

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

**November 2, 2001**

**MINUTE NO. 20**

**9:00 a.m. - Room 10**

1. **PRESENT:** Mr. Krawetz in the Chair and Members Gantfoer, Harper, Higgins, Jones, Junior, Kwiatkowski, McCall\*, Stewart and Wakefield.

**Substituting Members**

Mr. McCall for Mr. Wartman

**Provincial Auditor's Office**

Fred Wendel, Acting Provincial Auditor

Phil Creaser, Principal

Rodd Jersak, Principal

Victor Schwab, Manager

**Provincial Comptroller's Office**

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller

Chris Bayda, Executive Director, Financial Management Branch

2. The Chair tabled the following document:

**PAC 19/24 – Department of Environment and Resource Management:** Response to undertaking made at the September 28, 2001 meeting, re: deductions from environmental expenditures attributed to economic development, dated October 18, 2001.

3. The Committee proceeded to consider Chapter 9 (Government e-mail system) of the *Fall 2000 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 3)*. Mr. Creaser of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapter.

The following Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation and Department of Economic and Cooperative Development officials appeared before the Committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

John Law, President, SPMC

Al Moffat, Vice-President, Commercial Services, SPMC

Phil Lambert, Director of Communications, SPMC

John Dumalski, Acting Controller, SPMC

Lynn Oliver, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Office, Economic and Cooperative Development

Tim Whelan, Senior Advisor, Security and Privacy, Information and Technology Office, Economic and Cooperative Development

4. The Committee concurred with recommendation 9-1 made at page 255 of Chapter 9 (Government e-mail system) of the *Fall 2000 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 3)* that SPMC should set specific performance measures for GEMS and report on whether it met those objectives, and further that SPMC should communicate the overall objectives and the performance measures to all GEMS users.
5. The Committee concurred with recommendation 9-2 made at page 256 of Chapter 9 (Government e-mail system) of the *Fall 2000 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 3)* that the Government should establish minimum policies over its shared systems and ensure that adequate policies are developed and implemented, distributed and monitored for compliance.
6. The Committee concurred with recommendation 9-3 made at page 257 of Chapter 9 (Government e-mail system) of the *Fall 2000 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 3)* that SPMC should develop and test a complete disaster recovery plan for GEMS, and that this should include a complete threat and risk assessment to ensure that the measures taken to ensure the availability of GEMS are appropriate and cost effective. The Committee noted that the Government of Saskatchewan has complied with the recommendation.
7. The Committee concurred with recommendation 9-4 made at page 259 of Chapter 9 (Government e-mail system) of the *Fall 2000 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 3)* that the Government should evaluate the requirements of *The Archives Act* and develop processes to help departments and agencies comply with the requirements of *The Archives Act* for e-mail. The Committee noted that the Government is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
8. The Committee recessed from 10:08 a.m. until 10:40 a.m.
9. The Committee agreed to meet *in camera* to discuss the selection process of a Provincial Auditor and the appointment of the Audit Committee.
10. The Committee adjourned at 11:12 a.m. until Monday, November 26, 2001.

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Margaret A. Woods  
Committee Clerk

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Ken Krawetz  
Committee Chair