

**MINUTES OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE**  
Monday, December 6, 2010 – 1:00 p.m. – Room 450 Capitol Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Curtis S. Bramble, Senate Chair  
Rep. Bradley G. Last, House Chair  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell  
Rep. Laura Black  
Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove  
Mr. John M. Schaff  
Mr. Jonathan Ball  
Mr. Ric Cantrell  
Mr. Michael E. Christensen

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Mark J Allred, IT Manager  
Mr. Thomas R. Vaughn, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Chelsea Barrett, Legislative Secretary  
Ms. Debra Hale, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Bramble called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Black moved to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jones and Rep. Last were absent for the vote.

**2. Mobile Device Support**

Mr. Allred presented "Mobile Device Support." He reviewed various mobile phone carriers and device options.

Speaker-elect Rebecca Lockhart expressed concerns with the current T-Mobile contract and BlackBerry mobile phones for the House of Representatives.

**3. Mobile Phone Contract**

Mr. Vaughn presented "Wireless Devices and Services." He explained the Request For Proposals (RFP) issued last year, which is now up for renewal. He detailed the costs, service, coverage, and simplified billing with the current contract. He explained that T-Mobile was awarded the RFP because of excellent customer service, cost, annual free device and tethering, and unlimited data, voice, and texting services.

Mr. Vaughn discussed the Western States Contract Alliance (WSCA), which provides reduced costs for mobile contracting for those states who are members of the alliance. He explained that this could be a future option for mobile phone contracting for the Legislature.

Mr. Vaughn's presentation included possibilities for mobile services and devices for the coming year. He outlined the following options: 1) renewing the existing T-Mobile contract at the same rate, or 2) allowing selected legislators the option to choose their preferred network provider, device, and services, with a stipend or reimbursement as granted by the Legislature.

Chair Bramble and Mr. Vaughn discussed GRAMA ramifications if stipends were made available to legislators for use of personal phones for legislative business. Mr. Vaughn discussed potential changes that could be made to the GRAMA statute in relation to private devices.

**MOTION:** Sen. Van Tassell moved to: 1) negotiate with T-Mobile to extend the existing contract at the current price for six months; 2) provide the option for 10 to 15 individuals (or the maximum number of individuals T-Mobile will allow) to go off the T-Mobile contract to pursue a service and provider of their choice and receive reimbursement or a stipend equal to the current T-Mobile contract pricing, at the discretion of the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate; and 3) within the six-month contract period with T-Mobile, deliberate and research on whether to: a) allow legislators to receive a reimbursement or a stipend for mobile phone contracts; b) continue with one contract for the Legislature; or c) investigate a WSCA contract option, allowing legislators a choice of phones and service providers under their preferred network. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Menlove was absent for the vote.

Rep. Brad Daw addressed technology in the Legislature and noted his support for Sen. Van Tassell's motion.

Chair Bramble recommended discussion support and possible stipends for laptops and other technology devices be addressed at the next Committee meeting.

#### **4. Vote Display**

Mr. Allred explained that the current policy for vote displays does not provide voting results to online viewers.

Ms. Sandy Tenney, Chief Clerk, Utah House of Representatives, informed the Committee that, although not a high-quality picture, a screen shot of House votes is available for online viewers.

**MOTION:** Rep. Black moved to recommend to the Legislative Management Committee (LMC) that vote displays for the House be displayed for online viewers.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Sen. Jones moved to recommend to the LMC that vote displays for both the House and the Senate be displayed for online viewers. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Menlove was absent for the vote.

#### **5. Email Tools**

The chairs directed staff to implement routing of staff email to folders for legislators.

Chair Bramble recommended the Committee address at the next meeting the Legislature's email service provider and other technology issues, such as WordPerfect and GroupWise and the possibility of changing to a more universal format.

## **6. Acceptable Use Policy for BlackBerry Devices**

Mr. Vaughn distributed and discussed "BlackBerry Policies and Rules," which discussed policies pertaining to the use of government-provided mobile phones by legislators and legislative staff.

Chair Bramble suggested adding specific language to the BlackBerry policy prohibiting pornography, gambling, and all illegal activities.

## **7. Other Items / Adjourn**

Sen. Jones requested additional training for legislators on GroupWise functions and technology etiquette in committee meetings.

**MOTION:** Sen. Van Tassell moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Menlove and Rep. Black were absent for the vote.

Chair Bramble adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.