

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Karin Brownlee at 8:30 a.m. on January 24, 2001 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: April Holman, Legislative Research Department  
Robert Nugent, Revisor of Statutes  
Lea Gerard, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Mark Uhart, Education Market Manager-Sprint  
Scott Petrie, VP Broadband Communications

Others attending: See attached list.

Mark Uhart, Education Market Manager-Sprint gave a brief summary of the essential tasks of the KAN-ED Board (Attachment 1). The telecommunications and cable industry worked together as part of the task force which met during the 2000 interim. Because of the complexity of a KAN-ED network in a cost effective manner there are some essential tasks to be completed. The KAN-ED Board can be any governing body or any organization who is assigned the responsibility for receiving information from vendors and customers. The customers are the libraries, public/private schools, technical schools and colleges and universities throughout Kansas. The task force gathers, analyzes data and assesses customer needs for a network database.

Scott Petrie, VP Broadband Communications, Cox Communications gave a presentation on the technology of KAN-ED (Attachment 2). The KAN-ED network is comprised of peering points or hub sites where local schools can inter-connect to the backbone using local providers. Scott Petrie said it was like a turnpike with entrances to the turnpike which are the toll booths or peering points.

Mr. Petrie, in response to a question on how the governing board is put together, responded it is a private/public relationship with telecommunication providers and education representatives.

In response to a question about how we insure that industry members efforts are directed at getting the school systems the best deal as opposed to wearing their corporate hat, Mr. Petrie stated it will be educating members of the board on tariffs, discounts and individual cost base pricing to ensure all members are acting in the best interest of the network.

Senator Steineger requested to see a map of Kansas that would show the cable or fiber optic assets we have. What kind of a network system does the State of Kansas have?

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2001 at 8:30 a.m.

