

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Julia Lynn at 8:30 am on Thursday, February 04, 2016, 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senator Jeff Melcher – Excused

Committee staff present:
Debbie Bartuccio, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Reed Holwegner, Legislative Research Department
Edward Penner, Legislative Research Department
Chuck Reimer, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
Patrick George
Kenneth Buchele

Others in attendance:
[See Attached List](#)

Senator Olson moved, seconded by Senator Denning, to approve the minutes for January 26, 2016, January 27, 2016, and January 28, 2016. The motion passed.

Possible bill introductions

Chairperson Lynn asked if there were any bill introductions.

Senator Holland requested a committee bill be introduced concerning campaign finance, and prohibiting certain contributions by contractors with public entities.

Senator Wagle moved, seconded by Senator Longbine, to introduce the bill. The motion passed.

Confirmation hearings on:

Chairperson Lynn recognized Patrick George, who provided testimony in support of his appointment as a member of the Kansas Bioscience Authority. ([Attachment 1](#))

Senator Denning inquired about the status of a \$60 million venture fund that, at one time, was being considered by the KBA. Mr. George said there were some costs involved in the preliminary consideration of the fund. However, a decision was made not to pursue the fund. Senator Denning asked about the level of involvement of the Board members with the KBA. Mr. George replied the Board unanimously voted for Kevin Lockett as Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Lockett has proven his abilities in managing the day-to-day operations of the KBA.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Commerce at 8:30 am on Thursday, February 04, 2016 in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

Senator Olson moved, seconded by Senator Denning, to recommend to the full Senate the confirmation for appointment of Patrick George, as a member of the Kansas Bioscience Authority. The motion passed.

Chairperson Lynn recognized Kenneth Buchele, who provided testimony in support of his appointment as a member of the Kansas Bioscience Authority. ([Attachment 2](#))

For the purpose of full disclosure to the Committee, Senator Longbine stated Mr. Buchele was a personal friend; had served as his Treasurer when the Senator was on the City Commission of Emporia; and had loaned the Senator money as part of his duties when employed by Bank IV Emporia. Senator Longbine recognized Mr. Buchele's wife, Marilyn, who accompanied him to the meeting.

Senator Wagle stated that when the time came to make an appointment to the Kansas Bioscience Authority, she felt it was important to have the Secretary of Commerce as a member of the KBA. She said she was also extremely pleased when Kenneth Buchele's name was submitted for consideration.

Chairperson Lynn said it was her intent to have an informational hearing on the Kansas Bioscience Authority.

Senator Olson moved, seconded by Senator Longbine, to recommend to the full Senate the confirmation of Kenneth Buchele as a member of the Kansas Bioscience Authority. The motion passed.

Possible action on bills previously heard

There was no action taken on bills previously heard.

Chairperson Lynn adjourned the meeting at 8:54 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2016.