

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Minutes of the

LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 16, 2005
Harvest Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

Senator Bob Stenehjem, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Members present: Senators Bob Stenehjem, John M. Andrist, Randel Christmann, David O'Connell; Representatives Rick Berg, Matthew M. Klein

Members absent: Senator Michael A. Every; Representatives Merle Boucher, Scot Kelsh, David Monson

Others present: Mike Ressler, Information Technology Department, Bismarck

Chris Moffett, Norma Haakonstad, Todd Wallace; Arbortext/PTC, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Tony Sopata, Jim Rice; MSI Systems Integrators, Omaha, Nebraska

Dave Thompson, North Dakota Public Radio, Bismarck

Brad Feldman, KXMB, Bismarck

John Boyle, Office of Management and Budget, Bismarck

Jim W. Smith, Maryann F. Trauger, Karen J. Mund; Legislative Council, Bismarck

It was moved by Representative Klein, seconded by Senator O'Connell, and carried on a voice vote to approve the minutes of the June 30, 2005, meeting of the committee.

LEGISLATIVE APPLICATIONS REPLACEMENT SYSTEM PROJECT

The director read the statutory directive under Section 5 of Senate Bill No. 2001 (2005) with respect to the legislative applications replacement system project. He said the committee approved the project plan at its June 30, 2005, meeting. He said Legislative Council Chairman Senator Bob Stenehjem appointed an executive steering group consisting of Senators Randel Christmann, Ray Holmberg, and Tom Seymour; Representatives Eliot Glassheim, Matthew M. Klein, and Bob Skarphol; Information Technology Department staff Curtis L. Wolfe, Mike Ressler, and Nancy J. Walz; and Legislative Council staff John D. Olsrud, Jay E. Buringrud, Jim W. Smith, and Maryann F. Trauger. He said Mr. Jim Gienger, Enterprise Solutions, Inc., is under contract as project manager. He said Senate Bill No. 2001 authorized use of legislative branch carryover funds, which approximate \$1.5 million, for the project. He

said he anticipates enough funds will be available after completion of Phase 1 of the project so the Legislative Management Committee will be able to decide whether to initiate a portion of Phase 2 before the 2007 legislative session.

The director said a request for proposal (RFP) was sent to over 100 firms, five proposals were received, the steering group invited four of the five to make formal presentations to the steering group, and the steering group selected two of the four for presenting proposals to the Legislative Management Committee. He said something needs to be done and this is not an example of a situation in which business will continue as before if nothing is done.

Mr. Gienger described the process followed in soliciting proposals and selecting the two proposals for presentation to the Legislative Management Committee. He said Phase 1 of the project involves looking for a vendor to capture the requirements for the legislative information technology systems. He said completion of Phase 1 will result in a design of a solution, creation of a cost-benefit analysis, an idea of the cost for Phase 2, and the budget. He said this information will be presented to the Legislative Management Committee for a decision as to whether to proceed with Phase 2. Mr. Gienger distributed a matrix identifying major parts of the proposals of each of the two vendors and reviewed the information contained in the matrix. A copy of the matrix is on file in the Legislative Council office.

Mr. Mike Ressler, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department, reviewed the business case for replacement of the legislative applications. He said the Information Technology Department participated in reviewing the proposals. He recommended that the committee approve proceeding with a proposal to replace the applications. He described the struggles over the years to keep the legislative applications interfacing with one another. He said the enterprise server will be eliminated and this will require legacy applications to be replaced with or migrated to server-based applications. Based on the information presented to date, he said, it appears the replacement applications would have a six-year payback.

Mr. Ressler said the best estimate the Information Technology Department can give with respect to the

cost of merely migrating the existing legacy applications off the enterprise server is \$2.5 million. He said incurring this cost would not result in any improvements to the applications--it would result merely in moving the legacy applications off the mainframe computer. He said this would just delay replacing older applications with modern applications that should provide more functionality.

In response to a question from Representative Berg, Mr. Ressler said the six-year payback is based on current estimates of cost for replacing the applications. In answer to another question from Representative Berg regarding what additional benefits might be realized under a new system, Mr. Ressler said Phase 1 will show what the business requirements are and what additional functionality might be realized. The director said the present system has to be replaced, so it is not necessarily a matter of getting something better, but just having a system that does what the existing system does for future sessions is the primary goal.

In response to a question from Senator Andrist, Mr. Ressler said the figures are based on today's costs, which would be recovered in six years. He said the plan is to pick tool sets that can be used by others, e.g., the Information Technology Department, for maintenance.

