

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE VISION 2020 COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Sloan at 3:30 p.m. on February 14, 2011, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Broderick Henderson- excused  
Representative Mike Peterson- excused  
Representative Ron Worley- excused

Committee staff present:

Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jay Hall, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Mary Koles, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dave Larson, Kansas Legislative Computer Services

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Sloan announced that the Assistant Secretary of Army Civil Works will visit Kansas in June to review concerns about sedimentation and storage capacity. This visit is connected to the Committee's previous work on drinking water supply sustainability. He noted two (2) Kansas Biological Survey information notes delivered to the committee by Dr. Martinko, see minutes for February 9. He also asked that the committee think about further information, if any, to request from or recommendations to make to the Board of Regents.

Chairman Sloan greeted and welcomed Dave Larson, Director, Kansas Legislative Computer Services, Division of Legislative Administrative Services, for a conversation about computing today and in the future. Mr. Larson likened Information Services to utility services; to be sustainable they need a solid infrastructure, the capacity to meet demands, dynamism, to be intuitive for the user, to charge a flat fee or by increments of what is used, a viable service agreement, plus allow for collaboration and sharing information. The key is broadband and high speed internet. He briefly discussed grid computing and high density cluster computing.

Mr. Larson addressed cloud computing, the delivery of quality information services over the internet or intranet. It is easy, convenient, inexpensive, and available 24/7. Major concerns include ownership and privacy/security. The biggest cloud computing initiatives today are the social networking phenomenon like E-Bay, FaceBook, Flickr and Twitter. He discussed private clouds, networks that only one group/state/company can use for service and storage. Kansas has two networks KANED and KanREN\*; we are close to having a private cloud. Kansas could, he said, build a State of Kansas cloud and provide revenue generating applications to clients.

Last summer the PewResearch Center reported that by 2020 most people (71%) will use the cloud for everything they do; PCs will be irrelevant. The research firm Gartner projects that by 2012, 50% of the people will use smart phones for their information needs. Mr. Larson noted that presently high end graphics and genetic sequencing can not be done in a cloud and that voice to text is a possibility in the future. Currently, purpose built, highly specialized to mine data and perform many calculations, super computers are used in academic labs – quantum physics, genomes - and large majority of these computers use the Linux open source operating system. Kansas Legislative Information Systems and Services, KLISS, uses Lenix's operating system. Mr. Larson says it is hard to predict the future because who knows what will be available or what consumers will adopt.

Questions were asked, comments were made and conversations ensued throughout Mr. Larson's presentation. Participants included Chairman Sloan and Representatives Bill Otto, Don Hineman, and Vern Swanson.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2011.

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the Vision 2020 Committee 3:30 p.m. on February 14, 2011, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

\*KANED is administered through the Kansas Board of Regents to expand the collaboration capabilities of K-12 schools, higher education, libraries and hospitals, and the Kansas Research and Education Network (KanREN) provides cutting-edge network based services for advanced education and research environments.