

Legislative Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes, March 25, 2021

Call to order: A meeting of the Legislative Oversight Committee convened on March 25, 2021 at the Oklahoma State Capitol, Senate Room 535, Oklahoma City, OK. Written notice was provided five days in advance, in compliance with Open Meeting Laws. The meeting was called to order at 1:19 p.m., upon which time quorum was established in accordance with Joint Rule 10.5.

Members Present: Chairman Kevin Wallace, Rep Meloyde Blancett, Rep. Jeff Boatman, Rep. Kyle Hilbert, Rep. Cyndi Munson, Rep. Mike Osburn

Chairman Roger Thompson, Sen. Kim David, Sen. Chuck Hall, Sen. Julia Kirt, Sen. Dewayne Pemberton, Sen. Frank Simpson

Others: (in person) Director Mike Jackson, LOFT Staff members Regina Birchum, Frank Magness, Brad Ward, Tom Bogdanowicz, Zach Sumner, Ryan Maren; representatives from the Oklahoma State Department of Health: Dr. Lance Frye, Lee Anne Boone, Julie Stone, Jennifer Lepard, Jackie Shawnee; legislative staff: House fiscal director Mark Tygret and Senate fiscal director Anthony Sammons.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Wallace asked Director Jackson to present the minutes from the last committee meeting. Director Jackson provided a brief overview of minutes for the Committee. Chairman Wallace asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes. With no questions, Sen. Hall made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Rep. Hilbert. The motion carried 13-0, with the following votes: Chairman Thompson, Aye; Sen. Brooks, Aye; Sen. David, Aye; Sen. Hall, Aye; Sen. Kirt, Aye; Sen. Pemberton, Aye; Sen. Simpson, Aye; Chairman Wallace, Aye; Rep. Blancett, Aye; Rep. Boatman, Aye; Rep. Hilbert, Aye, Rep. Munson, Aye.

The motion was adopted unanimously in accordance with Joint Rule 10.6.

LOFT Presentation of Draft Report: Rapid Response Evaluation of the Oklahoma State Health Department Contact Tracing Program:

Chairman Thompson welcomed the committee and went over a few house-keeping items and thanked Dr. Frye for being at the meeting.

Chairman Thompson asked Dr. Frye to introduce who he had with him and then asked Director Jackson to introduce the LOFT staff.

After introductions were made, Chairman Thompson asked Director Jackson to present the report.

Director Jackson first acknowledged the extraordinary circumstances under which the Oklahoma Department of Health has been working since the pandemic. Director Jackson provided opening remarks regarding the scope of the project and the work performed by LOFT. Director Jackson asked the Chairmen to recognize the lead evaluator from LOFT, Mr. Frank Magness, to present the report's first finding.

Mr. Magness discussed Finding One, and Director Jackson offered to take any questions from the Co-Chairs or the Committee.

Chairman Thompson opened the floor to Dr. Frye for any response or remarks. Dr. Frye presented general remarks about the challenges of conducting contact tracing during the COVID-19 pandemic and provided some additional context. Chairman Thompson opened the floor to questions from committee members.

Members of the Committee directed several questions to LOFT and Dr. Frye regarding the information within Finding One of the report.

Chairman Wallace recognized Director Jackson to present the report's second finding. With approval from the Co-Chairs, Mr. Magness was recognized to present Finding Two.

Mr. Magness presented key information related to the report's second finding, after which Director Jackson offered to take any questions from the Chairmen and Committee.

Chairman Wallace opened the floor up to any questions from the Committee.

The Committee directed several questions to LOFT and Dr. Frye.

Chairman Wallace recognized Director Jackson to present the report's third and final finding.

Director Jackson presented Finding Three, when Finding Three was finished Director Jackson offered to take any questions from the Chairmen or the Committee.

Chairman Wallace opened the floor up for questions from the Committee.

The Committee directed questions to LOFT and Dr. Frye.

Once all questions were answered Chairman Wallace recognized Director Jackson to present the report's policy considerations and agency recommendations.

Director Jackson went over all policy considerations and agency recommendations, Director Jackson turned it back over to the Chairmen for questions from the Committee.

Chairman Wallace opened the floor for questions.

Several questions from the Committee were directed to LOFT and Dr. Frye.

New Business:

With no further questions, Chairman Wallace confirmed the setting of the Committee's next meeting, on April 1st at 2:30 pm.

Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 pm.