

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
APRIL 12-13, 2017  
7:01 AM

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Representative Sam Kito, Chair  
Senator Bert Stedman, Vice Chair  
Representative Matt Claman  
Representative Bryce Edgmon  
Representative David Guttenberg  
Representative Charisse Millett (Day 2)  
Representative Dan Ortiz  
Representative Louise Stutes  
Representative Harriet Drummond, Majority Alternate (Day 1)  
Representative David Eastman, Minority Alternate  
Senator Pete Kelly (Day 1)  
Senator Anna MacKinnon  
Senator Kevin Meyer  
Senator Peter Micciche  
Senator Gary Stevens  
Senator Cathy Giessel, Alternate

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Representative Charisse Millett (Day 1)  
Representative Harriet Drummond, Majority Alternate (Day 2)  
Senator Lyman Hoffman (Day 1 and 2)  
Senator Pete Kelly (Day 2)

**AGENDA**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS

**SPEAKER REGISTER**

Tim Banaszak, IT Manager, Legislative Affairs Agency

[7:01:31 AM](#)

I. **CHAIR SAM KITO** called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. in Room 519 (House Finance) of the State Capitol. Present at the call were Representatives Claman, Edgmon, Stutes, Eastman (alternate), and Kito; Senators Kelly, MacKinnon, Meyer, Micciche, Stevens, Giessel (alternate), and Stedman. Representatives Drummond and Ortiz joined the meeting during roll call; Senator Kelly joined the meeting during the executive session. Representative Millett and Senator Hoffman were absent.

II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

VICE CHAIR STEDMAN moved that Legislative Council approve the agenda.

The motion was approved without objection.

III. **OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

a. **IT Subcommittee Recommendations**

b. **Stoel Rives Update**

c. **West Benson LIO**

a. **IT Subcommittee Recommendations**

TIM BANASZAK, Information Technology Manager for the Legislative Affairs Agency, said that he was excited to submit two IT initiatives for the Council's consideration that will reduce costs, visibly improve technology, and replace 20-year old manual processes. The two initiatives are the result of collaboration with vendors, Agency staff, a legislative focus group, the IT Subcommittee, the Information Office, and many others, which will (1) eliminate the bulk of the computer and equipment and move cost and the associated two months of Legislator and staff downtime during the move weeks; and (2) will improve the committee room testifier and constituent communications with House and Senate members during testimony.

Mr. Banaszak said Initiative #1 deals with workstation mobility at a cost of \$416,102. The current equipment move program is unsustainable. The upfront investment of \$416,102 will eliminate the majority of all equipment moves by April 2018 when the legislature adjourns. We can expect a return on investment beginning in year three of the program, and significant savings by year five. He highlighted just a few of the related move costs for the shipping program for each legislature: \$12,000 for two tractor trailer trips; 75 tons of office boxes and computer

equipment are moved between session and interim offices; 6,000 boxes are transported back and forth, two months of Legislator and staff computer downtime during move weeks; over \$92,000 spent on travel costs; and finally, 56 travel weeks representing 2,500 hours of staff time, or over one FTE dedicated to just moving equipment and boxes. Mr. Banaszak referred members to his memo with a table summarizing the reduction in cost for the proposed acquisition in year three; and illustrating that by year five, the proposed initiative costs are \$373,000 below the current business-as-usual program that requires a Sisyphean level of effort for stone rolling equipment back and forth between offices. He concluded the presentation on Initiative #1.

Mr. Banaszak, in response to a question by Senator Micciche, confirmed that the table showed accumulated savings year-by-year over a five year period, assuming maintaining the current three year refresh program.

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED regarding equipment refresh process; clarification of initiative proposal; tractor trailer costs limited to just computer equipment (exclusive of moving office materials/file boxes); and procurement process for equipment standardization and competitive pricing through an existing State contract with Lenovo for this acquisition.

CHAIR KITO noted that existing desktop equipment for those with permanent work stations in Juneau will be used through the normal service life, then new equipment will be purchased following this new standard.

MR. BANASZAK followed up the Chair's comment to say that in the first phase of the initiative, they were targeting all the equipment that was moved back and forth. Much of the equipment that will be replaced will be put into service in offices that are more stationary so that nothing is getting disposed of that is still usable.

In response to a question by Representative Guttenberg, Mr. Banaszak confirmed that the initiative would be replacing laptops as they reached the end of their service life, not a wholesale replacement of all current laptops. It will happen in phases and there will be time to make sure that it works for the legislature.

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED about timeline of initiative should Council approve it; the process of testing the proposed equipment with the vendor and the vendor's engineers; and

the process of testing with a legislative focus group, which narrowed the options to what would be useful to the legislature.

In response to a question by Senator MacKinnon, Mr. Banaszak stated that the equipment that would be purchased in the first phase included 57 color printers with two-sided printing capability with no scan/fax capability.

[7:23:58 AM](#)

Due to time constraints, at the urging of the Chair, Mr. Banaszak moved to Initiative #2 - Committee Room Enhancement Pilot Project for \$22,500. He said that each committee room is currently equipped for audio and limited one-way video streaming. This proposal would test available technologies to enhance information sharing between the constituent, testifier, and committee members. It includes a wireless projector to allow anyone in the committee room with a tablet or laptop to view the presentation on their device; a 17-inch touch screen for the presenter to highlight and annotate information as it is being considered by the committee; a 70-inch interactive work screen to present live/real time information rather than static slides; and capability for constituents and testifiers to use video tools such as Polycom, Skype, Zoom and Vidyo. He highlighted that this is only a pilot project to test these technologies in one committee room to ensure they will work for their intended purpose.

