

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

February 10, 2005 Hearing Room 357

1:00 P.M. Tapes 15 - 16

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. John Dallum, Chair

Rep. Jerry Krummel, Vice-Chair

Rep. Chuck Burley

Rep. Brad Witt

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Kelley Wirth, Vice-Chair

STAFF PRESENT: Dallas Weyand, Committee Administrator

Louann Rahmig, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

Oregon Centralized Voter Registration System - Informational Meeting

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
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TAPE 15, A

004 Chair Dallum Calls the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and opens the informational meeting on the Oregon centralized voter registration system.

OREGON CENTRALIZED VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM - INFORMATIONAL MEETING

009 Dallas Weyand Committee Administrator. Advises the requested Computing and Networking Infrastructure Consolidation (CNIC) *Governing Board's Findings and Recommendations (EXHIBIT A)* and Computing and Network Consolidation Alternatives (CNCA) *Implementation Strategy and Business Case (EXHIBIT B)* were distributed to the members.

016 Jean Straight Chief Information Officer, Secretary of State. Refers to the *Oregon Central Voter Registration Project (EXHIBIT C)*. Provides a copy of the Secretary of State federal compliance audit for the Help America Vote Act (HAVA)(**EXHIBIT D**). Gives background of federal and state legislation authorizing implementation of HAVA.

040 Straight Advises that the counties have been involved from the beginning. Explains that a standards committee comprised of county clerks developed requirements and testing. Identifies other partners in the project.

061 Straight States that Salem, Eugene and Burns have been selected as the remote sites for the infrastructure, and all data will be on all three sites. Explains that the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and Homeland Security have provided assistance on security issues.

075 Straight Discusses federal standards for security.

084 Straight Indicates that the deadline for implementation is January 2006. Explains implementation of a pilot project of six counties in March, and the goal is to have all 36 counties on the new system by fall 2005.

102 Straight Invites committee members to a demonstration of the system planned for legislators in March.

111 Nitin Khanna Saber Consulting Inc. Explains that this project has benefited the local economy with additional employment.

126 Rep. Burley Asks if the March demonstration is in Salem.

127	Straight	Answers, yes.
130	Chair Dallum	Inquires if there is another state agency that is responsible for oversight.
135	Straight	Reiterates that they have been working with DAS, Homeland Security and the state police.
140	Chair Dallum	Asks who would conduct an audit to assure the system performs properly.
143	Straight	Replies that an outside auditing firm would be needed.
147	Chair Dallum	Inquires about status of an audit.
150	Straight	Replies that an audit will be performed after all 36 counties are on board.
159	Chair Dallum	Inquires if Oregon will be a demonstration site for others.
162	Khanna	Responds that Missouri will begin a pilot program February 28.
163	Chair Dallum	Requests clarification on the number of states that have a computerized system.
170	Straight	Advises that out of 50, 16 will be compliant with federal law.
175	Chair Dallum	Asks about recount provisions.
179	Straight	Responds that this system does not do the counting. Explains that the election management piece is a separate data base for voter registration and for running an election.
203	Rep. Krummel	Inquires if the voter registration system will only show that someone has voted but not how they voted.
215	Straight	Answers, yes.

218	Rep. Krummel	Asks if the vote tally system will show how someone voted.
221	Straight	Replies, she doesn't know. Explains that vote tally systems are housed within the counties. Offers to obtain more information.
226	Rep. Krummel	Inquires if vote tallies will be sent electronically to the Secretary of State.
238	Straight	Answers that it has been discussed, and it is a goal.
243	Rep. Burley	Asks if all 36 counties have optical scanning for vote tallying.
250	Straight	Replies, yes.
251	Rep. Burley	Inquires how the cost of the voter registration development system is being divided between general fund and HAVA matching funds.
255	Straight	Explains that the HAVA matching piece is five percent, which has been handled through the Secretary of State.
275	Khanna	Advises that the contract is \$4.2 million for development and implementation.
280	Rep. Burley	Seeks clarification that development is being financed by HAVA.
282	Straight	Answers, that is correct.
287	Rep. Burley	Asks about maintenance costs.
290	Khanna	Responds that it will be \$750,000 per year, rising by five percent a year for comprehensive support to the Secretary of State and the counties. Details the services to be provided.
324	Rep. Burley	Asks if Saber Consulting has a contract with the state for a long period of time.
325	Khanna	Replies that support was in the original request for proposal, and the intent is a five-year contract.

333	Rep. Burley	Inquires if Saber will have people at the three remote sites.
341	Khanna	Responds that staff is available within one hour of every county seat. Describes the consortium to provide support.
356	Chair Dallum	Asks if counties will do their own maintenance.
368	Khanna	Answers that the counties will receive two-thirds to three-quarters of the contract.
379	Chair Dallum	Requests the amount of savings to the counties with implementation of the centralized system.
389	Straight	Replies that some will realize a saving, some will not. Explains that counties with old systems have no maintenance contracts; therefore, maintenance will be shared between the county and the state.

