

**REPORT OF THE FISCAL COMMITTEE TO THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

September 28, 1999 – Memorial Union, Iowa State University

October 27, 1999 – Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines

December 8, 1999 – State Capitol Building, Des Moines

The Fiscal Committee has met three times since the September 30, 1999, Legislative Council meeting.

The Committee took the following action:

- At the October meeting, the Committee approved a \$625,000 lease purchase agreement entered into by the Department of General Services (Information Technology Services [ITS]) for the Justice Data Warehouse. This was an extension of an original \$964,000 lease for the Warehouse, also entered into by ITS. The lease purchase is for additional hardware capacity to the Warehouse to accommodate the Department of Human Services and the Department of Revenue and Finance, in addition to the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division of the Department of Human Rights.

Since the total of both lease purchase agreements exceeds \$1,000,000 in one Fiscal Year, and the Legislature is not in Session, the Fiscal Committee exercised the authority delegated to it by the Legislative Council and approved the lease purchase on a vote of seven to one.

- At the December meeting, the Fiscal Committee voted to direct the Fiscal Bureau to issue a subpoena to Mr. Daniel Pitts Winegarden, President, Agricultural Finance Corporation, to appear before the Fiscal Committee and provide requested information. The Agricultural Finance Corporation received a \$25.0 million interest free loan from the State beginning in FY 1999 and committee members expressed frustration no loans had yet been made to farmers. Mr. Winegarden had not provided requested information and declined to attend the December meeting.

The following lease-purchase acquisitions were discussed:

- Justice Data Warehouse - The total cost of this lease purchase is \$652,000. This includes \$600,000 in principal and \$52,000 in interest at an estimated rate of 5.25% for a period of three years. The debt service payments will total approximately \$217,000 annually. This project is an extension of the initial lease purchase entered into by the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) which incorporates the Departments of Corrections, Public Safety, and Human Rights into the Data Warehouse. The extension now includes the Departments of Human Services and Revenue and Finance. (see action above)
- Department of Human Services – Lease purchase notification for various energy efficiency improvements at the Glenwood State Hospital. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$2,788,000. This includes \$1,970,000 in principal and \$818,000 in interest at a rate of 6.25% for a period of 10.5 years. Annual payments will total approximately \$293,500. The lease payments will be funded from the Institution's General Fund appropriation. The Department estimates annual utilities savings of \$297,000 as a result of the improvements. This project is financed in accordance with Section 7D.34, Code of Iowa (Energy Conservation Lease Purchase) and, therefore, does not require approval by the Legislative Fiscal Committee.

- University of Iowa – for the purchase of equipment and furnishings for the University Services Building. Total cost of the project is estimated to be \$2,085,000 and includes \$1,800,000 in principal and \$285,000 in interest at an estimated rate of 5.63%.

The following topics/issues were addressed at the meetings. More information on any of these topics is available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau.

September 28 Meeting:

- Plant Science Initiative, *Issue Review*, by Mary Shipman, LFB.
- Iowa Agricultural Economy, John Miranowski, Chairman, ISU Department of Economics.
- Regents Capital Budget Requests, Frank Stork, Executive Director, Board of Regents.
- Regents Deferred Maintenance, recent progress and needs, Frank Stork.
- Regents Fire and Environmental Safety Issues, Lynn Seiler, Associate Director of Facilities, Board of Regents, and Ray Reynolds Fire Marshal's Office.
- Federal Education Funds, *Issue Review*, Paige Piper/Bach, LFB.
- The Committee toured the Iowa State University (ISU) Campus. Buildings included a tour of the new Engineering Building to see progress on new construction; Gilman Hall, to view fire safety concerns and needs for capital request, and a "drive-by" view of the Swine Research Center, Waste Chemical Warehouse, Insectary, and Veterinary Medicine Building.

October 27 Meeting:

- Overview of the Department of Public Safety Facility Project and anticipated costs, Commissioner Penny Westfall, Department of Public Safety.
- Medical Examiner, David Fries, Deputy Director for Operations, Department of Public Health, provided an update.
- Crime Laboratory, short-term and long-term options to meet space shortage.
- A tour of the Crime Laboratory and Department of Public Safety facilities in the Wallace Building and a tour of the Wallace Building to view infrastructure problems.
- Department of Public Safety, Dave Heuton, Budget Director, presented retirement issues.
- Department of Natural Resources Retirement Issues by Mark Slatterly, Budget and Finance Bureau Chief.
- Fish and Game Allocation of Marine Fuel Tax , Mark Slatterly.
- Community College Funding, *Issue Review*, Paige Piper/Bach, LFB. Evelyn Anderson, Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges, Doran Hulett, Fiscal Services, Bureau of Community Colleges, Department of Education, and Roger Stirler, Chief of Bureau Internal Operations; Department of Education responded to questions.
- Community College Travel Issues, Paige Piper/Bach, LFB.
- Federal Education Funds, *Issue Review*, Mike Lipsman, LFB.
- Social Services Block Grant, *Issue Review*, Deb Anderson, LFB.

