

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Elections

The meeting was called to order by Representative Richard L. Harper at  
Chairperson

9:00 a.m. a.m./p.m. on March 1, 1983 in room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Guldner, excused

Committee staff present: Myrta Anderson, Legislative Research Department  
Ramon Powers, Legislative Research Department  
Eric Rucker, Secretary of State's Office  
Arden Ensley, Revisor of Statute's Office  
Dottie Musselman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Horace Eubank, Retired Teacher, Topeka, Ks.  
Representative Heinemann, District 123, Garden City, Ks.  
Representative Mainey,, District 57, Topeka, Ks.  
Jon Josserand, Secretary of State's Office, Topeka, Ks.  
Jim Kaup, League of Kansas Municipalities, Topeka, Ks.

Chairperson Harper called the Election Committee meeting to order, and noted that Representative Blumenthal had visitors in the committee meeting from his district.

The Chairperson announced that invitations had been extended to Dave Owen and Robert Tilton, party chairmen, to testify before the Committee on HB 2470, and that they did not wish to appear before the Committee on this issue at this time.

Chairperson Harper now called Horace Eubank, retired teacher, Topeka, Kansas, to the floor to testify on HB 2470. Mr. Eubank testified against HB 2470. After a short discussion, the Chairperson thanked Mr. Eubanks for appearing before the Committee. (Attachment 1)

The hearing on HB 2470 was now closed as no one wished to appear before the Committee.

Chairperson Harper called on Representative Heinemann who is a sponsor of HB 2295, to explain that bill. Representative Heinemann told the Committee HB 2295 is a bill to sort out the serious from the non-serious as far as candidates for political offices. After the explanation, a general discussion followed.

Representative Mainey, co-sponsor of HB 2295 was recognized by Chairperson Harper at this time. After a brief discussion, the hearing was closed on HB 2295.

Chairperson Harper recognized Jon Josserand, Secretary of State's office, who at this time explained HB 2466 to the Committee. Mr. Josserand handed out proposed changes to this bill to the members of the Committee. (Attachment 2). HB 2466, is An Act relating to elections; concerning disorderly election conduct.

Following the explanation of this bill, along with the proposed changes, a general discussion was held.

Chairperson Harper now called Jim Kaup, League of Kansas Municipalities, Topeka, Kansas, to the floor to testify on this bill.

The hearing was now closed on HB 2466, as no one else wished to appear before the Committee.

The Chairperson now ask that the Committee turn to HB 2400. A motion was made by Representative Dean to pass out of Committee and place on consent calendar HB 2400. Representative Knopp seconded. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Elections,  
room 521-S, Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. a.m./p.m. on March 1,, 19 83

Representative Dean made a motion to pass out of Committee and place on consent calendar HB 2406. Representative Blumenthal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

(Attachment)

Horace Eubank  
Presidential Primary  
2-20-83

To: Editor, Capital Journal

Your editorial of 2-15-83 supporting a permanent Kansas presidential primary is a vague generalization about an anachronistic idea that has been rejected soundly in the two past legislative sessions-- another scheme to waste taxpayers' money.

Primary laws were instituted in the horse and buggy days when time was needed to transfer elections results.

Today's instant news rules out such a backward step. In fact, the time spent on elections should be drastically shortened in view of the lugubrious millions spent on last fall's elections.

Furthermore, how can any frugal person support spending more unknown sums for a shaky cause that is possibly pure eyewash? Over \$1.1 million was spent in 1980--to prove what? Few national candidates really came to Kansas in 1980. Check the record.

"If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem." The challenge is to simplify; I propose, for instance, to move the Kansas primary to Labor Day or the first Tuesday of October; it might be feasible to <sup>move</sup> election days to Sunday as in many European countries.

How can America afford such monstrous waste as in last fall's election campaigns? Britain has strict control over moneys spent and time allotted.

It is past time for America to update its election procedures.

Will you join me in defeating these two new silly bills (house and senate)? How could anyone support this hypocritical and paradoxical waste of taxpayers' money?

Did the legislature get the evident message from the 1982 elections? Write your legislator.

Section 1. K.S.A. 25-2413. Disorderly election conduct is willfully: (a) Disturbing the peace in or about any voting place on election day;

(b) leaving or attempting to leave a voting place in possession of any ballot, except as is specifically permitted by law;

(c) approaching or remaining closer than 3 feet to any voting booth except as admitted for the purpose of voting or by authority of the supervising judge;

(d) interrupting, hindering or obstructing any person approaching any voting place for the purpose of voting;

(e) engaging in any of the following activities within 250 feet from the entrance of a polling place during the hours the polls are open on election day:

(i) solicitation of opinions

(ii) solicitation of contributions

(iii) conduct of advisory elections other than those specifically authorized by law to be conducted by a county election officer

(iv) any other activity which is disruptive of the conduct of the election.