

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

February 2, 2006

1. ROLL CALL

The Legislative Council meeting was called to order at 5:13 p.m. by Representative Kott, Chairman, Legislative Council, in the Senate Finance Committee Room and via teleconference.

The roll was taken. In attendance were Council members: Representatives Kott, Coghill, Gatto, Harris, Rokeberg, Weyhrauch, Senators Cowdery (via teleconference), Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Therriault, Wagoner, and Davis. Members absent: Senator Wilken and Representative Berkowitz. Staff present: Varni, Ohmer, Bannister, Clothier, Collins, Cook, Ibesate, Maher, O'Hare, Popely (via teleconference), Price, Schofield, and Williams.

2. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 26, 2006 MINUTES

Representative Weyhrauch moved Legislative Council approve the minutes of the January 26, 2006, Council meeting.

YEAS: Kott, Coghill, Gatto, Harris, Rokeberg, Weyhrauch, Cowdery, and Davis

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Therriault, Wagoner, Wilken, and Berkowitz

The motion passed 8 - 0.

3. DATA PROCESSING ISSUES:

INSTANT MESSAGING

Mr. Clothier, Data Processing Manager, for the Legislative Affairs Agency discussed issues surrounding the use of public Instant Messaging (IM) services

in the Legislature and offered an alternative. Mr. Clothier stated the public Instant Messaging services we're all familiar with: *AOL Instant Messenger*, *Yahoo Chat*, *MSN Messenger*, *Google Talk*, all have security and interoperability issues. Based on increased use of Instant Messaging, coupled with the rise in security threats, Mr. Clothier's recommendation is to block public IM systems on the network and offer an in-house IM system for staff needing to communicate with other legislative users. Mr. Clothier further stated by doing this, the Agency will be removing a large security risk, and will standardize Instant Messaging clients along with providing a service that is managed and supported.

Discussion followed regarding Instant Messaging.

Speaker Harris moved that Legislative Council approve blocking public Instant Messaging traffic immediately, and support the distribution of a secure, internal Instant Messaging system for legislative employees who need this tool.

YEAS: Kott, Coghill, Gatto, Harris, Rokeberg, Weyhrauch, Cowdery, and Davis

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Therriault, Wagoner, Wilken, and Berkowitz

The motion passed 8 - 0.

LAPTOP COMPUTERS

Mr. Clothier, Data Processing Manager, for the Legislative Affairs Agency affirmed over the past three years, Data Processing has seen an increase in the number of offices wishing to use laptop computers for projects, presentations, and travel (including the annual legislative moves). In addition to the requests for state owned laptops, Data Processing has seen an increase in the number of requests to let staff and legislators use their personal laptops on the state network. Last May, in an attempt to better understand the needs for laptop computers in the Legislature, Data Processing conducted a survey of the 60 legislative offices. Mr. Clothier further stated, 28 of the 60 legislative offices responded that they "would prefer a laptop computer, over a desktop computer." Additionally, a number of offices said they prefer both a laptop and a desktop.

Mr. Clothier stated that currently offices either buy their own laptop with their office accounts, or ask the Rules Chairs to assist with funding. This arrangement works fine when there are only a few requests for laptops. However, if Legislative Council believes providing laptop computers to members' offices is in the best interest of the Legislature, it makes sense to fund a single large order of laptops, for pricing breaks, standardization, and ease of support. Additional

state-owned laptops may also reduce the number of legislators personal laptops used on our network. Mr. Clothier further stated if this proposal for funding were accepted, he would contact each legislative office to ensure they would use a laptop and then create an order based on those responses. Once the laptops are delivered, they could be assigned to the legislators as Accountable Property. The legislator could make the laptop available to staff in their office. However, for inventory purposes, the legislator will be the person responsible for the laptop. Data Processing would also conduct a required laptop orientation session for those offices that wish to receive a laptop.

President Ben Stevens joined the meeting.

Senators Therriault, Gary Stevens, and Wagoner joined the meeting.

Discussion followed regarding laptop computers.

