

LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

December 20, 2011

The Legislative Performance Audit and Oversight Committee met on Tuesday December 20, 2011 at 10:00 AM in Room 212 of the Legislative Office Building.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Senator Peter Bragdon (Chairman)
Senator Jack Barnes
Senator Bob Odell (for Senator Gary Lambert)
Senator Lou D'Allesandro
Senator Sylvia Larsen
Representative John Reagan
Representative Marshall Quandt
Representative Patricia Dowling
Representative Laurie Harding
Representative Robert Foose

Senator Bragdon called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Barnes, seconded by Representative Reagan, that the minutes of the September 7, 2011 meeting be accepted as written. MOTION ADOPTED.

DISCUSSION OF ONGOING AND PENDING PERFORMANCE AUDITS:

Richard Mahoney, Director of Audits, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, clarified information he presented at the September 7, 2011 Committee meeting regarding Audit Division staffing. Mr. Mahoney also briefed the Committee and responded to questions regarding ongoing performance audits. Mr. Mahoney informed the Committee the Guardian ad Litem audit was scheduled to be presented to the joint Legislative Fiscal Committee at its January 20, 2012 meeting.

Mr. Mahoney also discussed the status of the ongoing performance audit of the Public Utilities Commission.

Mr. Mahoney, joined by Department of Revenue Administration Commissioner Kevin Clougherty, also discussed and responded to questions regarding the current status of the performance audit of the DRA and the Department's request to postpone the audit until later in the year.

On a motion by Senator Barnes, seconded by Representative Foose, to postpone the DRA audit until July 15th. MOTION ADOPTED.

DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL AUDIT TOPICS:

Senator Bragdon recognized Representative Weyler, who presented to the Committee a proposal for a performance audit of the Attorney General's Office and the Banking Department relative to actions each took regarding the FRM investigation.

Representative Quandt moved, seconded by Representative Reagan, to approve the request for a performance audit of the Attorney General's Office and the Banking Department relative to the FRM investigation. Additional questions for Representative Weyler and Committee discussion followed.

On a motion by Senator Larsen, seconded by Representative Harding, that the motion be tabled to either the February LPAOC meeting or the one following. MOTION ADOPTED.

Senator Bragdon opened discussion for a potential performance audit of the Department of Corrections. Mr. Mahoney and Stephen Fox, Performance Audit Supervisor, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, provided information and responded to questions regarding previous LBA audits of the Department of Corrections, and the potential scope for a new performance audit of the DOC. The Committee approved the proposal for two audits at the DOC, security staffing and nonsecurity staffing, be brought to the Fiscal Committee for approval at its January 20, 2012 meeting.

Senator Bragdon recognized Senator Odell for a discussion of a proposed performance audit of the State's Juvenile Justice System. Mr. Fox provided information on previous LBA audits of Juvenile Justice; he and Mr. Mahoney responded to questions from the Committee. The Committee deferred more discussion of the proposed audit until its next meeting, pending additional information being provided by the LBA regarding the most recent audit of Juvenile Justice.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

Senator Bragdon adjourned the Committee with the next meeting scheduled for Monday February 13, 2012 at 10:00AM.

Representative John Reagan, Clerk