

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

Minutes of the

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 20, 2009
Harvest Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

Senator Larry J. Robinson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Senators Larry J. Robinson, Randel Christmann, Tom Seymour, Rich Wardner; Representatives Corey Mock, Bob Skarphol, Gary R. Sukut, Robin Weisz, Lonny Winrich

Members absent: Representative Craig Headland; Chief Information Officer Lisa Feldner

Others present: Jim W. Smith, Jason J. Steckler; Legislative Council, Bismarck

Senator David O'Connell, member of the Legislative Management, was also in attendance.

See attached [appendix](#) for additional persons present.

It was moved by Representative Skarphol, seconded by Senator Wardner, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the July 16, 2009, meeting be approved as distributed.

Internal processes	Standardize processes and approaches Deliver reliable and available services Deliver solutions on schedule Deliver project on time and on budget Capture and follow up on customer feedback Continuous sharing and understanding of business needs Plan for technology change Provide guidance on information technology best practices Deploy enterprise solutions
Learning and growth	Attract and hire quality people Maintain high employee satisfaction Support employee growth and development Retain talented employees

REPORT FROM THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Information Technology Department - Strategic Business Plan

Mr. Mike Ressler, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department, distributed a copy of the department's 2009-11 strategic business plan, a copy of which is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the department's 2009-11 strategic business plan includes 23 objectives relating to the department's mission to provide leadership and knowledge to assist customers in achieving information technology goals. The following is a summary of the objectives included in the plan:

Perspectives	Objectives
Customer	Meet customer service delivery expectations Provide an "easy to do business with" environment Provide a positive customer experience Build and maintain strong relationships Provide information technology services as needed Provide technology direction
Financial	Make cost-effective investments Manage revenue Align rates with customer business needs Manage statewide technology spending

In response to a question from Senator Robinson, Mr. Ressler said the department has established a process for department employees to provide input regarding the department's strategic business plan.

Information Technology Department - Annual Report

Mr. Ressler distributed a copy of the department's 2008-09 annual report regarding projects, services, plans, and benefits pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-59-19, a copy of which is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the department's 2008-09 annual report includes an executive summary, information on the department's divisions, information on the department's performance, and rate comparisons. He said for fiscal year 2009, actual agency spending on information technology services from the Information Technology Department totaled approximately \$46.5 million, of which approximately 9 percent was for telephone services, 14 percent for network services, 22 percent for software development services, and 30 percent for computer hosting services.

During fiscal year 2009, Mr. Ressler said state agencies completed nine large information technology projects. Of the nine projects, he said, seven projects were completed on or under budget resulting in savings of \$399,711. He said four of the nine projects were completed within the acceptable 20 percent schedule variance. He said one project--the Legislative Assembly's legislative applications

replacement project--was terminated after spending \$2,428,848.

Mr. Ressler provided the following update on the department's performance measures:

Performance Measures	Baseline (Previous Years)	Current Status (June 2009)	Target
Acceptable level of total net assets	2006 - 1.4 2007 - 1.7 2008 - 1.4	1.7	< or = to 2.0
Percentage of Information Technology Department rates reported in the annual report that are competitive	2006 - 100% 2007 - 100% 2008 - 100%	100%	100%
Total number of customer projects and service requests completed: • Service requests • Incidents	2008 32,105 53,738	33,243 55,421	Monitor Monitor
Customer satisfaction indexes (percentages satisfied or very satisfied) related to: • Value • Timeliness • Quality • Knowledge • Professionalism and courtesy	2007 - 2008 87.3% - 86.9% 87.4% - 86.9% 95.5% - 93.0% 94.8% - 97.0% 97.1% - 99.0%	83.9% 92.2% 95.3% 96.8% 100.0%	92% 97% 97% 98% 100%
Employee satisfaction index	2006-07 - 2.13 2007-08 - 2.13	2.14	2.0
Controllable employee turnover	2007 - 4.6% 2008 - 6.8%	3.6%	Below 6.0%
Percentage of service levels met	100%	100%	100%
Percentage of strategic business plan objectives completed or on schedule	2007 - 46% 2008 - 43%	61.5%	75%

