2009 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HB 1052

2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill No. HB 1052

House Political Subdivisions Committee

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Hearing Date: January 15, 2009

Recorder Job Number: 7076, 7101

Committee Clerk Signature

Minutes:

Chairman Wrangham opened the hearing on HB 1052.

Rep. Porter: The public safety committee has met and they are about $400,000 short for the software necessary. It is like a wheel with spokes on it. There are 23 different forms of computer rated dispatch systems in ND. Each public service answering system has their own variation of this system. Is it a necessary expense or an unnecessary duplication in today's world of connectability? Is that software necessary? This system replaces some of the duplication among the 23 answering systems. There is more turf protection out there than you can ever imagine.

We don't need 23 different systems out there. That is what phase two will bring. We are already working on our base map so we have one continuous base map that starts in western ND and ends in eastern ND. If we as a state have the capabilities to put this hub there that everyone can connect into and the talk of duplication and layers and more taxes, should we also be looking at the policy of saying, unless we can prove to the budget section or public safety interim committee that you have to have your own system then you are more than welcome to take tax dollars and go buy this. You can't use 911 funds for it that is off the

general budget table in these jurisdictions. There isn't a financial incentive for these local political subdivisions and 23 PCEPS to cooperate in this adventure. Unless we as a state step up to the table some of the duplicated technology needs to stop. We as a state will provide this hub and then you can be the spokes into this hub.

Rep. Kilichowski: What was the cost of appropriations for Phase I? Is that a 100% improvement?

Rep. Porter: I will let Mr. Wilz answer that.

Greg Wilz: Deputy Director, Dept. Of Emergency Services: (see testimony #1). This project was introduced by SYTAK and was the number two priority overall by the state. (State Information and Technology Advisory Committee) SYTAK means. There are some wonderful off the shelf that we can purchase and the other option is an interface of the current segments are in this level and AVL method system is not available in the state of ND. The company that we have been dealing with has an excellent add on and most likely would be one of the possibilities that we would look at in the future.

Rep. Koppelman: How does ND fit in with all the issues we have discussed and with homeland security?

Greg: There is a large overlap with homeland security and issues around it and emergency management. We have national mandate due to terrorism in ND but we do not have a high degree of risk. Homeland security funds have greatly assisted ND in funding in this area. The federal dollars we have to be programmed a year in advance and meet the criteria of the federal level. Discussed specifics of the funds when they come down from the federal level.

Rep. Headland: Rep. Porter eluded to turf protection and said there is a lot of duplication. Mentioned the need for maybe one location. I am just wondering how that would impact the request for appropriations.

Greg: the investment in this package allows those PSAF's to have one system and provide those services in a different model. Explained the county level and how it would work. This system is very flexible and you can transfer it from one PSAF to another with the flick of a switch.

Rep. Headland: In the long run it saves money for the citizens of ND.

Greg: Yes I believe it does.

Rep. Nancy Johnson: The task force requested this?

Greg: when the task force originally did its work the best guess at the time. We were just at the beginning of the RP. We asked for information on the various options we wanted to and we discovered that for about 1.4 million that is what it would cost to add B2 components of the CAD.

Rep. Kilichowski: I am confused. You have $2 million; does it include that $980 that is from the agency budget now?

Greg: No it is not. That $980,000 is last biennium's legislative authorization for the project; Phase I of the project.

Rep. Kilichowski: Now you have another $1.million in the budget now.

Greg: Yes.

Rep. Kilichowski: When would that be completed and how far along are you?

Greg: The contract of the project is scheduled to be signed approximately January 19, 2009. We think the work will start in March. The state of ND is approaching the need for a statewide seamless base map that can be used by all the PCAPS; state agencies, and general public in two phases. Phase I is ongoing. It is an imitative to upgrade the mapping for the 22 counties that we support through the 911 center of PSAP. It is scheduled to be up and running by 1-29-09.

Rep. Jerry Kelsh: It will take two years to get this mapping laid out and that is part of the phase II, right?