Arbortext/PTC Proposal

Ms. Norma Haakonstad, Regional Vice President, Arbortext/PTC, Ann Arbor, Michigan, introduced Mr. Chris Moffett, Solutions Architect, Arbortext/PTC.

Mr. Moffett described the goals gleaned by Arbortext from the RFP and the deliverables expected as a result of completion of Phase 1. He gave an overview of Arbortext and described the qualifications of Arbortext. He said Arbortext is a world leader in enterprise document publishing and XML data management. He said Arbortext will partner with Capstone. He said Capstone brings expertise in systems integration.

Mr. Moffett said Arbortext has experience with 10 legislatures, including the Florida House bill drafting system; the Maryland bill drafting system, amendment system, and statute publication system; the Minnesota journal and administrative rules systems; the Nebraska statute publishing system; and the Texas bill drafting, bill publishing, and amendment systems.

Mr. Moffett presented the Arbortext proposal. He said Arbortext will apply proven implementation processes; will use best procedures to collect requirements for XML-based applications; will promote a knowledge development process to educate customers to be self-sufficient; will use resources that understand the process and business objectives of the legislative branch; and will offer a proof of concept that demonstrates key functional and technical requirements, illustrates business rules using XML,

demonstrates integration with at least one other legislative system, and utilizes existing commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) products.

In response to a question from Representative Klein, Mr. Moffett said Arbortext will work with the Legislative Council project manager to determine Legislative Council staff availability and adjust its proposed timetable accordingly.

In response to a question from Senator Christmann, Mr. Moffett said based on experience in other states, the estimate Arbortext made to the executive steering group of \$1.5 million to \$2 million for Phase 2 appears reasonable.

In response to a question from Senator Andrist, Mr. Moffett said PTC is the world leader in computer aided design/computer aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) software development. He said that type of software shows the relationship of design changes. He said Arbortext software relates the design changes to text changes.

In response to a question from Representative Klein, Mr. Moffett said at the end of the implementation, the Legislative Council will be provided the products, software, and customization software. He said Arbortext will own the core product. He said there is an annual maintenance fee in order to receive upgrades to the Arbortext software. He said the normal fee is 17 to 20 percent of the list price of the Arbortext products used.

In response to a question from Representative Berg, Mr. Moffett said if ties are eventually severed with Arbortext, the Legislative Council could use a third party to continue product development and maintenance. He said the Arbortext cost figures for Phase 1 are higher than the figures of the other vendor because Arbortext brings its experience with legislative customers in other states. He emphasized Phase 1 requires a lot of work to mitigate the risk in Phase 2.

MSI Systems Integrators

Mr. Jim Rice, MSI Systems Integrators, distributed a written presentation of the MSI Systems Integrators proposal. A copy of the presentation is on file in the Legislative Council office.

Mr. Rice said MSI Systems Integrators is a systems integrator company and its expertise is systems integration. He said MSI Systems Integrators was established in 1994 with home offices in Omaha, Nebraska, and has 300 employees and offices in 14 cities which serve clients primarily in the Central and Western United States.

Mr. Rice said MSI Systems Integrators follows a disciplined delivery system of a rational unified process, a 6D solution design process, and a project management body of knowledge. He said service-oriented architectures deliver the ability to maintain infrastructure flexibility, integrate and leverage legacy

services as desired, control costs, and maintain vendor flexibility to control costs.

Representative Klein said the Legislative Council has a small staff and legislators are located around the state, so he wondered whether the timeline of three days for interviews recognizes those facts. Mr. Rice said MSI Systems Integrators will take whatever time is necessary for the interview process.

In response to a question from Senator O'Connell, Mr. Rice said a proof of concept sometimes becomes the prime development tool. If the job is done correctly, he said, deliverables of Phase 1 can be used by anyone for Phase 2.

In response to a question from Representative Berg, Mr. Rice said at the completion of Phase 2, North Dakota will own the product and MSI Systems Integrators will retain no ownership of the product. He said the estimate of \$5 million for Phase 2 is a best-guess estimate based on data gathering and discussion with the Legislative Council staff.

In response to a question from Representative Klein, Mr. Rice said the deliverables for Phase 1 are a system design and this should be able to be taken by anyone and developed to complete Phase 2.

In response to a question from Senator Christmann, Mr. Rice said Phase 1 deliverables would address current functionality and also identify additional functionality.