Mr. Ressler said the department monitors the cost and revenue for each service to ensure that a service is not subsidizing another service. He said the federal government does not allow the department to charge rates that generate revenues in excess of costs; therefore, the department monitors its cash balances

and adjusts rates accordingly. He said the department also monitors other entity's fees for similar services in an effort to maintain quality services at a fair price. The following is a summary of rate comparisons for the services that generate a majority of the department's total revenue:

Service	North Dakota Information Technology Department Rates	South Dakota Bureau of Information and Telecommunications Rates	Montana Information Technology Services Division Rates	Minnesota Office of Enterprise Technology Rates
Central computer central processing unit (CPU rates)	Batch CPU - \$1.17 per second CICS CPU - \$1.17 per second ADABAS CPU - \$1.23 per second TSO CPU - \$1.17 per second	Batch CPU - \$1.59 per second CICS CPU - \$1.59 per second ADABAS CPU - \$1.59 per second TSO CPU - \$1.59 per second	Batch CPU - \$2.80 per second CICS CPU - \$.93 per second ADABAS CPU - \$1.73 per second TSO CPU - \$3.71 per second	Batch CPU - N/A CICS CPU - N/A ADABAS CPU - N/A TSO CPU - N/A
Network fees	Device fee - \$43.50 per device per month DSL service - Actual cost (ranges from \$40 to \$199) ETS-5 service - \$890 per month	Device fee - \$39 per device per month DSL service - N/A ETS-5 service - N/A Access fee - \$66 per device per month	Device fee - \$90.50 per device per month DSL service - \$250 per month ETS-5 service - \$650 per month	Device fee - \$35 per device per month DSL service - Cost plus 15 percent ETS-5 service - Cost plus \$140 (access) \$150/mbps (bandwidth) Access fee - \$99 per device per month

Telephone Fees	
North Dakota Information Technology Department rates	Telephone line - \$24 per device per month Speaker function - \$3 per month Display function - \$5 per month Voice mail (unlimited) - \$5 per month
South Dakota Bureau of Information and Telecommunications rates	Telephone line - \$13 per device per month Speaker function - Actual cost Display function - Actual cost Voice mail (unlimited) - \$6 per month
Montana Information Technology Services Division rates	Telephone line - \$14 per device per month Speaker function - \$7 to \$11 per month Display function - \$10 to \$18 per month Voice mail (three-minute limit) - \$5 per month Voice mail (six-minute limit) - \$8 per month Voice mail (eight-minute limit) - \$10 per month
Minnesota Office of Enterprise Technology rates	Telephone line - \$54 per device per month (Voice over Internet Protocol) Speaker function - Actual cost Display function - Actual cost Voice mail (unlimited) - \$6 per month

Long Distance	
North Dakota Information Technology Department rates	In state - \$.075 per minute Out of state - \$.075 per minute 800 service - \$.07 per minute
South Dakota Bureau of Information and Telecommunications rates	In state - \$.08 per minute Out of state - \$.09 per minute 800 service - \$.09 per minute
Montana Information Technology Services Division rates	In state - \$.105 per minute Out of state - \$.105 per minute 800 service - \$.10 per minute
Minnesota Department of Administration rates	In state - \$.07 per minute Out of state - \$.20 per minute 800 service - \$.049 per minute

Software Development		
	Location	Billing Rate Per Hour of Service
Information Technology Department	Bismarck, North Dakota	\$63 to \$75
Applied Engineering, Inc.	Bismarck, North Dakota	\$75 to \$125
Eide Bailly LLP	Bismarck, North Dakota	\$95 to \$155
Enterprise Solutions, Inc.	Bismarck, North Dakota	\$95 to \$140
Nexus Innovations	Bismarck, North Dakota	\$95 to \$125
Vision Technology, Inc.	Bismarck, North Dakota	\$70 to \$75
Everest Consultants, Inc.	Beaverton, Oregon	\$63 to \$100
CIBER, Inc.	Vancouver, Washington	\$65 to \$100
Compuware	Plymouth, Minnesota	\$80 to \$125
Maximus	Rancho Cordova, California	\$145 to \$185

In response to a question from Senator Robinson, Mr. Ressler said the department anticipates phasing out the mainframe computer in approximately four to six years.

In response to a question from Representative Skarphol, Mr. Ressler said the department's enterprise architecture teams are working on developing a policy regarding the use of social networking websites.

In response to a question from Senator Wardner, Mr. Ressler said the department is having difficulties recruiting employees in the areas of quality assurance, database management, and disk systems.