Greg: No the mapping is not part of Phase II; that is a completely separate project. The funding for that is in the agency's budget. I believe it took $2.1 million to get that done. We need a map first and then towers.

Rep. Klemin: What process do you have to go through to convince the governor that you should have the ability to go to the house appropriations committee for the other $400,000 rather than us?

Greg: the agency can live with what's in the governor's budget. Because of the budgets we have a lot of things that need to be considered.

Rep. Koppelman: Can you prioritize these bills that we heard this morning?

Greg: I believe our priority is the SPAC. We have to have the neck; it gives us the base capability to execute the CAD. The CAD allows us to reduce the human error factor and allows you to move a lot of critical information that we can push out to the field. The towers allow that to occur.

Rep. Koppelman: The second part of it is how it stacks up on ranking.

Greg: By ranking would be that these are the top three priorities in addition to the mutual aid bill that you heard. This is my opinion that these are the top priorities.

Rep. Kilichowski: If I am understanding this right all three of these need to be implemented or none of them.

Greg: for example the statewide seamless base map allows for the incopability of all the PSAPS so again it allows for future levering of funds. The existing mapping that is out there right now can be plugged into a CAD; the mapping that we are still doing for the 22 counties

that we support can plug right into this CAD so one works without the other. The statewide system and these three things are components to make that happen.

Rep. Kilichowski: So this mapping that we have would work with the 22 counties that are in the system now. So the other 20 some counties need the CAD?

Greg: The CAD would primarily support the 22 counties and their first responders and the highway patrol and other state agencies when we turn that switch on in November. If other jurisdictions, as opposed to spending money to buy their own CAD or upgrade their current CAD, wanted to added on as a slope they could use that system and do it at a much less cost.

Chairman Wrangham: You mentioned the highway patrol. Rep. Porter mentioned that there were some problems out there. We have heard nothing from individual counties that have their own systems or counties outside the 22. I assume you were working with them when all this took place? Why some of them are did not decide to join up?

Greg: That is a difficult question. The current law says the state may provide 911 services to those counties that have a population of 20,000 or less. I think the intend was that counties are smaller and at the tax base are not going to generate the 911 dollars are going to need to have the ability either to merge together or receive those services for another level of government. Out of that was born state radio. We still have the authority to dispatch for those jurisdictions and we have places where their population is below 20,000 but they have either joined a regional dispatch center or have chosen to set up a county dispatch center.

Chairman Wrangham: Did your office or agency work with them to show them the possibilities or advantages of joining together at that time. After being informed did they decide not to join or were it a matter of technology has changed that much or what? It is really making an effort to put them under one umbrella.

Greg: I do not know what went on before I got here. With this project the original idea came out of the task force, which had state holders from all the various responding associations and agencies that are in the state. When we started our PSAP we thought it very important to have other PSAP's in the state to help make the decision to which is the best one to seek. We invited all the other PSAP managers to participate in those demonstrations and we did not get the level of participation that I had hoped we would get. We did have other PSAP managers from around the state and their input into this project. The 911 association and the EMS association both have resolutions of support for the bulk of the bills that come out of committee.

Rep. Headland: with all the conversation we have heard with the advancement of technology and the direction that technology is going in your opinion that we could provide all these services to emergency management, 911 etc. with one PSAP in the state?

Greg: Across this nation there are PSAP's serving a much greater population than we do with the 22 PSAP's in the state of ND. The geographical area is probably not as good. Discussed national problems with one PSAP. The state of ND does not need 22 or 23 PSAP's. They can do it for less.

Rep. Headland: wouldn't we be more fiscally responsible to our citizens if we focused more on consolidation rather than looking at all the different appropriations and studies that essentially further allow these PSAP's to operate as they are today?

Greg: I think these types of bills serve as a level of motivation. As a second part of that question should you as legislators adopt some legislation that does that I would say yes? These are very heartfelt issues at the local level because they look at loosing local control and employment and some counties are struggling to survive out there economically so you are in for a fight but have at it.