December 8 Meeting:

- Tobacco Settlement Update, by Deb Anderson, LFB
- Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund Report, by Dave Reynolds, LFB, including resources and appropriations; and status of appropriations by Fiscal Year.
- Summary Report on State Indebtedness, by Dave Reynolds, LFB.
- Iowa Agricultural Finance Corporation, *Issue Review*, by Jeff Robinson, LFB.
- Sentencing Commission Update, by Joe McEniry, Legislative Service Bureau (LSB).
- Linked Investment Program, *Issue Review*, by Ron Robinson, LFB.
- Reinventing Iowa Government Leadership Team and the Governor's Strategic Planning Council, by Valerie Thacker, LFB.
- Federal Funds Update, by Doug Wulf, LFB, and Phil Buchan, Director, Office for State Federal Relations in Washington, D.C.
- Governor's FY 2001 Budget Priorities, by Cynthia Eisenhauer, Director, Department of Management.
- A follow-up on school finance questions from the last meeting regarding the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) and federal funding data, by Mike Lipsman, LFB.
- Nursing Facility Direct Care Staff Turnover, *Issue Review*, Deb Anderson, LFB; and Jerry Nicholls, Iowa Health Care Association.
- Workforce Shortage in Iowa, Judy Erickson, Department of Workforce Development.
- Iowa Finance Authority Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, *Issue Review*, Jeff Robinson, LFB; Jim Balmer, Iowa Finance Authority Board member, Bob Burns, Project Developer.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 11, 2000, in Room 116 of the State Capitol Building. The tentative agenda includes:

- Iowa Agricultural Finance Corporation
- More Information on State Indebtedness including Regents bonding for buildings and requirements for restructuring debt and the payment schedule for the ICN Phase I and II.
- Revenue Update

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Derryl McLaren
Co-chairperson

Representative Dave Millage
Co-chairperson

Co-Chair Senator Steve King
Co-Chair Representative Bill Dix
Senator Mary Lundby, VC
Senator Patrick Deluhery, RM
Representative Steve Kettering, VC
Representative Steve Falck, RM
Senator Patricia Harper
Senator Sheldon Rittmer
Representative Clyde Bradley
Representative James Drees
Representative Geri Huser



Representative Willard Jenkins
Representative Mona Martin
Representative Wesley Whitead

State Capitol
Des Moines, IA 50319
LFB 515-281-6766
Fax 515-281-6625

REPORT OF THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

December 15, 1999

The Oversight Committee met October 18, 1999, in Room 1 and on November 15 in the Legislative Dining Room at the State Capitol.

At the October 18 meeting, the Committee heard presentations on and discussed the following:

- An update from the lowAccess Advisory Council on the lowAccess final report which was due October 15, 1999. The Governance Subcommittee Report explains how the Advisory Council will function. The report included a mission statement, duties of the Board, and who would serve on the Board. Additionally, the lowAccess Finance Subcommittee presented the Oversight Committee with the lowAccess Financial Model. The Financial Subcommittee was charged with developing strategies to generate funds to underwrite the operating of lowAccess. The final report included sources of revenue, hypothetical 5-year budget, and a summary of recommendations. Diane Kolmer, Chair, lowAccess Advisory Council and Joe Alber, Chair, lowAccess Finance Subcommittee.
- A report on the IT Transition Team Board. The report contained a recommendation to the General Assembly concerning the Creation of the Information Technology Department and related advisory councils. The report will be reviewed during the 2000 Legislative Session. Richard Varn, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Services Division, Department of General Services.
- An overview of State salary policies from the Department of Personnel. The information included matching of the non-contract pay plan to the AFSCME 014 pay plan, adding a step to all non-contract pay plans on 12/22/00, and providing additional steps in future years. According to the Department, it is the intent of the Governor that non-contract pay increases be directly linked with the employee's performance and the Department is working to develop a new performance evaluation system. Mollie Anderson, Director of the Department of Personnel.
- An update on the status of Telemedicine in Iowa. A variety of Telemedicine practitioners presented information to the Committee related to Telemedicine pilot projects currently ongoing in Iowa and discussed a variety of technological applications currently in use in the Telemedicine field. It was pointed out that approximately 100 sites around the State now have the ability to use Telemedicine either over the Iowa Communications Network or standard telephone lines. The following is a list of presenters and topic areas.

