kansas Department of Administration, testified regarding the future of electronic government in Kansas. (Attachment1) He noted that Kansas ranks 2nd in the United States in effective delivery of e-government. He said that the Internet is transforming the way government delivers services, creating profound policy implications. Mr. Stanley itemized several issues that will impinge on state policies and delivery of services:

- Security will become an increasingly important issue as individuals and companies seek more information on Kansas citizens;
- With Kansas' Open Records laws and with state agencies' increasing ability to share databases, protecting the privacy of citizens will become of greater importance;
- Finding a way to span the digital divide needs attention as information systems further separate those who have access to computers and those who do not;
- The human resources challenge is perhaps the greatest—being able to recruit technically skilled individuals, developing a work force to match the needs of government, and providing compensation to attract and retain skilled people;
- A commitment from the legislature to develop Information Technology (IT) goals (understanding what systems do and how they impact citizens) must be a priority; and
- All IT development must take into account the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Mr Stanley agreed with Representative Morrison that **SB 5** is having a positive impact in the way agencies are integrating their IT projects and systems. He replied to Representative Holmes that he expects the KAN-Ed bill to span the digital divide—or at least provide a digital backbone—for rural Kansas citizens. He said reliance on technology has not reduced the workforce, but it has increased services available to citizens. Regarding the declining workforce, he noted that state government needs to offer more flexibility to its employees. He foresees further private-public partnerships such as the Information Network of Kansas/Kansas Information Consortium. Mr. Stanley said his vision is for Kansas to provide electronic-government services to all Kansans.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, 2001, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 526-S.