

SENATE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting
February 10, 1961

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. in Room 529, of the Capitol Building by the Vice-Chairman, Senator Smith. Senators Smith, Farmer, Sanborn, VanSickle, and Senator Warren were present.

The following hearings were held:

1. Marais des Cygnes Massacre Memorial Park. Mr. John Morse, Mound City, Kansas, acted as spokesman for the group which appeared before the committee. See attached list for names of those attending, and the organizations represented.

Mr. Morse stated they were asking for approximately \$15,000 over and above the governor's recommendation. This figure includes \$6,500 to recondition and modernize the three story house on the grounds, \$1,600 for a water system, \$2,472 salary for a caretaker, \$2,000 for highway markers, and approximately \$1,000 miscellaneous expense for the museum.

They would like to make a change in the operation from an unattended park to a park with a full time caretaker.

Mr. Morse stated that the biggest objection to making this an attended park is the fact that it is not located on a state highway. However, the board of county commissioners, all in attendance at this meeting, stated they would improve the roads leading to this site, and make it a graveled secondary road.

Mr. Morse also stated that the local organizations in Linn County were willing to help promote the museum, as well as to help in caring for the park if improvements were made.

2. Pawnee Rock Historical Park. Those in attendance were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schultz, Mrs. Keith Mull, Mrs. Percy Convers, Mrs. Roland Schmidt, all of Pawnee Rock, and Senator Rinker.

Mr. Schultz acted as spokesman for the group. He asked for an appropriation of \$2,200 for a 36" high chain link fence and removal of the old fence. He also stated that he had been assured that some of the organizations in the community would build the \$2,000 shelter house requested, if they could get a permit to build it on the grounds of the park.

Senator Farmer moved that the intent of the committee be recorded that the Pawnee Rock Park Board would be allowed to grant permission for a shelter house to be built with private funds on the grounds of the park. This shelter house to become state property after it was built. Motion seconded by Senator VanSickle, and carried unanimously.

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3. John Brown Memorial Park. Senator Bowers appeared before the committee in behalf of the John Brown Memorial Park, stating that he felt the governor's recommendation was satisfactory with the Board of Trustees.

4. Kansas State Historical Society. Mr. Nyle H. Miller, Secretary, went over the budget for 1962.

He stated their main needs over and above the governor's recommendations were for a field man to help local historical societies, and work with the schools in connection with junior historical societies. This, of course, would necessitate funds for salary and a station wagon. He also felt they needed more funds than the governor recommended for communications and travel expense.

One of his main concerns was the need for a maintenance engineer and watchman, either for the Historical Society, or that arrangements should be made to secure these services from a central pool.

He reported that the \$38,000 already appropriated for the installation of the elevator in both the east and west shafts would not be enough. The increase would be approximately \$15,000, or making a total of \$53,900 necessary for completion of this work.



Glee S. Smith, Vice-Chairman,
Senate Committee on Ways & Means.

Hearing Date: Feb. 10, 1961

Agency: Marais Des Cygnes Massacre State Park

Persons representing the agency:

John H. Morse, Mound City - Linn County Fair Assn.
Waldo Cox, Pleasanton, Kansas, Chairman of Park Board
Ed Nicholson, Mound City - Chamber of Commerce & Vice-President
Centennial Commission
John Carmichael, Mound City - Superintendent of Schools
Linn County Sportsmens Assoc.
Fred W. Cox, Pleasanton - President Rotary Club
Chairman Park Board
Lee Turner, Pleasanton - Chairman Centennial Committee
Julius F. Bacon, Mound City - Pres. Mound City C of C
Wes W. Worthington, Mound City - Young Republicans of Linn County
Henry S. Moody, Mound City - Sec'y C of C, Pres. Linn Co. Audubon
Society
J. R. Smith, Contractor, Pleasanton - Rotary Club
J. G. Mantey, Mound City - American Legion
Don Welton, Mound City - Pastor First Baptist Church
E. D. Woolston, Mound City - Chamber of Commerce
Mrs. Ethel Hutchinson, Sec'y Marais des Cygnes Park Commission
Mrs. Blaine Gibson, - William Creekman Chapter D.A.R.
Mrs. Verna Blythe - BPW Club
J. L. Howell, Linn County Commissioner
I. H. Foster, Linn County Commissioner
Dick Kimzey, Linn County Commissioner