February



NEBRASKA STATE RECORDS BOARD

MINUTES

Meeting of February 24, 2004

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Gale at 11:00 A.M. on February 24, 2004, in Room 1507 of the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska.

The following Board members were present:

John Gale, Chairman;

William Bidrowski;

Holly Bolen, representing the Attorney General;

David Buelt;

Sarah Kohlhof,

Laureen Riedesel;

Ron Ross;

Steve Schafer, representing the Director of Administrative Services;

Diane Vicars.

Not present were:

Jerry Catlett;

Lauren Hill, representing the Governor;

Kate Witek.

Ms. Vicars moved to approve the agenda as circulated; motion seconded by Ms. Bolen.

Voting For:

Bidrowski Kohlhof Bolen Riedesel Buelt Ross Gale Schafer

Vicars

Voting Against:

None

Absent:

Catlett

Hill

Witek

The motion carried.

Chairman Gale announced that notice of the meeting had been published in the Lincoln Journal Star on February 17, 2004, and posted on the public meetings website.

Ms. Witek arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Schafer moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 13, 2004; motion seconded by Mr. Bidrowski. Mr. Schafer asked that the first of two paragraphs on page 3 that begin with "Rod Armstrong..." be stricken. There were no objections. The motion to approve the minutes as corrected was considered.

Voting For:

Bidrowski Kohlhof

Bolen Riedesel

Witek

Buelt Ross Gale Schafer

Voting Against:

None

Absent:

Catlett

Vicars

Hill

The motion carried.

Chairman Gale opened discussion of a proposed addendum from the Supreme Court to change fees for online access to district and county court information via the JUSTICE system. Greg Lemon, Chief Deputy Secretary of State, introduced this proposed addendum. Frank Goodroe, State Court Administrator, testified in favor of this addendum. Kathleen Rutledge, Editor of the Lincoln Journal Star and Chairman and President of Media of Nebraska, testified in favor of establishing fees which reflect the actual cost of providing the service. After discussion, Ms. Witek moved to approve this proposed addendum; motion seconded by Mr. Schafer.

Voting For:

Bidrowski Kohlhof Vicars Bolen Riedesel Witek Buelt Ross Gale Schafer

Voting Against:

None

Absent:

Catlett

Hill

The motion carried.

Mr. Lemon announced that the Nebrask@ Online Contract Implementation Committee would report at the next regular Board meeting.

No other business appearing before the Board, Mr. Bidrowski moved that the meeting be adjourned; motion seconded by Ms. Riedesel.

Voting For:

Voting Against:

Bidrowski Kohlhof

Bolen Riedesel

Witek

Buelt Ross

Gale Schafer

Vicars

None

Absent:

Catlett

Hill

The motion carried.

Chairman Gale declared the meeting adjourned at 12:05 P.M.

John A. Gale Chairman State Records Board



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Feb. 24, 2004

Members of the State Records Board:

Media of Nebraska appreciates efforts to make state district court and county court records available to the public electronically. We also appreciate this opportunity for public discussion of the policy on access and pricing.

The proposed pricing of a \$300 per month or 60 cents per record is an improvement over the original plan. However, members of Media of Nebraska are concerned that the fees are too high and that they may limit the ability of news organizations, as well as the general public, to secure courts information. We support setting fees for public records that do not exceed the costs of providing the records.

Newspapers and broadcast media have a vested interest in getting these records, and it is for a good cause: to relay this information to the public. We want to be able to afford to get this information to the citizens.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Rutteds &

Kathleen Rutledge Editor Lincoln Journal Star

Chairman and president Media of Nebraska