SENATOR MACKINNON requested that there be a lag time or "kill button" inserted into whatever technology is being tested so that if a presenter included an inappropriate image, for instance, that the committee didn't want to go digital, the committee wouldn't be distributing such imagery.

CHAIR KITO clarified his understanding that the way this technology would work is that it would only be information going out to the public in a one-directional manner; that it wasn't bi-directional in that the public would not be able to submit images to the committee with the video technologies being used. Mr. Banaszak confirmed that was so.

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED about the possibility of reducing the amount of paper being used through technologies like these; the option of having a device only for committee documents that does not text or have email; building the infrastructure for these options with a cautious approach; the concern that going paperless has been a challenge in

other state legislatures and isn't like possible at this time.

7:31:27 AM

VICE CHAIR STEDMAN moved that Legislative Council approve the Workstation Mobility Project in the amount of \$416,102 and Committee Room Enhancement Pilot Project in the amount of \$22,500.

The motion passed without objection.

MR BANASZAK moved on to the final item in his presentation - 2017 Interim Project Information. This was not an action item. He said IT had three important initiatives scheduled for the 2017 interim, all of which are included in the current licensing agreements:

1. Email Office 365, which will increase storage capacity by 50-100 times over current capacity. It will also provide seamless online archiving for storage needs that exceed the new thresholds. The timeline for this project is between October and December 2017 after the Executive Branch completes their migration.
2. Windows 10 Desktop Computer Operating Systems Deployment, which is necessary to keep systems and security operating systems at an optimal level. The IT staff have taken the time to design the Windows 10 look and feel to mirror the current Window 7 as much as possible; this will minimize the transition learning curve of the new operating system.
3. Office 2016 installation to ensure we are compliant with the current supported software. It will provide a framework to support document collaboration, as well as position Legislators and staff to access documents on and off the legislative network and across multiple platforms, including smartphones, tablets, and laptops.

Mr. Banaszak noted for members that the cost for each of these projects is included in the annual licensing agreements. The Executive and Legislative Branches of government participate in a shared contract with Microsoft to ensure the best possible government pricing.

Mr. Banaszak said that the IT staff were well-prepared and looked forward to taking on this unprecedented volume of work during the interim.

SENATOR MICCICHE thanked Mr. Banaszak and his team for a seamless transition back-and-forth; that he has great people and their customer service is unprecedented. He

noted he had been operating with a mobile work station for over a decade and offered himself as a volunteer.

CHAIR KITO noted that the next item would first be discussed in executive session. He said that Council had this room until 8:30am, and that if they were not finished by that time, the meeting would continue the following morning beginning at 7am.

**b. Stoel Rives Update**

7:36:18 AM

VICE CHAIR STEDMAN moved that Legislative Council go into Executive Session per Uniform Rule 22(b)(1) discussion of matters, the immediate knowledge of which would adversely affect the finances of a government unit. Any Legislators not on Council can remain in the room along with legislative staff that work for Legislative Council members. In addition, the following people can be on line or remain in the room:

Pam Varni  
Doug Gardner  
Kevin Cuddy  
Brian Meissner  
Elisha Martin  
Helen Phillips  
Bree Wiley  
Jodie McDonnell  
Ben Manly

Legislative Council went into executive session.

8:18:34 AM

Legislative Council came out of executive session.

CHAIR KITO said that Council was still engaged in the executive session discussion so the meeting would continue tomorrow. He said there would be one motion before Council recessed for the day.

VICE CHAIR STEDMAN moved that Legislative Council approve \$125,000 for the legal costs associated with Stoel Rives.

The motion passed without objection.

CHAIR KITO, in response to a question by Representative Drummond about why the Benson Building renovation discussion was being held in executive session, said that

Council needed to have a frank and open discussion about the potential costs of renovating the building.

[8:20:22 AM](#)

*Legislative Council recessed.*

**April 14, 2017**

**7:00 AM**

[7:01:58 AM](#)

CHAIR SAM KITO reconvened the Legislative Council meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. in Room 519 (House Finance) of the State Capitol. No roll was taken. Present for the continuation of the meeting were Representatives Claman, Edgmon, Guttenberg, Millett, Ortiz, Stutes, Eastman (alternate), and Kito; Senators MacKinnon, Meyer, Micciche, Stevens, Giessel (alternate), and Stedman. Absent were Representative Drummond (alternate) and Senators Hoffman and Kelly.

**III. OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS CONTINUED**

**c. West Benson LIO**

[7:03:47 AM](#)

Legislative Council went into executive session.

[8:14:07 AM](#)

Legislative Council came out of executive session.

VICE CHAIR STEDMAN moved that Legislative Council approve \$150,000 for the Phase 1 Construction budget to move forward with some work on the fourth floor wiring at 1500 W. Benson Blvd from legislative capital funds.

CHAIR KITO, in response to a request for clarification by Senator Micciche, said that the goal with the \$150,000 was to prepare the fourth floor for temporary occupancy by Legislators and staff for the 2017 interim, so that LAA has the ability to start transitioning offices from session to district. The plan is to continue to work on the renovation component and have another meeting before session is over.

The motion passed without objection.

There being no further business before the committee, Legislative Council adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

[8:17:46 AM](#)