Representative Skarphol suggested the committee receive a summary of customer complaints received through the department's annual customer survey. Chairman Robinson asked the Information

Technology Department to provide this information to the committee at its next meeting.

In response to a question from Representative Skarphol, Mr. Ressler said the department has completed a study of the State Data Center. He said the State Data Center will need electrical and ventilation upgrades in the future. He said the department is considering partnering with the private sector for the State Data Center services.

Other Information

Mr. Ressler provided information regarding federal grants anticipated to be received by the state for information technology projects. He said the state has been awarded a \$912,722 grant from the United States Department of Commerce and United States Department of Transportation for the implementation and operation of enhanced 911 services. He said the

purpose of the grant is to develop a 911 system that can identify the location of all mobile users dialing 911. He said the grant will be administered by the Emergency Services Communications Coordinating Committee.

Mr. Ressler said the Information Technology Department has applied for a \$3.7 million grant from the United States Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration for identifying and documenting all the broadband connectivity available in the state. He said the United States Department of Commerce will award one grant to each state to create a national broadband map.

Mr. Ressler said the Information Technology Department is also applying for a federal grant for costs associated with establishing a statewide longitudinal data system. He said the Department of Public Instruction has already been awarded a \$6 million federal grant for establishing the student component of the statewide longitudinal data system.

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES

Mr. Dan Pullen, Director, Educational Technology Council, provided information regarding elementary and secondary education information technology initiatives, including video utilization. A copy of the information presented is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the Educational Technology Council's legislative appropriation for the 2009-11 biennium includes funding of \$604,750 from the general fund for grants, including \$349,000 for classroom transformation grants and \$255,750 for video classroom grants. He said the council anticipates providing classroom transformation grants of up to \$20,000 each to approximately 18 to 24 schools and providing video classroom grants to approximately 30 schools.

Mr. Pullen provided the following elementary and secondary education video utilization statistics:

Elementary and Secondary Education Classrooms Scheduled on the Statewide Wide Area Network	
October 2, 2007	80
October 2, 2008	120
October 2, 2009	157

Video Endpoints (Elementary and Secondary Education and State Government)	
April 2008	6,200
April 2009	8,100

Elementary and Secondary Education Video Classroom Grants	
2005-07 biennium	23
2007-09 biennium	23
2009-11 biennium	30 estimated

Elementary and Secondary Education Core Curriculum Course Enrollments Through Video	
2008-09 school year	32 percent
2009-10 school year	40 percent

In response to a question from Senator Christmann, Mr. Pullen said the number of core curriculum courses offered through video is increasing.

Representative Skarphol suggested the committee receive information regarding the core curriculum courses being offered through video, including the types of courses and the schools offering the courses, and information regarding dual-credit courses offered through video. Chairman Robinson asked the Educational Technology Council to provide this information to the committee at its next meeting.

In response to a question from Representative Skarphol, Mr. Pullen said the Information Technology Department has completed an upgrade to the elementary and secondary education portion of the statewide wide area network. He said the upgrade allows school districts to connect at 10 megabytes.

HIGHER EDUCATION INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES

Mr. Rich Lehn, Assistant to the Chief Information Officer, North Dakota University System, provided information regarding higher education information technology planning, services, and major projects pursuant to Section 15-10-44. A copy of the information presented is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the University System is in the preplanning phase of an integrated services initiative. He said the objectives of the initiative are to:

- Improve the integration of systemwide applications.
- Provide a more consistent end user experience for students, faculty, and staff.
- Improve coordination of resources, applications, and processes.
- Provide better support for collaborative students.

Mr. Lehn said the initiative consists of the following three projects:

- Project 1 - Phased migration to an active directory single forest/domain model.
- Project 2 - Implementation of a common e-mail and calendar system.
- Project 3 - Implementation of a common framework for unified communications.

Mr. Lehn said other higher education information technology projects include:

- Implementation of a data warehouse.
- Implementation of Wimba, a suite of interactive, web-based software collaboration and communication tools.
- Implementation of Moodle, an open source learning management system.

In response to a question from Senator Christmann, Mr. Lehn said higher education institutions are currently using a variety of e-mail systems. He said one of the objectives of the integrated services initiative is to implement a

common e-mail system for the entire University System.

In response to a question from Senator Christmann, Mr. Lehn said the University System has not yet prepared a budget for the integrated services initiative.

