



LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Jason Ellsworth
Pat Flowers
Chris Friedel
Denise Hayman
Kathy Kelker
Forrest Mandeville

HOUSE MEMBERS

Lyn Hellegaard SJ Howell Emma Kerr-Carpenter Fiona Nave Jerry Schillinger Laura Smith

COMMITTEE STAFF

Deb Butler - Attorney Angus Maciver - Legislative Auditor Candace Radovich - Secretary

MINUTES LOG

October 05, 2023 State Capitol Building, Room 317/Zoom Helena. Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video recording of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at https://leg.mt.gov. From the home page, select the "Committees" drop down menu at the top, then select Administrative or Interim, and the appropriate committee. The written minutes log can be located by expanding the accordion menu for the date of the meeting. Links to the audio/video files can be located by selecting the Video/Audio button on the same page, then the "past/current recordings" button. From there, use the calendar to select the date of the meeting you wish to view/listen to. The written Minutes Log, along with links to the audio and video recordings, is listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page. Each of the Exhibits is linked and can be viewed by clicking on the Exhibit of interest. All Exhibits are public information and may be printed. Please contact the Legislative Audit Division at 406-444-3122 for more information.

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Sen. Chris Friedel (R)

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)

Sen. Pat Flowers (D)

Sen. Denise Hayman (D)

Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)

Rep. SJ Howell (D)

Sen. Kathy Kelker (D)

Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)

Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)

Rep. Fiona Nave (R)

Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)

Rep. Laura Smith (D)

STAFF PRESENT:

Deborah F. Butler, Attorney Angus Maciver, Legislative Auditor Candace Radovich, Secretary

AGENDA (Attachment 1)

VISITORS' LIST (Attachment 2)

Chair Ellsworth called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. noting the presence of a quorum. The committee secretary took roll. (Attachment 3) 08:34:16

Motion

08:35:17 Vice Chair Smith moved the committee approve the June minutes.

Vote:

08:35:17 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

NEW STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

08:35:43	Emily Nichols, Associate Financial-Compliance Auditor, Shira Lee, Associate
	Financial-Compliance Auditor, Cayden Noddings, Associate Management &
	Program Analyst
08:36:09	Presented by Cindy Jorgenson, Deputy Legislative Auditor & Deputy Legislat
	Deputy Legislative Auditor

COMMITTEE EDUCATION

08:41:18	Presented by Deborah F. Butler, Legal Counsel (EXHIBIT 1)
08:50:22	Chair Ellsworth asked Ms. Butler to explain the three different audit functions.
08:54:21	Sen. Friedel asked Ms. Butler for clarification on state/federal, and authority via the legislature.
08:56:00	Sen. Friedel law asked Ms. Butler about university laws.
09:06:42	Rep. Smith asked Ms. Butler for clarification via the allegations.
09:08:04	Sen. Kelker asked Ms. Butler about university systems performance audits.
09:08:49	The question was deferred to Legislative Auditor Maciver.
09:10:26	Chair Ellsworth commented on keeping politics out of Audit Committee.

Public Comment

09:12:22	Presented by Jeremey Verhasselt, Management & Program Analyst Supervisor (EXHIBIT 2) power point
	Present from Agency:
	Dustin Temple, Director
	Robin Graham, Chief of Administration;
09:36:53	Chair Ellsworth thanked Mr. Verhasselt.
09:37:05	Rep. Nave asked Mr. Verhasselt about data inaccuracies found in the audit via human error vs system-based errors.
09:38:27	Rep. Nave also asked Mr. Verhasselt how much time the wardens spent on entering data.
09:39:30	Rep. Nave asked for a solution on the warden's comfort level to be able to use the system correctly.
09:40:32	Rep. Nave asked Mr. Verhasselt about city versus rural citations.