Representative Rokeberg stated he was prepared to make a motion under the proviso that the quantity, price points, and cycling be discussed with the various Rules Chairs.

Representative Rokeberg moved that Legislative Council approve the solicitation, award, and expenditure not to exceed \$108,000 for laptop computers from Legislative Council funds.

YEAS: Kott, Coghill, Gatto, Harris, Rokeberg, Weyhrauch, Cowdery, Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Therriault, Wagoner, and Davis

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wilken and Berkowitz

The motion passed 12 - 0.

4. EAGLE RIVER OFFICE SPACE RENEWAL

Ms. Varni, Executive Director, for the Legislative Affairs Agency stated Legislative Council has a three-year lease agreement for Eagle River office space with a one-year renewal option. The one-year renewal option before the Legislative Council runs from May 1, 2006 – April 30, 2007. The price per square foot is \$1.25 and the total lease amount is \$28,440 per year.

Senator Therriault moved Legislative Council approve the first and only renewal option for the office space in Eagle River with Eagle Financial Center, LLC in the amount of \$28,440 for one-year.

YEAS: Kott, Coghill, Gatto, Harris, Rokeberg, Weyhrauch, Cowdery, Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Therriault, Wagoner, and Davis

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wilken and Berkowitz

The motion passed 12 - 0.

5. JUNEAU STORAGE APPROVAL

Ms. Varni, Executive Director, for the Legislative Affairs Agency stated at the September 9, 2005, Legislative Council meeting, Legislative Council approved the Agency joining the Department of Administration in their Request for Proposals for a combined State Property Warehouse and Juneau storage. Legislative Council approval is required because the yearly lease exceeds \$25,000. The new lease is for 2,825 square feet. The previous agreement was for 6,000 square feet. The price per square foot increased. The new space includes heat and electrical outlets. It is located on the ground floor, has a large garage door, parking space, and its own separate entrance.

Senator Therriault moved Legislative Council approve the Executive Director signing a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Administration for 2,825 square feet of Juneau storage space for \$1.24 per square foot plus applicable CPI annual adjustments effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2016, with five, two-year renewal options.

YEAS: Kott, Coghill, Gatto, Harris, Rokeberg, Weyhrauch, Cowdery, Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Therriault, Wagoner, and Davis

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wilken and Berkowitz

The motion passed 12 – 0.

Senator Therriault requested Items #6 and #7 on the Agenda be postponed until a later date, at which time Senator Wilken would be able to attend and introduce the items. It was so ordered.

8. SECURITY ANALYSIS

Chairman Kott informed Legislative Council that a few years ago a security analysis was completed on the Capitol as well as the Terry Miller Legislative Office Building. An outside firm performed the survey, and the Legislative Council

acted on a number of their recommendations. If Legislative Council is interested, he will dust off the survey, and provide Legislative Council members with a list of which items have been completed and which items are still open. Legislative Council could then address items that have not been completed or have the facilities re-evaluated from a security standpoint. Chairman Kott indicated that at a future meeting, he would present these items to Legislative Council members in an Executive Session.

9. NOTIFICATION TO COUNCIL OF PROTEST ON THE FAIRBANKS OFFICE SPACE RFP

Chairman Kott notified members that Legislative Council has received a protest for RFP #428, Fairbanks Office space. Per the procurement procedures, Legislative Council will be responding to the protest within the allotted 14 days. If any Legislative Council member has any concerns regarding the response, please let the Legislative Council Chair know within the next week or so.

10. SANCTIONING OF CHARITABLE EVENTS

Representative Weyhrauch moved to approve the events.

Senator Therriault amended the motion that the Legislative Council sanction the HealthWorks, Fahrenkamp Classic Charity Putting Tournament, and Legislative Skits, Inc., charitable events to be held this session per AS 24.60.080(c)10.

YEAS: Kott, Coghill, Gatto, Harris, Rokeberg, Weyhrauch, Cowdery, Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Therriault, Wagoner, and Davis

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wilken and Berkowitz

The motion passed 12 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.