Representative Mock suggested the committee receive information regarding the usage by higher education institutions of systems such as Moodle, Blackboard, and other similar systems. Chairman Robinson asked the University System to provide this information to the committee at its next meeting.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Sheldon Wolf, Health Information Technology Director, Information Technology Department, provided information regarding the status of health information technology activities pursuant to 2009 Senate Bill No. 2332. A copy of the information presented is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said 2009 Senate Bill No. 2332 establishes a Health Information Technology Advisory Committee consisting of the Chief Information Officer, the State Health Officer, the Governor, the executive director of the Department of Human Services, and individuals appointed by the Governor and the State Health Officer to represent a broad range of public and private health information technology stakeholders. He said the bill also establishes a Health Information Technology Office in the Information Technology Department.

Mr. Wolf said the Information Technology Department has been notified that the state will be receiving a \$5,343,733 grant from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology for implementing a statewide health information technology and exchange network. He said the grant is for four years and the match requirements are as follows:

Year 1	\$0 of state funds for each federal dollar
Year 2	\$1 of state funds for each \$10 of federal dollars
Year 3	\$1 of state funds for each \$7 of federal dollars
Year 4	\$1 of state funds for each \$3 of federal dollars

Mr. Wolf said the official grant award announcement will be made on December 15, 2009, and the anticipated project start date is January 15, 2010.

Mr. Wolf said the next steps for the Health Information Technology Office and the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee are to:

- Complete a strategic plan for the statewide health information technology and exchange network.
- Complete an operational plan for the statewide health information technology and exchange network.
- Receive approval from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology of both plans.

- Implement the statewide health information technology and exchange network.

In response to a question from Representative Skarphol, Mr. Wolf said the state will be applying for additional health information technology grants.

In response to a question from Representative Weisz, Mr. Wolf said the department is waiting for information from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology regarding grants for implementing electronic health record systems.

In response to a question from Representative Skarphol, Mr. Wolf said the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee will decide how the grant funds from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology will be used.

Representative Skarphol suggested the committee receive information regarding statutory provisions regarding the Information Technology Department providing network services to health care providers. Chairman Robinson asked the Legislative Council staff to provide this information.

LARGE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT REPORTING

Quarterly Summary Status Report

Mr. Mark Molesworth, Information Technology Business Analyst, Information Technology Department, provided information regarding the quarterly summary status report on large information technology projects, including any department concerns regarding the projects. A copy of the information presented is on file in the Legislative Council office. For the period ending September 30, 2009, he said, the following three projects were reported in the planning stage:

- Office of Management and Budget - ConnectND system enterprise learning module.
- Department of Public Instruction - North Dakota state longitudinal education data system planning project - Phase 1.
- Department of Transportation - Facial recognition project.

Mr. Molesworth said the following two projects were moved into the execution phase:

- Tax Department - Taxpayer access program and oil and tax integration.
- Legislative Council - Legislative enterprise North Dakota (LEGEND) project.

Mr. Molesworth said the following projects were reported complete:

Agency	Project	Budget Variance	Schedule Variance
Department of Human Services	Master client index	Within budget variance	Within schedule variance
Department of Human Services	Office Vision mail replacement project	Within budget variance	On schedule

Mr. Molesworth said the following five projects have reported budget or schedule variances and are being monitored:

Agency	Project	Budget or Schedule Variance
State Treasurer's office	Tax distribution rewrite	The project is behind schedule largely due to tax-related changes approved by the 2009 Legislative Assembly being incorporated into the project.
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Inmate medical system	The project is behind schedule. The implementation of the application at the initial site was successful, but implementation of the application at subsequent sites is taking longer than anticipated.
State Department of Health	Disease surveillance and management system	The project is expected to be implemented in October 2009 approximately two months after the project's baseline end date.
Department of Human Services	Medicaid management information system replacement project	The project's implementation date has been extended from May 2010 to April 2011.
Workforce Safety and Insurance	Information technology transformation project	The project continues to experience delays in schedule.

Other Information

Mr. Molesworth said information technology project management standards define a stakeholder as a person or organization that is actively involved in the project; has interests that may be positively or negatively affected by the performance or completion of the project; or may exert influence over the project, its deliverables, or its team members. He said the Information Technology Committee meets these requirements, and, therefore, he believes the committee is a stakeholder in information technology projects. He said it is his understanding that the Information Technology Committee has authorized the department's large project oversight personnel to engage in information technology projects, including reviewing documents, attending meetings, and offering advice. He asked the committee to reaffirm this authority.