09:42:23	Rep. Nave asked Mr. Verhasselt about confusion over roles. The question was deferred to the agency by order of the Chair.
09:43:42	Rep. Hellegaard asked Mr. Verhasselt about MOU's.
09:44:45	Sen. Flowers asked Mr. Verhasselt about contracts specific to sheriff offices and supplement of enforcement activities.
09:46:14	Sen. Flowers asked Mr. Verhasselt about the MOU's via exchange of services.
09:47:02	Sen. Kelker inquired of Mr. Verhasselt if the wardens were aware of the SmartCop system before they were asked to use it.
09:48:32	Rep. Howell asked Mr. Verhasselt for clarification on the HR department.
09:49:22	Rep. Howell asked Mr. Verhasselt if this committee should be concerned or thinking about an agency wide issue via lack of their HR department.
09:51:17	Rep. Smith asked Mr. Verhasselt for details regarding recommendation 3.
09:53:40	Chair Ellsworth asked Mr. Verhasselt asked if the process for employees to go through was in place, and for the audit time frame.
09:55:08	Sen. Flowers asked Mr. Verhasselt about cultural issues cited in 2020 and forward leadership.
09:56:58	Chair Ellsworth looked for clarification on time period in relation to culture.
09:57:42	Sen. Mandeville asked Mr. Verhasselt how much trust audit had in the survey results.
09:59:17	Sen. Ellsworth commented on surveys and systematic problems.
09:59:51	Sen. Hayman asked Mr. Verhasselt how many people filled out the survey.
10:00:27	Legislative Auditor Maciver noted a 77% response rate to the survey.
10:02:11	Sen. Hayman asked Mr. Verhasselt about the game warden turnover rate.
10:02:52	Sen. Hayman noted consistently employed group of game wardens throughout the last five years.
10:03:47	Sen. Hayman asked Mr. Verhasselt about core issues.
10:05:24	Rep. Kerr-Carpenter asked Mr. Verhasselt about recommendation 4, was HR aware of the issues pointed out in the audit.
Agency Response	
Presented by	Mr. Temple.

Presented by Mr. Temple.

Committee Questions of Agency	
10:12:18	Sen. Kelker thanked Mr. Temple and asked if what she heard from previous
	wardens re: computer system was true.
10:17:12	Sen. Kelker asked Mr. Temple if there was a need for a more suitable type of warden for city issues.
10:19:16	Sen. Hayman asked Mr. Temple for more on the culture survey and when it will
	be released. The question was deferred to Mr. Kirksey.
10:23:30	Committee Request: President Ellsworth requested the Department share the university survey results, provide a calendar timeline for implementation, and they want to follow up with the agency.
10:24:08	Sen. Flowers asked Mr. Temple several questions.
10:36:25	Chair Ellsworth had a suggestion.

Agency Response

10:40:20

10:43:47	Sen. Flowers thanked the committee and agency for the time spent on
	questions.

Chair Ellsworth commented. 10:44:07

Sen. Flowers asked Mr. Howell about the survey and change in leadership.

10:44:38	Rep. Smith was concerned about lingering fear of retaliation. The question was deferred to Mr. Kirskey.
10:48:30	Rep. Smith noted the lack of documentation via HR and asked Mr. Howell if he's put anything into place to make sure that documentation exists for the future.
10:49:34	Rep. Smith asked Mr. Howell about smartcop specifically the history of the system.
10:53:08	Sen. Kelker asked to speak to a Warden that was in the room. Joe Kambic - Sen. Kelker asked Mr. Kambic to comment on his standpoint.
10:55:13	Chair Ellsworth echoed other members and wanted the survey results, and then follow-up with the department.

Public Comment

10:56:14 Dirk Paulsen

Motion

10:59:26 Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report

be distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

10:59:26 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

Break

11:11:48 Agenda Change.

MONTANA STATE FUND (23C-15)

11:12:08 Presented by Jason Lindstrom, Partner, Eide Bailly LLP (EXHIBIT 3)

power point

Present from Agency: Holly O'Dell, President

Rene Martello, Director of Finance & Actuary

Kent Schlosser, Controller

Nick Mazanec, VP, Legal Services Patti Grosfield, Internal Auditor

Committee Questions of Contractor

Agency Response

Presented by President O'Dell

Committee Questions of Agency

11:29:22 Chair Ellsworth clarification point.

11:29:53 Legislative Auditor Maciver commented on disclosures.

Motion

11:31:46 Sen. Flowers moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that

it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be

distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

11:31:46 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Comment

None

COMPLIANCE AND INTEGRITY OF POLICY &BILLING SYSTEMS (22DP-02)

11:32:57 Presented by Miki Cestnik, Information Systems Audit Manager (EXHIBIT 4)

power point

Present from agency:

Holly O'Dell Matt Coy, CIO

Patti Grosfield, Internal Director

Rene Martello, Director of Finance Actuary

Committee Questions of Staff

11:47:10 Chair Ellsworth asked Ms. Cestnik for clarification on personnel/policy.

