

Report of the Joint Committee on Kansas Security to the 2020 Kansas Legislature

CHAIRPERSON: Representative Eric Smith

VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Senator Dan Goddard

OTHER MEMBERS: Senators Kevin Braun, Mike Petersen, Pat Pettey, and Mary Ware; Representatives Dave Baker, Michael Houser, Jarrod Ousley, and Louis Ruiz

CHARGE

Review Various Security Matters

KSA 2019 Supp. 46-3301 directs the Joint Committee to study, monitor, review, and make recommendations on matters related to the security of state officers or employees, state and other public buildings, and other property and infrastructure in the state, and to consider measures for the improvement of security for the state. In addition, the Committee is authorized to address these additional topics:

- Cybersecurity;
- Implementation of updates to emergency communications capabilities across the state; and
- The safety of students and state employees.

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Joint Committee on Kansas Security

ANNUAL REPORT

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Committee made no formal recommendations but requested additional information on specific topics at a future meeting.

Proposed Legislation: None

BACKGROUND

The 2004 Legislature created the Joint Committee on Kansas Security (KSA 2019 Supp. 46-3301) to study, monitor, review, and make recommendations for the following:

- Matters relating to the security of state officers and employees;
- Security of buildings and property under the ownership or control of the State;
- Matters relating to the security of a public body or agency, public building, or facility;
- Matters relating to the security of the infrastructure of Kansas, including any information system; and
- Measures for the improvement of security for the state.

The Legislative Coordinating Council also directed the Committee to study emergency communications, cybersecurity, and the safety of students and state employees in 2019.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Committee met in the Statehouse on October 2, 2019. All presentations summarized below were given during that meeting.

Statehouse Security Update

The Superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) and the Lieutenant of KHP Troop K (Capitol Police) reviewed Statehouse security. The Lieutenant provided an update on Statehouse security personnel, Statehouse video monitoring equipment, call boxes, and Visitor Center security screening equipment. He reported the Capitol Police's Central Monitoring has moved into a more functional office space, with more monitors to view images provided by various cameras around the Capitol complex. The Lieutenant also provided an overview of new screening equipment purchased as a result of actions taken by the Legislature in 2019:

- Two new Astrophysics x-ray machines for the Visitor Center;
- Two new metal detectors for the Visitor Center; and
- One new large Astrophysics x-ray machine for the loading dock.

He reported there were issues with new x-ray machines due to a miscommunication by the vendor, and the issue would be resolved by the end of October 2019.

Executive Agency Information Systems

The Information Technology (IT) Audit Manager, Legislative Division of Post Audit (LPA), provided information on IT security audits completed by LPA staff. She noted 2015 HB 2010 placed into statutes requirements LPA perform IT

audits as directed by the Legislative Post Audit Committee, and reports of those audits are permanently confidential.

The IT Audit Manager provided additional information to the Committee in an executive session.

Review of Agency Security Policies

The Acting Secretary of Administration (Secretary) provided the Committee with a review of agency security policies. The Secretary reported, since the previous update given to the Committee by the former Secretary at the January 2018 meeting, the Department of Administration (Department) has seen an increase in monitoring and surveillance with an expanded network of cameras; more training, such as deescalation training, completed by agency personnel; and new safety policies and procedures implemented in agencies with high public traffic and access. The Secretary noted some agencies have had more opportunity to examine their security policies and the biggest challenge for the Department is making the process more systematic.

Strategic plan. The Secretary stated Department staff have met with representatives of the KHP, the Office of Information Technology Services, and agency partners to develop a comprehensive approach to deploying security enhancements using the following tiers:

- Tier 1—Capitol Complex;
- Tier 2—Leased space in downtown Topeka;
- Tier 3—Leased space in Shawnee County; and
- Tier 4—State facilities outside of Shawnee County.

The Secretary reported the Department would like to develop a security checklist for facilities outside of Shawnee County that would include notifying local law enforcement that a building houses a state agency. She also reported staff are instituting a safety audit when in the process of looking at a leased property. She noted there also

are opportunities to address security as leases are amended.