Chairman Robinson said the committee will review statutory provisions regarding the oversight of information technology projects at the committee's next meeting.

Mr. Molesworth distributed a sample large information technology project variance report. A copy of the report is on file in the Legislative Council office. He asked for the committee's support regarding the inclusion of current project schedule and budget variance information on the department's quarterly summary status report.

It was moved by Representative Skarphol, seconded by Representative Weisz, and carried on a roll call vote that the Information Technology Committee supports the inclusion of project schedule and cost variance information on the Information Technology Department's quarterly summary status report. Senators Robinson, Seymour, and Wardner and Representatives Mock, Skarphol, Sukut, Weisz, and Winrich voted "aye." Senator Christmann voted "nay."

The committee recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Department of Human Services

Ms. Jennifer Witham, Director, Information Technology Services, Department of Human Services, provided information regarding the status of the department's Medicaid management information system replacement project. A copy of the information presented is on file in the Legislative Council office. On August 18, 2009, she said, ACS--the project vendor-- formally proposed a change to the project schedule requesting to extend the go-live date from May 2010 to April 2011 due to product development issues. She said the department is in the process of assessing the revised project workplan and the effect the revised workplan will have on the department and other third-party vendors. At this time, she said, the department does not anticipate any additional costs to the state for the delay in the schedule. She provided the following project funding summary through September 2009:

Description	Budget	Spent Through September 2009	Remaining
General fund	\$3,643,133	\$2,647,533	\$995,600
Federal funds	55,218,418	29,340,111	25,878,307
Other funds	3,667,820	1,190,564	2,477,256
Total	\$62,529,371	\$33,178,208	\$29,351,163

In response to a question from Representative Skarphol, Ms. Witham said the regional office for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is monitoring the project.

In response to a question from Senator Christmann, Ms. Witham said the department's stakeholders are disappointed with the project delay.

Chairman Robinson asked the department to keep the committee informed on the status of the project.

Ms. Witham provided a project closeout report for the department's electronic benefits transfer procurement project. A copy of the report is on file in the Legislative Council office. She said the purpose of the project was to procure a vendor to provide electronic benefits transfer of food stamp benefits.

She said the project was completed in June 2009 approximately two months earlier than the scheduled completion date of August 2009. She said the project was completed under budget with actual expenditures of \$130,278 compared to a project budget of \$320,000.

LEGEND Update

Mr. Jason J. Steckler, Information Technology Director, Legislative Council, provided information regarding the status of the LEGEND project. He said the project is currently 13.4 percent under budget and 2.3 percent ahead of schedule. He said the project team has completed 3 of 10 payment milestone points, developed and tested integration points, and developed a data conversion strategy document and schedule. He said staff will continue to provide updates to the Legislative Management and the interim Information Technology Committee.

At the request of Chairman Robinson, Mr. Steckler provided information regarding handheld communications devices for members of the Legislative Assembly. He said the 2009 Legislative Assembly appropriated funds for paying a legislator's initial connection fee, monthly fees for access to the state's BlackBerry server, and monthly data plan fee. He said legislators are responsible for the cost of purchasing a handheld communications device and for the monthly voice plan.

INFORMATION SYSTEM AUDIT

Mr. Donald LaFleur, Audit Manager, Information Systems Audit Section, State Auditor's office, provided information regarding an information system audit of the Information Technology Department. A copy of the information presented is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the State Auditor's office conducts tests of the state's security processes and procedures every two years. As part of the current audit process, he said, a "spear phishing attack" was launched against state employees on the morning of October 1, 2009. He said a spear phishing attack is an e-mail fraud attempt that seeks unauthorized access to confidential data. He said the attack was targeted at approximately 530 employees at 14 state agencies. He said the purpose of the attack was to determine if employees were vulnerable to an attack and to test the state's processes for identifying and responding to an attack. He said results of the spear phishing attack and other security tests will be available at the committee's next meeting.