In response to a question from Representative Klein, Mr. Rice said as a rule of thumb, MSI Systems Integrators tries to retain 50 to 60 percent of work in house and contracts 30 to 40 percent to a third party but tries very hard to maintain all work in house. He said MSI Systems Integrators does not have any offshore developers.

Senator Stenehjem said his understanding of Phase 1 is that a company is to come in, review the legislative applications, and recommend solutions and Phase 2 is the actual purchase and development of the solutions. Mr. Ressler said Phase 1 also identifies the processes that will be used and developed during Phase 2.

VETERANS' MEMORIAL

The assistant director said House Bill No. 1528 (2005) requires the Legislative Management Committee to visit and inspect the veterans' memorial on the Capitol grounds and make recommendations for repairs to the Facility Management Division of the Office of Management and Budget. He said the committee toured the veterans' memorial at its June 30, 2005, meeting. He said the committee recommended to the Facility Management Division that the division obtain a cost estimate for adding a third panel in the northeast corner of the monument and provide that estimate to the committee.

Chairman Stenehjem recognized Mr. John Boyle, Director, Facility Management Division, Office of Management and Budget. Mr. Boyle said the division

contacted Mr. Warren Tvenge, Tvenge Associates, Bismarck, for an estimate because Tvenge Associates designed the memorial. He said the cost estimate for the additional panel in the northeast corner is \$22,571.48. He said the estimate includes manufacturing and delivering the panels for \$11,571.48 and installation of the panels for \$11,000. He said Facility Management would be sending letters to veterans' organizations inquiring as to whether they would provide funding for this maintenance project.

Chairman Stenehjem thanked Mr. Boyle for his work in obtaining an estimate to update the memorial and for contacting the veterans' organizations about maintaining the memorial that they placed on the Capitol grounds.

LEGISLATIVE SPACE NEEDS

Current Committee Rooms

The assistant director summarized information presented to the committee at its June meeting concerning existing committee room square footage and capacity:

- Pioneer Room - 2,600 square feet, 150 capacity.
- Roosevelt Park Room - 528 square feet, 10 seated at tables, 25 along walls.
- House Conference Room - 640 square feet, 10 seated at tables, 16 in audience.
- Red River Room - 600 square feet, 10 seated at tables, 15 along walls.

Bill and Journal Room Requirements

The assistant director reviewed bill and journal room requirements. He said a bill and journal room should include:

- Readily accessible storage space for 50 to 100 copies of 1,080 bills and resolutions (1,046 were introduced during the 2005 legislative session).
- Readily accessible storage space for 50 to 100 copies of 166 journals (an 80-day legislative session and a 3-day organizational session).
- Readily accessible storage space for materials sorted and held for subscribers to legislative documents (in 2005 there were 98 subscribers to various legislative documents).
- Table space for sorting materials for distribution to the House, Senate, committee clerks, subscribers, and the Capitol mail room.
- A copier.
- A personal computer and computer desk for bill status inquiries.

The assistant director said an idea was presented at the June 2005 meeting concerning use of filing cabinets rather than shelves for storing bills. He urged the committee to consider the loss of efficiency if bills are stored in filing cabinets rather than on shelves. He said it takes very little time to retrieve a

bill off a shelf in response to an inquiry rather than retrieve a bill from a packed file drawer. He said the emphasis during a legislative session is quick response to requests, especially from persons who are on their way to committee hearings.

Bill and Journal Room Printer or Copier Options

The assistant director said Section 6 of Senate Bill No. 2001 (2005) requires a study of the feasibility and desirability of arranging for the printing of bills by using computers and high-speed printers rather than printing multiple copies and having those copies available in the bill and journal room. He said he reviewed this concept with Mr. Gary Vasey, State Procurement Office, Office of Management and Budget, with respect to use of a high-speed printer (offset press), a printer networked with a personal computer, and a photocopier networked with a personal computer.

The assistant director reported that an offset press would be noisy, and the noise would permeate throughout the ground floor hallway. He said an offset press would require alcohol, other chemicals, and a distilled water storage area. He said an offset press would require manual involvement through making a plate, placing a plate in the press, and running the press. For any bill over one page in length, he said, an offset press would require a separate collation process by which the operator would manually move copies from the press to a collator.