Agency Response

11:48:15 Presented by President O'Dell

Committee Questions of Agency

11:49:30 Chair Ellsworth asked President O'Dell about management oversight.

Public Comment

none

Motion

11:50:00 Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that

it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be

distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

11:51:14 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION (22-26)

11:51:28 Presented by Alexa O'Dell, CPA, Financial-Compliance Audit Supervisor

(Exhibit 5) power point

Present from Agency: James Brown, President

Jennifer Fielder, Commissioner Staci Litschauer, Agency CPA Tina Limesand, Business Manager

Will Roquist, Regulatory Division Administrator

Committee Questions of Staff

12:00:56	Chair Ellsworth thanked Ms. O'Dell	
17 00 30	CHAIL CHSWOLLL HALKEU WIS CLUEIL	

12:01:11 Sen. Hayman asked Ms. O'Dell about the FY2021 error.

12:02:50 Chair Ellsworth asked for clarification from Ms. O'Dell that the department was

taking recommendations seriously.

12:03:11 Rep. Smith referenced page three of the audit report and asked Ms. O'Dell

about recommendation one via organizational challenges.

Agency Response

Presented by President Brown

12:09:52 Handouts from agency (EXHIBIT 6) (Exhibit 7)

Committee Questions of Agency

12:11:05 Sen. Mandeville asked President Brown about office space for railroad safety staff regarding things like trains derailing. *Possible Legislature involvement*.

12:14:38 Sen. Kelker referenced the agency response asked President Brown about new

hires in relation to needed budget.

12:19:47 Rep. Nave noted Section D was watching.

12:20:27 Sen. Flowers noted Senate Finance & Senger Claims and asked President Brown

about how the agency identified the need/metric for the three CPA positions.

12:23:00 Chair Ellsworth noted the significant improvement since the last audit.

Public Comment

none

<u>Motion</u>

12:23:30 Rep. Nave moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it

was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be

distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

12:24:06 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

Break

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (22-23)

12:38:57 Presented by Renee Luster, Associate Financial-Compliance Auditor(EXHIBIT8)

power point Present from agency:

Christine Heggem, Chief of staff; Errolyn Lantz, Central Services Administrator;

Amy Sassano, Deputy Budget Director

Agency Response

12:44:38 Presented by Ms. Heggem

12:44:56 Chair Ellsworth thanked the agency for their implementation status.

Public Comment

none

Motion

12:45:20 Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that

it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be

distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

12:45:51 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (22-18)

12:46:01 Presented by Brenda Keller, Associate Financial-Compliance Auditor

(EXHIBIT 9) power point

Present from Agency: Nate Thomas, CFO

April Madden, Financial Supervisor

Committee Questions of Staff

12:52:27 Chair Ellsworth looked for clarification from Ms. Keller regarding time period.

Agency Response

Presented by Mr. Thomas

Committee Questions of Agency

12:55:36 **Committee Request:** Sen. Friedel asked Mr. Thomas how many FTE were

allocated for the specialty license plates. Mr. Thomas stated he would obtain

that information from MVD and distribute to LAC.

12:57:27 **Committee Request:** Sen. Kelker asked Mr. Thomas if staffing was still an

issue for the department. Mr. Thomas stated he would get that information back

to the committee.

12:58:30	Committee Request: Rep. Kerr-Carpenter asked Mr. Thomas about increased hourly attorney rate, how that program implementation would catch the fund up.
13:00:43	Committee Request: Rep. Smith asked Mr. Thomas for details on the incentive
	program.
13:04:46	Chair Ellsworth commented.
13:04:48	Legislative Auditor Maciver suggested committee members review information submitted by the department and then decide on an invitation to reappear in June.

Public Comment

none

<u>Motion</u>

13:06:15 Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

13:06:48 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 2022

13:07:17 Presented by Barry Weber, Partner, Eide Bailly LLP (EXHIBIT 10) power point

Committee Questions of Contractor

- 13:15:23 Sen. Hayman asked Mr. Weber about operating loss.
- 13:17:43 Agency Response presented by President Karas

Committee Questions of University

- 13:18:23 Sen. Hayman asked President Karas about enrollment in relation to Covid.
- 13:19:14 **Committee Request**: Sen. Friedel compare percentages of enrollment pre pandemic versus the present.

