



STATE OF DELAWARE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 29, 2017

Members Present: Senator David B. McBride, Chair, Representative Peter C. Schwartzkopf, Vice Chair; Senators, Margaret Rose Henry, Nicole Poore, F. Gary Simpson, and Representatives Valerie J. Longhurst, John Viola, Daniel Short and Deborah Hudson

Absent: Senator Gregory F. Lavelle

In attendance: Lori Christiansen, Director, Division of Research/Legislative Council; Mark Cutrona, Deputy Director, Division of Research/Legislative Council; Rochelle Yerkes, Division of Research/Legislative Council; Michael Morton, Controller General; Kimberly Reinagel-Nietubicz, Office of the Controller General; Janet Roberson, Director of Legislative Information Systems; Angel Burack, Rob Sebastiano, Greg Vaughn, Tom Price and Libby Kelly, Legislative Information Systems; Bernard Brady, Secretary of the Senate; Valerie McCartan, Senate Majority Chief of Staff; Jane Williams, Special Assistant to the President Pro Tempore; David Burris, Senate Minority Chief of Staff; Richard Puffer, Chief Clerk of the House; Sean Finnigan, House Majority Chief of Staff; Sarah Wootten, House Majority Policy Director; Lauren C.W. Vella, Senior Legislative Aide; David Deputy, House Minority Chief of Staff; Lt. Britt Davis, Capitol Police; James Collins, Chief Information Officer, DTI and Jason Clark, Chief of Policy and Communications, DTI ; John Flaherty, Delaware Coalition for Open Government

AGENDA

1. Welcome – Sen. McBride, Chair
2. Approval of March 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes
3. Old Business
4. New business - IT discussion
5. Other Business
6. Next Meeting – Wednesday May 17, 2017
7. Public Comments
8. Adjournment

1. **Welcome** – Sen. McBride called the meeting of Legislative Council to order at 11:59 p.m. in the Joint Finance Hearing Room.
2. **Approval of March 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes - A motion was made by Rep. Schwartzkopf and seconded by Rep. Hudson to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.** Vote: 9 Yes - Senators McBride, Henry, Poore, and Simpson; Representatives Schwartzkopf, Longhurst, Viola, Short and Hudson. Absent – Sen. Lavelle
3. **Old Business - none**
4. **New Business – IT Discussion**

Rep. Schwartzkopf asked James Collins, DTI Chief Information Officer, and Jason Clark, DTI Chief of Policy and Communications to discuss DTI’s takeover of the General Assembly’s Legislative Information System. Mr. Collins stated that DTI would (1) perform a gap analysis on the DELIS system to determine what the system can do and what needs to be accomplished, (2) perform an assessment of the General Assembly’s IT needs, and (3) perform a skills assessment of the General Assembly’s Legislative Information Systems staff. DTI indicated the assessments would take 60 days.

Representative Short questioned DTI about the plan being made for the takeover, the cost of the takeover, and whether DTI would seek reimbursement from the General Assembly for IT costs. Representative Short stated that he would like to know what the assessment reveals before Legislative Council votes to approve the takeover.

Senator Simpson questioned DTI about whether any other state legislatures had the executive branch running their IT department. He also expressed his concern about the cost of the project and if the RFP was open ended. Michael Morton, the Controller General stated that funding for the project came through Bond and Capital Improvements appropriations. Cost overruns could be attributed to additions to the original project such as DESC (Delaware Services for Constituents), tribute processing and Grant in Aid.

Rep. Schwartzkopf made the following motion, “the IT services of the legislative branch shall be transferred to DTI and the IT service delivery staff within the legislative branch shall be assigned to DTI. This shall include the management and oversight of the LIS, DESC, and GIA projects. I further move that DTI perform a full IT assessment of all Legislative IT services and provide recommendations to Legislative Council targeting a complete IT Centralization by July of 2017. This motion would include periodic updates”.

The motion was seconded by Rep. Longhurst. Motion carried. Vote: 7 Yes - Senators McBride, Henry, and Poore; Representatives Schwartzkopf, Longhurst, Viola, and Hudson. 2 No – Senator Simpson and Rep. Short. Absent – Sen. Lavelle

5. Other Business – Sen. McBride requested Lori Christiansen provide a report on key card access to the members of Legislative Council at the May 17th meeting.

6. Next Meeting – May 17, 2017

7. Public Comment – none

8. Adjournment – Senator McBride adjourned the meeting at 12:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Christiansen
Director
Division of Research/Legislative Council

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