The assistant director reviewed costs incurred during the 2005 legislative session with respect to printing bills and resolutions. He said the printing cost for bills and resolutions during the 2005 legislative session was \$53,590 for printing 325 copies of the bills and resolutions as introduced and \$26,078 for printing 200 copies of engrossed bills and resolutions (there were just under 550 engrossments). Based on the 2005 contract price for printing bills and resolutions, he said, a one-page, one-sided bill cost \$.055 per page for 325 copies and \$.085 per page for 200 copies. He said a one-page, two-sided bill cost \$.086 per page for 325 copies and \$.125 per page for 200 copies. He said the price varies per page, depending on the number of pages. He reported that Mr. Vasey quoted a price of the state printer to print bills at \$.013 per page. He said, however, using the state printer would eliminate the need for a contract with a private, third-party contractor.

An example of a small, fast printer networked with a personal computer is an IBM Infoprint 1572 laser printer, which can print 50 pages per minute, has a 500-sheet input drawer, a 100-sheet auxiliary tray, and a 500-sheet output capacity. Additional accessories include a duplex unit, which allows the printer to print on both sides of a sheet, and a stapler. The cost of a printer with a duplex unit, a stapler, and a three-year maintenance agreement is \$3,070.

The assistant director said a more feasible solution probably would be a photocopier networked with a personal computer. He said an example of a copier that produces 90 copies per minute is a Xerox Document Centre 490ST copier. He said the Legislative Council leased a Xerox Document Centre 490ST during the 2005 legislative session at a cost of \$1,224 per month, plus a \$300 setup fee, plus \$.0092 per copy over 50,000 copies per month, plus the cost of toner cartridges at \$168 each, plus the cost of staples at \$88 a carton (each carton contains 3 cartridges of 5,000 staples each), plus the cost of paper at \$2.34 per ream (\$.00468 per sheet).

The assistant director said a photocopier would include a collator and stapler. He said printed bills currently are saddle stitched, e.g., bills over two pages in length are printed on 17" x 11" paper, then folded to 8 1/2" x 11" size, and bills over four pages in length are stapled in a manner similar to a magazine. With the use of a photocopier, he said, multipage bills would be stapled in the corner and thus there would be no more magazine-style bills. He said a photocopier would allow use of three-hole paper, which has been requested by committee clerks for ease in placing bills and resolutions in notebooks for legislators' use during committee hearings.

The assistant director said in 2005 approximately 98 copies of bills and 69 copies of engrossed bills were placed in subscribers' boxes, 15 copies of bills and 15 copies of engrossed bills were delivered to the Legislative Council, and approximately 50 copies of bills and 50 copies of engrossed bills were made available to the Legislative Assembly for distribution to committee clerks and others. Using these figures as the minimal number of copies needed for immediate distribution, he said, 163 copies of bills as introduced are needed upon introduction and 134 copies of engrossed bills are needed upon engrossment. He said these figures do not take into account any bills distributed from the bill and journal room on request.

The assistant director said based on the number of pages of introduced bills and resolutions during the 2005 legislative session, one set of bills and resolutions contains 3,697 pages (a page is one side of a sheet) on 2,041 sheets. Thus, he said, one set of bills and resolutions consists of 3,697 "copies" for purposes of computing printer or copier costs.

The assistant director said from approximately December 15 through January 25, a copier would run 602,611 copies on 332,683 sheets of paper in order to provide 163 copies of bills as introduced. He said an estimate as to engrossments is an additional 50 percent, based on the fact that of 1,080 bills and resolutions introduced in 2005 there were slightly fewer than 550 engrossments. Thus, from approximately January 15 through April 30, a copier would run 301,305 copies on 166,342 sheets of paper to provide 134 copies of engrossed bills.

The assistant director said these copies would require approximately 499,025 sheets of paper which equates to 999 reams, or 100 cases of paper. With respect to toner cartridge requirements, he said, assuming a 30 percent coverage which would result in a cartridge covering 23,500 pages, the minimal toner requirement would be 39 cartridges. Based on these figures, he said, it would cost approximately \$6,420 for the copier for five months, \$2,340 for 100 cases of paper, \$6,552 for 39 toner cartridges, \$88 for a carton of staples, and an additional charge for exceeding 50,000 copies per month in December of \$1,380, in January of \$4,036 (assuming 200,000 copies in December and 488,698 copies in January--approximately one-third of bills and resolutions are prefiled and allowing for two weeks of engrossments), and an additional charge for exceeding 50,000 copies per month in February through April of \$600 (assuming an equal monthly distribution of engrossments over three months, less two weeks in January) for a total of \$21,416 for the copier and supplies to photocopy the minimal number of copies of bills for immediate distribution.