Infrastructure gap analysis. The Secretary reported the Department was then reviewing responses to a gap analysis survey sent to all agencies located in Topeka to better understand the agency's usage of space, implementation of best practices, and certain security protocols with the goal of understanding potential security concerns.

Short-term security goals. The Secretary identified short-term security goals for the Department, such as implementing security training programs for employees, working with agency partners on policies and procedures for enhanced security, and consulting with local and state law enforcement. She also identified future needs, such as evaluating and upgrading surveillance systems, determining fiscal impacts of implementing security enhancements, and assessing staffing needs.

Overview of Kansas 911 Act and Next Generation 911 Technology

The Administrator of the Kansas 911 Coordinating Council (Council) provided an overview of the Kansas 911 Act (Act) and Next Generation 911 (NG911) technology.

The Administrator provided background information and a timeline of major milestones of NG911, including various mapping projects. He reported there were 97 public safety answering points (PSAPs) on the State-hosted system at the end of 2018 and, in 2019, there were plans to increase the number of PSAPs on the state system to 102; he noted a few counties in the Kansas City metropolitan region are participating *via* the Mid-America Regional Council system, which will interconnect with the Kansas system. Background information on technical aspects of the State-hosted system and a comparison of annual costs between operating a standalone PSAP and hosting on a statewide system also were provided.

The Administrator reviewed changes to the Act enacted in 2019 HB 2084, including increases in the 911 fee per subscriber account per month and changes to its distribution, authorizing the Council to require PSAPs to maintain geographic information systems data, and authorizing the Council to withhold a portion of a PSAP's 911 fee

distribution if the PSAP fails to meet certain expenditure reporting requirements.

The Administrator also reviewed 911 projects being implemented or planned, including those regarding mapping and migration to “i3” contact using non-voice-using technologies and geospatial call routing. He also reported on FirstNet and other broadband network interface projects, annual security audits of both the voice and data networks, incident management plan updates and revisions to be presented to the Council for approval, and development of guides for PSAP troubleshooting and problem reporting.

FirstNet and Public Safety Broadband in Kansas

The Response and Recovery Branch Director (Director), Division of Emergency Management, Adjutant General’s Department, provided an update on FirstNet and public safety broadband in Kansas. He noted the federal Public Law 112-96, enacted in 2012, directed the establishment, deployment, and operation of a nationwide broadband wireless network for public safety communications. He described FirstNet as a secure, interoperable communications network that supports voice, data, text, and video communications. FirstNet is being built with AT&T in a public-private partnership with the FirstNet Authority, helping public safety agencies connect to voice and data information that would be critical during an emergency. He reported approximately 60 percent of the network had been completed and all 50 states have chosen to use FirstNet as their public safety communications network, rather than building separate networks as P.L. 112-96 would have allowed.

The Director provided an overview of how FirstNet operates for a public safety official end user. He described two types of users for FirstNet: priority and extended. Priority users include first responders, such as police and fire officials, while extended users include nonprofits and other entities that may be called upon to assist in an emergency. Both groups would have priority status on the network but only the priority group of users would have network preemption status over users who are not first responders. Priority users also can temporarily designate an extended user a priority user.

The Director provided information about the subscription plan structures for career and volunteer first responders and the various additional FirstNet assets, such as portable network vehicles.

He also reported future FirstNet Authority approved investment areas include:

- Expanding the FirstNet fleet of deployable resources for better network coverage and capacity for public safety during emergencies and events; and
- Completing upgrades to the FirstNet core to enable 5G network capabilities.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee made no formal recommendations but requested the following be addressed at a future meeting:

- The security of the state’s elections, voting machines, and voting places, and the impact of changing polling places in certain counties;
- Certification and training of the state’s PSAP operators and dispatchers, with more information provided by the state’s law enforcement associations;
- The Department’s plan for IT security compliance of state agencies; and
- Kansas crime trends. [*Note: This item was expected to be included on the October 2, 2019, agenda, but the Kansas Bureau of Investigation requested it be presented at a later date for reasons outside the agency’s control.*]

Committee members also discussed the possibility of examining state procurement procedure and law, and partnering more with rural communities to increase their purchasing power with regards to security-related equipment. Accountability for training and implementing agency security measures also was discussed.