MOTION

Sen. Friedel moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

13:20:23 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

ACCOUNTABILITY, COMPLIANCE AND TRANSPARENCY (23ACTHOTLINE)

13:20:34	Presented by Ms. Butler (EXHIBIT 11) power point
13:30:28	Presented by Austin Powell, Associate Management & Program Analyst

	(EXHIBIT 12) power point	
Committee Questions of Staff		
13:36:49	Committee Request: Number of hotline submissions for agencies by agency size. (Included in January 2024 packets)	
13:36:54	Rep. Hellegaard requested compliant break outs by departments.	
13:38:20	Legislative Auditor spoke about public conversations evolving.	
13:38:56	Ms. Butler clarification point.	
13:40:03	Rep. Smith asked Mr. Powell if there was follow-up for advertisement of the Hotline.	
13:41:01	Rep. Smith asked Mr. Powell if there was a plan in place to have the hotline be more visible. Regarding the 75% of employees had knowledge of fraud, waste,	

	or abuse but hadn't reported it. The question was deferred to Legislative Auditor Maciver.
13:43:41	Chair Ellsworth asked Mr. Maciver about incentives.
13:47:24	Sen. Hayman asked Ms. Butler about substantial claims/allegations.
13:49:24	Sen. Mandeville asked Legislative Auditor Maciver why the Legislative Branch was excluded from the survey.
13:51:28	Chair Ellsworth spoke on ethics.
13:51:50	Legislative Auditor noted title 2 ethics code violations province of CPP.
13:52:29	Rep. Nave asked Legislative Auditor Maciver about the referral process.
Public Comm	<u>nent</u>
none	
13:55:37	Chair Ellsworth thanked Ms. Butler as a committee, and wished her well in her
13:56:22	retirement, and asked her to speak on her departure. Ms. Butler gave her last few words at the podium.
DEPARTMEN	NT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION (22-17)
13:59:54	Presented by Delsi Osmanson, Financial-Compliance Audit Supervisor
	(EXHIBIT 13) power point
	Present from Agency: Amanda Kaster, Director
	Rex Renk, CIO
	Meahan Bjerke, CFO
	DeAnna Noel, Budget Analyst
Committee Questions of Staff	
14:07:32	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster
14:07:32	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency
14:07:32 Committee C Public Commone	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency
14:07:32 Committee Commonee Motion	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency nent
14:07:32 Committee Commonee Motion 14:09:26	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency
14:07:32 Committee C Public Commone Motion 14:09:26 Vote:	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency nent Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be distributed in accordance with law.
14:07:32 Committee Commonee Motion 14:09:26	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency nent Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be
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14:07:32 Committee C Public Commone Motion 14:09:26 Vote: 14:09:34 14:09:47	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency nent Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be distributed in accordance with law. Carried unanimously by voice vote. Chair Ellsworth decided to cancel the public hearing on DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (22-15). Agency will be on the agenda for the January 2024 meeting. CE AUDIT PRIORITIZATION
14:07:32 Committee C Public Commone Motion 14:09:26 Vote: 14:09:34 14:09:47 PERFORMAC 14:11:11	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency ment Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be distributed in accordance with law. Carried unanimously by voice vote. Chair Ellsworth decided to cancel the public hearing on DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (22-15). Agency will be on the agenda for the January 2024 meeting. CE AUDIT PRIORITIZATION Presented by Mr. Soller (Exhibit 14)
14:07:32 Committee C Public Commone Motion 14:09:26 Vote: 14:09:34 14:09:47 PERFORMA 14:11:11 14:14:02	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency ment Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be distributed in accordance with law. Carried unanimously by voice vote. Chair Ellsworth decided to cancel the public hearing on DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (22-15). Agency will be on the agenda for the January 2024 meeting. CE AUDIT PRIORITIZATION Presented by Mr. Soller (Exhibit 14) Sen. Hayman asked Mr. Soller what the asterisks meant next to subjects. (This means the subject came as a direct request from a legislator)
14:07:32 Committee C Public Commone Motion 14:09:26 Vote: 14:09:34 14:09:47 PERFORMAC 14:11:11 14:14:02 14:14:56	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency ment Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be distributed in accordance with law. Carried unanimously by voice vote. Chair Ellsworth decided to cancel the public hearing on DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (22-15). Agency will be on the agenda for the January 2024 meeting. CE AUDIT PRIORITIZATION Presented by Mr. Soller (Exhibit 14) Sen. Hayman asked Mr. Soller what the asterisks meant next to subjects. (This means the subject came as a direct request from a legislator) LAD provided the narratives to the Chair.
14:07:32 Committee C Public Commone Motion 14:09:26 Vote: 14:09:34 14:09:47 PERFORMA 14:11:11 14:14:02	Agency Response presented by Ms. Kaster Questions of Agency ment Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be distributed in accordance with law. Carried unanimously by voice vote. Chair Ellsworth decided to cancel the public hearing on DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (22-15). Agency will be on the agenda for the January 2024 meeting. CE AUDIT PRIORITIZATION Presented by Mr. Soller (Exhibit 14) Sen. Hayman asked Mr. Soller what the asterisks meant next to subjects. (This means the subject came as a direct request from a legislator)