TAPE 16, A

012	Chair Dallum	Inquires if there is an estimate of which counties will be “strapped.”
0`6	Straight	Explains they are trying to make things affordable. Advises they are working on intergovernmental agreements with counties.
026	Chair Dallum	Indicates interest in seeing the financial impact county by county. Asks if the state will save or spend money.
034	Straight	Advises that the state will spend, as it has not had a voter system.
040	Chair Dallum	Asks for the cost of continuing expense.
043	Straight	Replies that a cost analysis was done on how long the federal money will last. Believes seven to eight years but can provide more accurate information.
048	Rep. Witt	Inquires if the maintenance component will include purging voter information that is obsolete.
052	Khanna	Answers that the system will comply with all regulations for purging.

060	Rep. Witt	Asks how often that will occur.
062	Khanna	Responds, on a real time basis, so purging will occur as frequently as interface with another agency occurs.
066	Rep. Burley	Inquires how to determine an inactive voter is alive or deceased.
068	Khanna	Replies that frequent checks are made against vital statistic records.
070	Rep. Burley	Requests clarification of maintenance costs.
073	Khanna	Explains that \$750,000 will be distributed across counties.
078	Straight	Clarifies that one-half is HAVA money and one-half is state money.
086	Chair Dallum	Asks when information on who voted will be posted to the system.
101	Khanna	Details the reporting process.
122	Chair Dallum	Comments that problems with provisional ballots should be minimized.
125	Khanna	Indicates that the vote by mail system already minimizes problems.
131	Chair Dallum	Asks if the state's part in vote tallying is minimal.
133	Straight	Replies, that is correct.
140	Chair Dallum	Inquires if the registration and tallying processes will be integrated.
140	Straight	Responds that they will remain separate processes.
142	Chair Dallum	Asks if it will remain the county's responsibility to resolve a tally challenge.
143	Straight	Replies, that is correct.
144	Rep. Krummel	

		Asks how long it takes for notification of death to reach the elections office and if that will be an automated process.
160	Straight	Replies, no, it will not be automated. Advises that the county clerks decided not to have that as an electronic interface.
167	Rep. Krummel	Inquires if information on a move is updated only when a voter self-reports.
190	Straight	Replies, she does not know.
193	Khanna	Advises that the information is updated when a new voter registration card is submitted.
209	Rep. Krummel	Asks if the goal is to have one voter record in the state.
226	Khanna	Responds, that is correct.
231	Straight	Explains the delay caused by the current system.
243	Rep. Witt	Asks if the original signature card will reside in the current county of residence.
248	Khanna	Explains that the card is scanned centrally so everyone can access.
250	Rep. Witt	Seeks clarification that the original card is in the county of residence as well.
252	Straight	Responds, that is right.
257	Rep. Burley	Comments that the key to the system working is that one record is in the data base. Expresses concern about security. Asks if all counties will have access and, if so, how.
267	Khanna	Explains that every section between the county and the server is twice encrypted, so it would be difficult to hack into the system.
281	Chair Dallum	Asks if there was any contact with DAS to see if the voter registration system could be “married” with the present system for savings.

298	Straight	Asks for clarification on system to which referred.
300	Chair Dallum	Comments that it appears this is another information technology system. Asks if there was a reason it was not made a part of Computing and Networking Infrastructure Consolidation (CNIC).
313	Straight	Responds that they did work with DAS to find a Salem site, and CNIC was considered, but it is not ready.
333	Chair Dallum	Asks if the move will be made to CNIC when that site is ready.
336	Straight	Replies that there are no immediate plans, but it has not been ruled out.
339	Chair Dallum	Asks if there would be any savings by moving to the CNIC site.
349	Straight	Replies, she does not know.
350	Chair Dallum	States that he wants to know if a conversation took place. Asks for a reason for moving or not moving to the CNIC site.
355	Straight	Indicates that there is no decision on whether or not to move to that site.
357	Chair Dallum	Requests that a review be made and a decision reached and advise the committee.
362	Mike Freese	Deputy Chief Information Officer, DAS. Comments that the Secretary of State undertaking was very difficult, having to deal with multiple stakeholders. Advises that DAS has been working with them since the beginning of the project. Explains that there has been contact with the Secretary of State's office regarding CNIC. States that DAS will continue to work with them to arrive at the best solution.
416	Chair Dallum	Closes the informational meeting on the Oregon centralized voter registration system and adjourns at 1:57 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. Computing and Networking Infrastructure Consolidation Governing Board's Findings and Recommendations, printed packet, staff, 10 pp**
- B. Computing and Network Consolidation Alternatives Implementation Strategy and Business Case, printed packet, staff, 13 pp**
- C. Oregon Central Voter Registration Project, printed update, Jean Straight, 3 pp**
- D. Help America Vote Act, Secretary of State federal compliance audit report, Jean Straight, 16 pp**