The assistant director said relying on a photocopier to print copies on request through use of a copier networked with a personal computer raises these issues and concerns:

- There would need to be a storage area for 100 cases of paper and 39 toner cartridges.
- No copies can be made while the photocopier is jammed or being serviced.
- No copies can be made while the computer network is down or otherwise not working.

The assistant director said based on the concerns with using a copier, and with the delays for waiting to receive multiple copies of the same or different bills and resolutions, the expressed desire by some individuals to maintain a public coatroom, and the ability to design the existing bill and journal room to include one or two committee rooms as well as bill and journal room space, the architect was requested to prepare two concepts for committee consideration. He said one concept made use of the bill and journal room space for two committee rooms and a substantially smaller bill and journal room and the other concept used the entire bill and journal room space for two committee rooms and used the public coatroom and vending machine area across the hallway for a similar-sized bill and journal room as provided in concept 1. He said Mr. Tvenge was contacted with respect to designing both concepts because Mr. Tvenge's former firm, Tvenge Larson, was the architectural firm that drew the plans for renovating the legislative wing in 1980-82.

Bill and Journal Room and Committee Room Remodeling Concepts

Chairman Stenehjem recognized Mr. Tvenge for presentation of the two concepts for providing two

new committee rooms on the ground floor in the legislative wing. A copy of each concept is on file in the Legislative Council office.

Mr. Tvenge presented concept 1, which remodeled the bill and journal room into two committee rooms and a bill and journal room, and concept 2, which remodeled the bill and journal room into two committee rooms and moved the bill and journal room to the public coatroom and vending machine area across the hallway.

Mr. Tvenge said concept 1 provides for a meeting room of 834 square feet, with 417 square feet on each side of a sound-deadening foldable divider. He said each 417-square-foot room allows committee tables with 9 desk chairs and 24 side chairs. He said the former hallway between the former bill and journal room (pre-1981 remodeling) and the north wall of the main hallway was recreated as a bill and journal room totaling 360 square feet, containing 15 organizers with 72 compartments (to provide slots for 1,080 bills and resolutions); two shelving units providing 96 slots and four shelves under the counter with 18 compartments each, for 72 slots, for a total of 168 slots (for daily journals); and one organizer with 72 compartments and two shelves under the counters with 16 compartments each for 36 compartments, for a total of 108 slots (for subscribers' boxes). He said the space also provides for a copier, a computer desk, a file cabinet, and a worktable. He said concept 1 includes a folding divider between both committee room areas and when open provides for a meeting room for committee tables seating 16 and 47 side chairs.

Mr. Tvenge said both concepts provide for a sound-reducing divider, dividing in half the semicircular committee room area, and provide for recessed entry doors, handicapped-accessible in each committee room area (which replaces the existing doors). He said the doors need to be recessed because the occupancy capacity of the committee room area requires the doors to open out and doors cannot open into a hallway. He said concept 1 provides for a door to be placed in the wall on the west side of the former hallway area to provide access to the new bill and journal room. He said the estimated cost for concept 1 is \$168,000, which includes general construction for \$56,000; heating/ventilation/air-conditioning for \$50,000; electrical for \$29,000; furnishings for \$33,000; and a 15 percent reserve for overage. He said the 15 percent reserve is because the project is a remodeling project and because contractors in the Bismarck-Mandan area are very busy and bids on construction projects are higher than in the past.

Mr. Tvenge said concept 2 provides for the entire bill and journal room area, which includes the former hallway, as a committee room area. He said a foldable divider can divide the semicircular area into two meeting rooms of a quarter-circle shape. He said this area provides for a meeting room of 1,214 square

feet, 607 square feet on each side. He said the table size is maintained at 18 desk chairs total, or 9 on each side, and the side chair capacity is 56, with 28 on each side. He said the bill and journal room has been designed into the area currently occupied by the public coatroom and the vending machine area on the south side of the main hallway. He said the bill and journal room is 382 square feet and provides for the same capacity as the bill and journal room area in concept 1. He said the estimated cost for concept 2 is \$193,000, which includes general construction for \$70,000; heating/ventilation/air-conditioning for \$54,000; electrical for \$34,000; furnishings for \$35,000; and a 15 percent reserve for overage.

Mr. Tvenge said the costs of both concepts include installation of walnut panel doors matching the doors of the existing hallway at approximately \$1,800 per door. He said the cost estimate also includes replacing the current heating/ventilation/air-conditioning unit, which is too noisy for a committee meeting room area, with two heat pump units in each separate meeting room and one heat pump in the bill and journal room which are tied in with the centralized system in the Capitol.