- History of Telemedicine Usage on the ICN - Dr. Mike Kienzle, Chair, ICN Telemedicine Advisory Committee, and Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and Biomedical Communications, University of Iowa.
- HELP Innovations, Inc. - Mr. Mike Lemnitzer, Chief Financial Officer, HELP Innovations, Inc.
- Telemedicine's Impact on Medicaid - Mr. Marty Swartz, Management Analyst, Department of Human Services.
- Mercy Hospital Use of Telemedicine - Mr. Jim Reid, PA-C, Director of the Midwest Rural Telemedicine Consortium.
- Iowa Veterans Home Use of Telemedicine - Amelia Wolken, Clinical Coordinator and Kelli Buresh, R.N., B.S.N, Nurse Clinician, Iowa Veterans Home.
- Nurses Association Perspective on Telemedicine - Linda Goeldner, Executive Director, Iowa Nurses Association.
- Medical Society Perspective on Telemedicine - Denise Hill, J.D., Manager of Public and Regulatory Affairs.
- Malpractice Issues In Telemedicine - Dr. Mike Kienzle Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and Biomedical Communications, SUI and Chair, ICN Telemedicine Advisory Committee.

At the November 15 meeting, the Committee heard presentations on and discussed the following:

- A report on the procedures of the Department of Personnel. In the report the Department of Personnel identified five broad opportunities for improvement in the State's human resource infrastructure. These include:
 - Lack of access to current, basic human resource data.
 - Absence of a strategic workforce plan for the future and a clear compensation strategy.
 - State Government's return on its investment in human resource infrastructure is too low.
 - The environment in which State government employees work does not support teamwork.
 - The Department's current structure and systems do not meet the needs of their customers.
- The Department also presented an update on the performance base pay plan noting that work had already started on a new performance management system. Mollie Anderson, Director of the Department of Personnel.
- Two reports prepared by the Public Interest Institute comparing salaries of Iowa private and state and local government employees. The data showed that the salaries of State employees were higher on average than the private sector and the salaries of local government employees were lower. It was noted that the data used combines all State employees (including Regents Hospital School and faculty) and all private sector

- employees (including workers at fast food restaurants), and therefore the data is not totally comparable between the groups. Dr. Don Racheter, President, Public Interest Institute.
- An overview of State employees wages based on an Issue Review written in 1996. Larry Sigel, Legislative Fiscal Bureau (LFB). The findings included:
 - The goals of Chapter 20, Code of Iowa, appear to have been met.
 - The use of overall averages for comparing wages:
 - Underestimates the level of private wages due to limitations in the data.
 - Ignores differing educational requirements.
 - Wage growth for private and State employees has been roughly similar over the past four years.
 - Comparing Iowa's State employee wages to other states indicates that Iowa's wages are in the top third for surrounding states. The higher wages seem correlated with lower turnover (Iowa has the lowest turnover of 18 states reviewed) and wages seem to be correlated with the strength of collective bargaining laws.
 - Comparing private sector job classifications indicates that entry level wages for State employees are generally higher than their private sector counterparts, however top level wages for State employees are less than their private sector counterparts.
 - Salary levels reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics understates private sector pay because it does not include self-employed individuals. Iowa has a larger proportion of self-employed households than does the region or the nation.
 - Educational requirements for State positions are greater than the remainder of the State job market. Greater educational attainment by employees translates into higher wages.
 - Private employee wages are significantly lower than the national average and Iowa State employee wages are somewhat higher than the national average.
 - The prohibition of public employee strikes and collective bargaining requirements have the effect of increasing wage rates, but seem to result in workforce stability and consistent delivery of services.
- An update of a study on the use of "other pay" by Executive Branch departments. The study will focus on departments providing discretionary payments above the employee's base pay from mid-year FY 1999 through October FY 2000 and will be available at the December Oversight Committee meeting. Discretionary payments in the "other pay" category include Exceptional Job Performance Pay and Recruitment and Retention Bonuses. Douglas Wulf, LFB.
- A review of a report on salary adjustment funding for the Board of Regents required by House File 579 (The 1995 Salary Act) and other historical State employee salary information, as well as information related to the current collective bargaining agreement. Mr. Glen Dickinson, LFB.
- A presentation about the Iowa Software Association and potential for job creation in Iowa of the software industry. Miriam Ubben, Director, and Sue Green, Vice President, Iowa Software Association.