14:19:04	Legislative Auditor Maciver noted the audit act via authority to initiate an audit rested with the Legislative Auditor.	
14:21:33	Sen. Hayman spoke on history.	
14:22:56	Chair Ellsworth commented on order of prioritization	
<u>Motion</u>		
14:36:20	Conduct an audit of FWP culture, including assessment of HR program department wide.	
Vote:		
14:36:27	Carried 10 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Friedel, voting no.	
14:24:38	Discussion on the motion	
14:25:19	Sen. Mandeville asked what Sen. Flowers meant by culture: Sen. Flowers envisioned culture as what was captured during the enforcement audit (trust between rank/leadership).	
14:26:18	Legislative Auditor Maciver spoke on focus and boundaries.	
14:28:03	Sen. Flowers noted seeing the scope will be helpful for an assessment.	
14:28:58	Sen. Mandeville noted a performance audit of the HR department would be best.	
14:29:49	Rep. Nave asked Chair Ellsworth about ranking.	
14:31:04	Legislative Auditor Maciver noted the priority ranking and staff availability.	
14:32:34	Rep. Hellegaard asked Legislative Auditor Maciver about timing.	
14:33:16	Rep. Smith also spoke on timing and support for the motion.	
14:34:24	Sen. Flowers spoke on the turnover of HR staff.	
14:35:01	Chair Ellsworth spoke in support of the motion.	
Public Comment?		

Public Comment

none

Department of Military Affairs (22-25)

14:38:54 Presented by Jennifer, CPA, CFE, Financial-Compliance Audit Manager (EXHIBIT 15) power point

Present from Agency:

General J. Peter Hronek, Adjutant General

Janae Grotbo, CFO.

Committee Questions of Staff

14:51:53 Sen. Mandeville asked Ms. Erdahl about federal agency expenditures.

Agency Response

Presented by General J. Peter Hronek

Committee Questions of Agency

14:56:33 Sen. Kelker asked General J. Peter Hronek about staff turnover.

14:58:45 Sen. Friedel commented on MT Youth Challenge and commended it.

15:00:11 Chair Ellsworth commended the MT Youth Challenge, and it's benefits as well.

Public Comment

none

Motion

15:00:40 Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that

it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be

distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

15:00:53 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

MONTANA FACILITY FINANCE AUTHORITY (22-12)

15:01:20 Presented by Adam Hefenieder, CPA, Senior Financial-Compliance Auditor

(Exhibit 16) power point Present from Agency:

Adam Gill, Executive Director

Committee Questions of Staff

none

Agency Response

Presented by Executive Director Gill Committee Questions of Agency

15:07:53 Sen. Hayman spoke on Sen. McNally and her glowing review of the Director and

Seth Luther. She asked Executive Director Gill about funded and approved

projects.

Public Comment

none **Motion**

15:10:50 Rep. Schillinger moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report,

that it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report

be distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

15:11:40 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

JUDICIAL BRANCH (22-27)

15:11:58 Presented by Leslie Lahti, Senior Financial-Compliance Auditor(Exhibit 17)

power point

Present from Agency:

Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator

Committee Questions of Staff

none

Agency Response

Presented by Ms. McLaughlin

Committee Questions of Agency

none

<u>Motion</u>

15:18:40 Sen. Hayman moved the Committee acknowledge receipt of the audit report, that

it was reviewed by the Committee, filed, and that copies of the audit report be

distributed in accordance with law.