LARGE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT REPORTING

State Department of Health - Disease Surveillance Management System Project

Mr. Kirby Kruger, State Epidemiologist, State Department of Health, provided information regarding the status of the department's disease surveillance management system project. A copy of the

information presented is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the project consists of the implementation of a flexible and configurable, commercial, off-the-shelf electronic disease surveillance and outbreak management system. He said the project began in July 2008 with an estimated completion date of July 2009. He said the project has been delayed due to the resignation of the project manager in the fall of 2008 and due to the department needing to respond to spring flooding and the H1N1 influenza outbreak. He said the department anticipates the project will be completed by the end of October 2009.

Workforce Safety and Insurance - Information Technology Transformation Project

Mr. Bryan Klipfel, Executive Director and CEO, Workforce Safety and Insurance, provided information regarding the status of the agency's information technology transformation project. A copy of the information presented is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the project has experienced schedule delays due to delays in completion of technical specifications and corresponding custom development. As a result of the delays, he said, AON--the project vendor--has waived the annual maintenance fee for the software for the first 12 months after implementation. He said this represents a value of approximately \$500,000. He said the project management team continues to monitor schedule variance on a weekly basis and measure quality following every software delivery.

In response to a question from Senator Robinson, Mr. Klipfel said the agency's contract with AON is a fixed-price contract. He said AON has not volunteered to assist with the additional project costs incurred by other related parties due to the delays in the project schedule.

In response to a question from Representative Skarphol, Mr. Klipfel said the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$14 million for the information technology transformation project. Of the \$14 million, he said, \$1.5 million is management reserve for the project.

Representative Skarphol requested information regarding additional project costs incurred by the agency due to the project delays. Chairman Robinson asked Workforce Safety and Insurance to provide this information to the committee.

Chairman Robinson asked Workforce Safety and Insurance to keep the committee informed on the status of the project.

Bank of North Dakota - Cash Management Project

Ms. Linda Rosen, Bank of North Dakota, provided a project startup report for the Bank's cash management project. A copy of the report is on file in the Legislative Council office. She said the Bank of North Dakota is in the process of replacing its current

online system utilized by its customers with a cash management system. She said the new system will allow customers the ability to initiate transactions online in a secure environment and allow the Bank to offer additional services for the daily management of cash positions. She said the estimated cost of the project is \$255,625, and the project is anticipated to be completed in February 2010.

**Department of Public Instruction -
Direct Certification Process Project**

Mr. Steve Snow, Director, Management Information Systems, Department of Public Instruction, provided a project startup report for the department's direct certification project. A copy of the report is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the purpose of the project is to implement a direct certification process within the department for the purpose of simplifying the process of providing free meals at school to low-income children. He said direct certification identifies children who are eligible for free meals because their households are approved for food stamp or temporary assistance for needy families benefits. School districts can certify these "categorically eligible" children for the National School Lunch Program benefits based on information provided by other agencies and thereby eliminate the need for households to submit an application for meal benefits. He said the estimated cost of the project is \$717,178, and the project is anticipated to be completed in June 2010.

**Department of Emergency Services -
Computer-Aided Dispatch System Project**

Mr. Mike Lynk, Director, Division of State Radio, Department of Emergency Services, provided a project startup report for the department's computer-aided dispatch system project. A copy of the report is on file in the Legislative Council office. He said the Department of Emergency Services' Division of State Radio will acquire and implement a computer-aided dispatch system. He said a computer-aided dispatch

system is a method of dispatching emergency services assisted by computer. He said the estimated cost of the project is \$1,794,276, and the project is anticipated to be completed in May 2010. He said the project is currently approximately 13 percent behind schedule and approximately 28 percent under budget.

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND
STAFF DIRECTIVES**

Chairman Robinson said he is concerned with the delays with the Department of Human Services' Medicaid management information system replacement project and Workforce Safety and Insurance's information technology transformation project.

Chairman Robinson said tentatively, the committee's next meeting will be in January 2010 followed by a spring meeting in Minot and a summer meeting in Fargo.

Senator O'Connell asked for information regarding statewide information technology estimated expenditures for the 2009-11 biennium. Chairman Robinson asked the Information Technology Department and the Legislative Council to provide information to the committee and Senator O'Connell on statewide information technology funding identified in agency information technology plans.

The committee adjourned subject to the call of the chairman at 2:33 p.m.

Roxanne Woeste
Assistant Legislative Budget Analyst and Auditor

Allen H. Knudson
Legislative Budget Analyst and Auditor

ATTACH:1