

**MINUTES OF THE  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

Thursday, August 17, 2000 – 1:00 p.m. – Room 403 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. David H. Steele, Chair  
Rep. Blake D. Chard, Chair  
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow  
Rep. David L. Zolman  
Mr. Ronald L. Fox  
Mr. Cameron V. Francis  
Ms. Nancy CW Gibbs  
Mr. Robert W. Hood  
Mr. Leon Miller  
Mr. David C. Moon  
Mr. David A. Packer  
Mr. Jerry P. Peterson

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Robert Montgomery

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Scott N. Howell  
Justice Matthew B. Durrant  
Mr. Peter R. Genereaux  
Mr. Garth Howard  
Commissioner Stephen F. Mecham  
Mr. Jerold G. Oldroyd  
Dr. Mike Petersen

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Richard C. North,  
Research Analyst  
Ms. Tani Pack Downing,  
Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Junie G. Anderson,  
Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present and a copy of materials distributed in the meeting are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

**1. Call to Order** - Chair Chard called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gibbs moved to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2000 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Peterson was absent for the vote.

**2. Electronic Government Services Amendments - Natural Resources** - Mr. Jerry Olds, Utah Division of Water Rights, said his office is striving to become a paperless office by utilizing electronic services.

Mr. North discussed draft legislation titled “Electronic Government Services Amendments - Natural Resources” that was mailed to commission members prior to the meeting.

**MOTION:** Rep. Goodfellow moved to approve draft legislation titled “Electronic Government Services Amendments - Natural Resources” as a commission bill and offered to sponsor the bill in the 2001 General Session. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Peterson was absent for the vote.

**3. How Will The New Federal Electronic Signature Act, The Utah Electronic Transactions Act, and The Utah Digital Signature Program Work Together?** - Mr. Robert Stewart - State Digital Signature Coordinator, briefed the commission on the history of Utah’s Digital Signature Act. He said federal and state laws regarding the federal E-Sign Act and UETA

overlap which may cause some problems. He said Utah's Digital Signature Act has not been preempted by the Federal E-Sign Act and the body of academic scholarship, at present, indicates that Utah can continue to use its Digital Signature Act in certain circumstances. He suggested some non-substantial changes to the Digital Signature Act to make it clear to all parties that Utah is technology neutral and a digital signature is optional.

Sen. Steele recommended that a more affirmative statement be made by Mr. Stewart in his position paper that was mailed to commission members prior to the meeting to clarify that the digital signature is still valid and optional.

**4. Geographic Information Systems** - Mr. Dennis Goreham, Department of Administrative Services, gave a slide presentation titled "Geographic Information Systems Implementation in Utah." He distributed a copy of the presentation.

Mr. Leon Miller, Director - Division of Information Technology Services, said ITS needs support of the commission along with the Executive Appropriation Committee to increase the base budget to \$676,600.

**MOTION:** Mr. Fox moved to approve line item support for the Office of Geographic Center (AGRC), and to notify the Executive Appropriations Committee, the Executive Branch, the CIO, and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget that the commission strongly supports funding for AGRC on a continuous basis, as it has vital support to the state and local government and is an established public resource that should be available to the public through funding from the state. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Goodfellow was absent for the vote.

**5. Should Utah's Government Records And Management Act Be Revisited To Determine If It Covers Electronic Mediums/Records?** - Chair Steele briefed the commission on previous methods of managing government records. He asked commission members if the "Government Records Access Management Act" (GRAMA) should be re-examined as it relates to electronic dissemination/retention of records.

Mr. Jeffrey Johnson, State Archivist, explained that GRAMA is a unique law and covers electronic records. He discussed the membership and responsibilities of the State Records Committee and guidelines in the law specifying who has access to records and how the records can be used. He also discussed retention of official documents sent by e-mail.

Mr. Joel Campbell, Utah Press Association, distributed handouts titled "Is GRAMA ready for the Information Age?" and "Groups say eFOI law being ignored by government agencies." He discussed the contents of the handouts. He also expressed the importance of selecting electronic systems for storing records that could be easily accessible to the general public.

Ms. Betsy Wolf, Salt Lake Community Action Program, indicated that if the commission were to recommend setting up a task force or work group to study the issues of electronic records, it should represent a broad base of members from the public, citizens groups, and business groups.

**6. What Is The Digital Divide? Who Is Affected By It? How Is State Government Addressing The Issue?** - Chair Steele briefed the commission on the Digital Divide issue and gave a slide presentation titled "Falling Through the Net: Defining the Digital Divide." A copy of the presentation was provided for inclusion in the history of the meeting.

Mr. Dave Moon, Chief Information Office, distributed handouts titled "Summary of Recent Initiatives to Encourage Delivery of Broadband Services to All Utah Citizens," "What Needs to Be Done to Further Address Digital Divide Issues," and "Progress Report - Digital State Goals," and discussed the contents.

Ms. Wolf stressed the importance of access to computers and expressed concern for low-income or disabled citizens who do not have enough financial resources to gain that access. She said her organization would be willing to work with government in finding solutions to this issue.

**7. Commission Business** - Chair Chard announced that he was elected as Director of Youth Corrections for the state and will resign from the legislature on August 27. He also welcomed Mr. Cameron Francis and Mr. Jerry Oldroyd as new members of the commission.

Sen. Steele expressed appreciation on behalf of the commission to Chair Chard for his service and dedication to the commission.

Mr. Fox expressed appreciation on behalf of the commission to Mr. Moon for his service and dedication to the commission also.

**8. Adjourn** -

**MOTION:** Ms. Gibbs moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:09 p.m. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Goodfellow, Mr. Hood, and Mr. Peterson were absent for the vote.