Rep. Kilichowski: Discussed reason the PSAP's got started in the state and they various counties were forced into using their own systems.

Dave Sprynczynatky: In our HB 1016 contains feel is the right amount to phase many of these things in given all the needs and requirements of the state. The CAD has a $980,000 provided to us by the 60th Leg. Assembly that began and extensive process to determine what was in the best interest of the state of ND. This next month we expect to complete that process and execute the contract and by November complete Phase I. The cost for Phase II is the $1.4 million dollar figure to complete the CAD system. Our HB 1016 contains $1. Million and we will be able to advance considerably the capability of the CAD system that is already being put together in the state. This will serve the 22 counties and other counties too if they chose to use it.

No opposition.

Hearing closed.

Start of Job #7101

Chairman Wrangham reopened the hearing for the vote.

Motion Made By **Rep. Klemin as a Do Not Pass. Seconded by Rep. Headland:**

Rep. Klemin: discussed the fact this bill is already funded.

Vote:

13 Yes   0 No   0 Absent   Carrier: Rep. Hatlestad:

Hearing closed.

Date:
2009 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. *HB1052*

House   Political Subdivisions   Committee

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Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken   Do Pass   (Do Not Pass)   Amended _____

Motion Made By *Rep Klemin*   Seconded By *Rep Headland*

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Rep. Dwight Wrangham, Chairman	✓		Senator Kari Conrad	✓	
Rep. Craig Headland, Vice Chairman	✓		Senator Jerry Kelsh	✓	
Rep. Patrick Hatlestad	✓		Senator Robert Kilichowski	✓	
Rep. Nancy Johnson	✓		Senator Corey Mock	✓	
Rep. Lawrence Klemin	✓		Senator Steve Zaiser	✓	
Rep. Kim Koppelman	✓				
Rep. William Kretschmar	✓				
Rep. Vonnie Pietsch	✓				

Total   (Yes) _____*13*_____ No _____*0*_____

Absent _____*0*_____

Floor Assignment *Rep. Hatlestad*

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1052: Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. Wrangham, Chairman) recommends
DO NOT PASS (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1052 was
placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2009 TESTIMONY

HB 1052

TESTIMONY - HB 1052
HOUSE COMMITTEE – POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS
JANUARY 15, 2009
BY GREG WILZ
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERICES

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Greg Wilz. I am the Deputy Director of the Department of Emergency Services (NDDES) and Director of Homeland Security for the state of North Dakota. Today I am here as a representative of the task force established at the request of the interim Public Safety Committee. The Public Safety Committee asked that the task force be established to request improvements to emergency services by adding organizational changes, system upgrades, process or protocol changes and statutory changes to ensure the future viability and capability of emergency services in North Dakota. My intent is to provide background information as was discussed within the task force and not to take an agency position on HB 1052.

HB 1052 funds phase two of the computer aided dispatch (CAD) project that incorporates a record management system (RMS) and an automated vehicle locater (AVL) system. The addition of the two systems creates a truly robust CAD program that augments officer and citizen safety and enables new levels of speed and efficiency in managing resources.

The records management system allows instantaneous information capture beginning with event notification. It extracts data from the CAD and permits officers in the field to input information. The system continuously compiles event data and pushes the information to authorized personnel who need it.

The automated vehicle locator system enables communication center personnel and user agency managers to track locations of mobile assets so communication specialist can dispatch the closest resource. By saving valuable time, which in certain instances conserves life, the system creates an advance level of efficiency that is currently unavailable to public safety officials.

Our current agency budget includes $980,000 for purchase of the basic phase one CAD program. The project is in contract negotiations and implementation will begin in February. Also, we have partnered with Highway Patrol to provide for inclusion of a mobile data terminal component.

During the task force discussions, it was estimated $2.0 million would be required to complete phase two. However, subsequently at the time of the department's budget submittal, further research revealed a lower estimate of $1.4 million. The agency budget (HB1016) includes $1.0 million.

Thank you, I will try to answer any questions you may have.