Representative Berg said one reason for the desire to find a committee room on the ground floor is the lack of handicapped accessibility to the House Conference Room. He said he favors taking the entire bill and journal room for use as committee room area. He said the plans as proposed do not include a desk for an intern. The director said an intern is not assigned to an Appropriations Committee or any subdivision of the House Appropriations Committee.

Representative Berg said there is a need to consider whether to continue the current bill and journal room size, including whether to continue using shelves as storage areas or filing cabinets.

Senator Andrist said with technology, the bill and journal room should be able to be operated with one person operating one printer to print bills as needed. The director said the bill and journal room is used by many persons ranging from citizens visiting the legislature, lobbyists, schoolbus tour groups, and legislators, and often people want a copy of a bill immediately to take to a hearing, and those people would not want to wait in line while copies of bills are made for people in front of them.

Representative Berg requested preparation of a plan utilizing the House locker room as a committee room. Chairman Stenehjem said the architect would be asked to prepare a plan using the locker room as a committee room.

Senator Christmann suggested a revision in the concepts to provide for a horseshoe shape or semicircular table using the entire committee room area and including a desk for the committee clerk.

LEGISLATIVE SOUND SYSTEMS

At the request of Chairman Stenehjem, the assistant director reported that Audio Systems finished installing the new mixers and updating the sound system in the House chamber; all microphones have been adjusted and tested; and the new mixers are digital and have separate control knobs for each microphone to allow individual level adjustments. He said all new equipment was placed in the existing equipment shelving. He said the people from Audio Systems were very pleased with the sound quality both in the microphones and the recording equipment. He said although Audio Systems noted that the current system in the Senate chamber is an analog system and not a digital system, the Senate system was of a high quality and should work for a number of years because that system has fewer microphones that broadcast to a smaller area. He said Audio Systems indicated that the Senate chamber mixers could be used in committee rooms in the future when a digital system is installed in the Senate chamber.

USE OF LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS

The assistant director reviewed requests by the Land Department to use the House chamber on February 7, August 1, and November 7, 2006, to conduct oil and gas lease auctions; a request by the Secretary of State to use the House chamber on March 22-23, 2006, to conduct a statewide biennial conference pertaining to the administration of elections; a request by the North Dakota Leadership Seminar to use the House chamber on June 3, 2006, for a leadership seminar; and a request by the North Dakota Silver-Haired Education Association to use the House chamber on July 26-28, 2006, for a Silver-Haired Education Assembly. He said the committee has approved similar requests in the past. He said the Land Department originally requested four dates in 2006 but the auction in May will be held in Minot in conjunction with the North Dakota/Saskatchewan joint oil and gas conference. The committee discussed whether to approve use of the House chamber a year in advance.

It was moved by Representative Berg, seconded by Senator O'Connell, and carried on a voice vote that the committee approve the use of the House chamber on February 7 and August 1, 2006, to conduct oil and gas lease auctions; to approve the use of the House chamber on March 22-23, 2006, to conduct a statewide biennial conference pertaining to elections; to approve use of the House chamber on June 3, 2006, for a North Dakota Leadership Seminar; and to approve use of the House chamber on July 26-28, 2006, for a Silver-Haired Education Assembly.

LEGISLATIVE APPLICATIONS REPLACEMENT SYSTEM PROJECT

Representative Berg thanked both companies for their responses to the RFP and for their presentations regarding the legislative applications replacement system project. He said the committee should select a vendor and the steering group should continue to be involved in reviewing the project.

It was moved by Representative Berg and seconded by Representative Klein that the committee accept the proposal of Arbortext, subject to negotiation of a detailed contract, approved by the chairman of the Legislative Council after review by the executive steering group. Senator Christmann said as a member of the steering group he agrees with the motion by Representative Berg and notes that either vendor is capable of performing the required work. Senator Stenehjem said he thinks either vendor could have taken on the project and performed well. Senator Andrist said he

is against the motion because either vendor could do the job and MSI Systems Integrators proposal for Phase 1 is less costly. After this discussion, **the motion carried on a roll call vote.** Voting in favor of the motion were Senators Stenehjem and Christmann and Representatives Berg and Klein, and voting against the motion were Senators Andrist and O'Connell.

No further business appearing, Chairman Stenehjem adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Jay E. Buringrud
Assistant Director

John D. Olsrud
Director