- An update on the progress of lowAccess and IT Transition Team efforts. Richard Varn, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Services.
- An update on the current efforts to conduct compliance maintenance audits of state agencies and insure that no re-infection of computer programs or data bases is occurring and that a system is in place to maintain a tracking catalog of all programming changes that occur. Paul Carlson, Coordinator, Year 2000 Project Office.
- A presentation on the potential future of Telemedicine and related licensing issues that will arise in the health professions. Dr. Stephen Gleason, Director, Department of Public Health.

The next Legislative Oversight meeting is scheduled for December 15, at the Polk County Convention Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Steve King
Co-chairperson

Representative Bill Dix
Co-chairperson

REPORT OF THE SERVICE COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

December 15, 1999

The Service Committee of the Legislative Council met on December 15, 1999, and makes the following report and recommendations to the Legislative Council:

1. The Service Committee received and filed the December personnel report from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau and recommends that the following employees be promoted:
 - Mr. Paige Piper-Bach, from Legislative Analyst I, grade 29, step 4, to Legislative Analyst III, grade 32, step 2, effective December 1999.
 - Ms. Valerie Thacker, Legislative Analyst II, grade 32, step 4, to Legislative Analyst III, grade 35, step 2.
2. The Service Committee received and filed the December personnel report from the Legislative Service Bureau and recommends that the following employees be promoted:
 - Ms. Joanne Page, from Assistant Editor 3, grade 30, step 4, to Deputy Iowa Code Editor, grade 35, step 1, effective February 2000.
 - Ms. Chris Fisher, from Supervising Legislative Document Technician, grade 25, step 6, to Legislative Document Technician Supervisor, grade 28, step 5, effective October 1999.
3. The Service Committee received and filed the December personnel report from the Legislative Computer Support Bureau and recommends that the following employees be promoted.
 - Mr. Matt Eaton, from Division Administrator I, grade 35, step 3, to Division Administrator II, grade 38, step 2, effective February 2000.
 - Mr. Jason Hunt, from Computer Systems Analyst II, grade 29, step 4, to Division Administrator I, grade 35, step 1, effective January 2000.
 - Mr. Joseph Kroes, from Computer Systems Engineer II, grade 32, step 3, to Senior Computer Systems Engineer, grade 35, step 2, effective November 1999.
 - Mr. John Rafdal, from Computer Systems Engineer I, grade 29, step 4, to Computer Systems Engineer II, grade 32, step 3, effective April 2000.
4. The Service Committee received and filed the December personnel report from the Office of Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman and recommends that the following employee be promoted:
 - Ms. Judith Milosevich, from Assistant III, grade 35, step 6, to Senior Assistant, grade 38, step 5, effective December 1999.
 - Ms. Kristie Hirschman, from Assistant II, grade 32, step 5, to Assistant III, grade 35, step 4, effective May 2000.

5. The Service Committee recommends that the Legislative Council approve the budget and budget allocation for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2000, as amended by the Service Committee, pursuant to section 2.12 of the Code, for the following agencies:
 - Legislative Fiscal Bureau.
 - Legislative Service Bureau.
 - Legislative Computer Support Bureau.
 - Office of Citizens' Aide/Ombudsman.
 - The amendment to the budget and budget allocation reduces out-of-state travel allocations for all agencies by 25% for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2000, and reduces the remaining allocation for out-of-state travel by 25% for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999.
 - The amendment further reduced a portion of the proposed funding for redistricting costs for the Legislative Service Bureau (\$70,000) and communication costs for the Legislative Computer Support Bureau (\$30,000).
6. The Service Committee deferred action on the Report of the Special Personnel Committee of the Service Committee.

The Service Committee requested that the Iowa Department of Personnel be used to provide expert assistance to the legislative branch regarding a unique legislative pay plan and unique system of fringe benefits.
7. The Service Committee recommends that the Legislative Council approve the attached change to the Iowa General Assembly's policy for accessibility for persons with disabilities concerning Internet documents and information.
8. The Service Committee recommends that the Legislative Council approve the rate of vacation accrual based on the cumulative length of prior part-time legislative employment.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Stewart Iverson, Jr.
Chairperson

REPORT OF THE CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

December 15, 1999

The Capital Projects Committee of the Legislative Council met on December 15, 1999, in Senate Committee Room 22. The Committee makes the following report and recommendation:

The Committee heard presentations regarding the following:

1. The Capitol Complex Master Plan. The Committee also viewed a video tape concerning the master plan. Presentation by Tom Johnson, Administrator of Design and Construction, Department of General Services.
2. An update on the Lucas State Office Building renovation progress and space allocation. Presentation by Tim Ryburn, Administrator of Building Services, Department of General Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Chuck Gipp
Chairperson

Co-Chair Senator Steve King
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