

**MINUTES  
of the  
FIRST MEETING  
of the  
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**June 11, 2009  
Room 307, State Capitol  
Santa Fe**

The first meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2009, by Representative Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales, chair, in Room 307 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

**Present**

Rep. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales, Chair  
Sen. Stephen H. Fischmann, Vice Chair  
Rep. Janice E. Arnold-Jones  
Sen. Dede Feldman  
Sen. Phil A. Griego  
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert  
Rep. Nick L. Salazar  
Rep. Luciano "Lucky" Varela

**Absent**

Sen. Vernon D. Asbill  
Sen. Kent L. Cravens  
Sen. Linda M. Lopez  
Rep. Debbie A. Rodella  
Rep. Richard D. Vigil

**Advisory Members**

Sen. Mark Boitano  
Rep. Karen E. Giannini  
Rep. Kathy A. McCoy  
Rep. Danice Picraux  
Rep. Jeannette O. Wallace

Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros  
Rep. Ben Lujan  
Sen. Richard C. Martinez  
Sen. William H. Payne  
Sen. John M. Sapien  
Rep. Don L. Tripp

**Staff**

Gordon Meeks  
Ralph Vincent  
Mark Harben

**Guests**

The guest list is in the original meeting file.

The chair announced that he will start every meeting on time. Committee members then introduced themselves.

**Thursday, June 11**

**Interim Committee Meeting Protocols**

Paula Tackett, director, Legislative Council Service (LCS), gave an overview on the protocol for interim committee meetings. She explained that the New Mexico Legislative Council decided to clarify interim committee protocols because some issues were not covered last year. Ms. Tackett discussed the definition of a "quorum" in order to conduct business as a voting committee and said that once a quorum is established, it is assumed to exist unless challenged. According to Ms. Tackett, if a challenge is issued, only voting members can vote; while advisory members may express their views, their vote cannot be counted formally. Membership of committees may be adjusted to make sure there is a quorum for purposes of conducting a meeting. She said this maneuver is intended to allow the committees to function officially and is not designed to change the outcome of a particular vote.

Ms. Tackett stated that a member may resign at any time, but the council must replace that member in a way to maintain the balance and proportion of partisan membership of the legislature as a whole. A special subcommittee may conduct business of the committee but not take formal votes. That special subcommittee can be 10 members composed of either voting or non-voting members, but no formal votes may be taken by that subcommittee. Another special subcommittee may consist of five members, including the chair and one member each of both parties from both chambers.

The majority of members of the committee of one chamber may block the formal action proposed even if the other chamber's members constitute a majority of the committee members present, according to Ms. Tackett. There are exceptions to this rule, but the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee is not exempted. The chair may designate someone else to preside over the committee for limited periods.

She told the committee that the sound systems in committee meeting rooms are adjusted to automatically adjust the volume. Some conditions may obstruct the microphones and affect volume. Seating capacity in the Capitol was designed to accommodate committees in the 1970s and 1980s. As many committee members as possible are seated at the dais, and the patience of committee members is appreciated if members have to be seated at an auxiliary table.

The council has asked the staff to develop a schedule that minimizes conflicts of voting members, she explained. Raúl Burciaga, LCS, has created a schedule with a minimal amount of conflicts, so Ms. Tackett asked the members to avoid making changes unless absolutely necessary.

She discussed the per diem rules, including travel days that are eligible for per diem. She also explained that each legislator may attend other committees and obtain per diem for up to four days with prior approval from either the speaker or pro tem. Travel out of state may also be approved but must be done so prior to the travel.

Ms. Tackett indicated that current legislator contact information is necessary, and that this information will be kept confidential if requested.

Mr. Burciaga explained the schedule and rationale for the dates selected and the effort to avoid conflicts.

Mr. Meeks discussed where the committee plans to meet and commented on the proposed work plan.

Members of the committee discussed the updated work plan. They explored topics such as the super computer, Los Alamos National Laboratory and the committee's calendar.

### **FCC Rules for Emergency Response Radio Frequencies**

Jim Hand from the Gila Regional Medical Center briefly explained an order issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandating that all Part 90 business, educational, industrial public safety and state and local government VHF (150-174 MHz) and UHF (421-512 MHz) private land mobile radio (PLMR) licensees convert their radio system operations from legacy wideband (25 KHz) to narrowband (12.5 KHz), or the equivalent spectrum utilization by January 1, 2013. He discussed the migration process to the new standards and the misconceptions associated with the transition and asked to appear before the committee at a later date for a more extensive presentation on the issue.

The committee asked how much this conversion is going to cost. Mr. Hand estimated the cost at \$5 million for the Gila Regional Medical Center alone.

### **Department of Information Technology Status Report**

Marlin Mackey, secretary of information technology, provided the committee with a legislative update. He discussed the services that the department provides to the state, including enterprise application and desktop services; voice communication services; hosting and storage services; and data network and internet services. Mr. Mackey explained the department's strategic initiatives, including implementing the statewide broadband network; setting policy and planning for a secure data center and network; implementing business continuity and disaster recovery service; and defining the Department of Information Technology's long-term funding model. He commented on 2009 legislation that affects the department, such as House Bill 729, House Memorial 78 and House Joint Memorial 81.

The department has a staff of 219 total positions (39 are vacant), and the budget for fiscal year 2010, according to Mr. Mackey, totals \$62,767,700. He also discussed the SHARE program, stating that a SHARE system manager has been hired, consolidation of technical resources is underway and a master project schedule has been developed. Mr. Mackey explained the IT consolidation plans for data center preparation; production server plans; production storage locations; recovery systems; and master license agreements. He mentioned the New Mexico Super Computer Initiative, stating that the system is operational, the computer assets remain with the department and the operations are with NMCAC. The secretary discussed the

federal stimulus funds for broadband that will be coming to New Mexico. The goal of the grant is to provide service for non- and under-served areas, and the anticipated size of the grant is estimated to be from \$30 million to \$100 million. Guidelines are expected on June 22.

Questions and discussion from the committee addressed:

- the competence of SHARE managers;
- antiquated systems in state agencies;
- the proposed budget of the department;
- methodology;
- results of the 2008 audit;
- membership of the Information Technology Commission;
- status of consolidation of all servers;
- whether there are backup servers; and
- the site for disaster recovery information technology.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.