Vote:

15:18:25 Carried unanimously by voice vote.

KIDS IN CARE: ANALYSIS OF POPULATION TRENDS AND MANAGEMENT PROCESSES IN MONTANA'S FOSTER CARE SYSTEM (23SP-09)

15:19:39 Presented by Christiane Rudmann, Associate Management & Program Analyst

Present from Agency:

Nikki Grossberg, Division Administrator

Erica Johnston

Committee Questions of Staff

15:27:15	Sen. Hayman asked Ms. Rudmann if there were models other than SAMS.
15:28:13	Sen. Hayman asked for an update in numbers of Kids in Care.

15:29:00 Sen. Flowers asked about the court system piece being a potential project. The question was answered by Legislative Auditor Maciver

Agency Response

Presented by Ms. Grossberg (Exhibit 18)

Committee Questions of Staff

15:36:53	Sen. Flowers asked Ms. Grossberg about assessment of child welfare via the new evaluation.
15:38:00	Sen. Hayman thanked Ms. Grossberg for her work and asked about the SAMS model.
15:40:15	Sen. Kelker asked Ms. Grossberg about hot spots, more difficult places to apply services.
15:41:43	Rep. Smith asked Ms. Grossberg about family support teams availabity in all regions, as well as who is on the family support teams.
15:43:35	Rep. Nave asked about achieved family goals.

Public Comment

none

15:45:24

INFORMATION SECURITY IN THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM (23SP-10)

Chair Ellsworth thanked Ms. Grossberg for her work.

15:47:23 Presented by Miki Cestnik, CISA, CRISC, Information Systems Audit Manager

Agency Response

Presented by Tyler Trevor, OCHE

15:52:37 Chair Ellsworth commented on the audit function working as it should.

Public Comment

none

PERFORMANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS AUDIT SCOPE & OBJECTIVES

DLI Vendor Management

15:53:39 Presented by Hunter McClure, Senior Information Systems Auditor (Exhibit 19)

Montana Board of Outfitters

15:56:48 Presented by Jeremey Verhasselt, Management & Program Analyst Supervisor (Exhibit 20)

Committee Questions of Staff

Chair Ellsworth asked Mr. Verhasselt about net client use days.

Addition of New Construction

16:01:16 Presented by Austin Powell, Associate Management & Program Analyst (Exhibit 21)

Committee Questions of Staff

Chair Ellsworth asked about improved property.

Public Comment

none

LAD STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2024/25 BIENNIUM

16:06:28 Legislative Auditor touched on this, and it will be picked back up at the January meeting. (Exhibit 22)

Approve Biennial Schedule

16:08:55 Presented by Legislative Auditor Maciver (Exhibit 23)

Financial Audit Status Update

16:12:03 Presented by Cindy Jorgenson, CPA, Deputy Legislative Auditor (Exhibit 24) (Exhibit 25) (Exhibit 26)

Committee Questions of Staff

16:20:40	Flowers asked Ms. Jorgenson about effect on existing or future federal funding.
16:28:25	Sen. Flowers asked Ms. Jorgenson if this would affect implementation of annual single audit conversion.
16:30:11	Sen. Flowers commented on making sure we don't jeopardize federal funding.
16:30:56	Legislative Auditor Maciver commented.
16:33:02	Rep. Smith asked the committee to be updated on federal funding.

PERFORMANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS AUDIT STATUS UPDATE

16:39:26 Presented by William Soller, Deputy Legislative Auditor (Exhibit 27)

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE REQUEST

16:42:36	Update from the Department of Revenue (Exhibit 28)
16:44:22	Mr. Soller commented on that audit getting presented at a future conference. Chair
16:44:48	Ellsworth spoke about claiming report reading as a pay day.
16:46:12	Rep. Schillinger didn't think it would be a burden to the state.

Public Comment

16:46:57 Dean Snow

ADJOURNMENT

16:50:06 With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary: /s/ Sen. Chris Friedel

Sen. Chris Friedel