

PUBLIC FINANCE TRANSPARENCY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Room 530, Curtis State Office Building
April 29, 2008

The Public Finance Transparency Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Duane Goossen at 2:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance:

Alan Conroy
Allan Foster attending for Barbara Hinton
Charles Jones
Denise Moore
Kent Olson
Edward Sexe
Matthew Veatch
Joan Wagnon

I. Welcome/Introductions

Chairman Duane Goossen welcomed the members and reported that a statute was passed this year making this Board permanent and requiring them to meet twice a year.

II. Discussion and feedback on the current KanView website

Chairman Goossen stated the KanView website went live on March 1, 2008. Martin Eckhardt with the Division of Accounts & Reports presented information regarding the number of visits to the website, the pages most often viewed, the primary location of the website visitors and the number of searches that have been made.

There have been sixteen requests for additional information. Five of these were referred to a specific agency for response and the other eleven responses were prepared by the Department of Administration.

By statute the information on the website must be updated within 45 days of the close of the fiscal year. Martin Eckhardt reported the posting of prior fiscal year data should be completed by mid-August.

There was a discussion regarding the issue of the transaction amounts not matching the budget figures. This is a result of the inadequacies of the Statewide Accounting and Reporting System (STARS) and cannot be addressed until a new financial management system is in place.

Charles Jones requested the costs associated with the creation and maintenance of the website be recorded.

III. Discussion of whether salary data for state employees be posted on KanView

Chairman Goossen reported the Kansas City Star, through an Open Records request, has published the salaries of state employees. The statute creating this Board, states “the secretary of administration shall develop and operate a single, searchable website accessible by the public at no cost to access, that includes: ...salaries and wages including, but not limited to, compensation paid to individual employees of state agencies...” Chair Goossen asked for the Board members’ opinions regarding how much and what data should be posted.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Board came to the consensus that before posting any data, the issue should be discussed with state agency human resource officers, discussed at an ASTRA meeting, and discussed with other interested parties so that any feedback and advice from those groups could be taken into account. The suggestions gathered from those discussions will be brought before the Board at its next meeting.

IV. Other Business

Chairman Goossen said the next meeting of the Public Finance Transparency Board would be scheduled for sometime after July 1st. Members will be notified of the date and an agenda will be sent.

There being no further business, Chairman Goossen adjourned the meeting.