

Approved Ivan Sand
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The meeting was called to order by REPRESENTATIVE IVAN SAND at
Chairperson

1:30 ~~xxx~~ am/p.m. on FEBRUARY 15, 1984 in room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Jim Patterson (Excused)

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Gloria Leonhard, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Robert D. Miller, HB 2782
Ms. Beth Carrier, EMT Ambulance Coordinator, LaCrosse, KS., HB 2782
Mr. Dan Keener, EMT, LaCrosse, KS., Businessman, HB 2782
Ms. Nancy Brown, Pres., KS. Assn. of Townships, HB 2782, 2807 & 2853
Representative Jesse J. Harder, HB 2807
Mr. Jim Melvin, Organization of County Engineers, HB 2807
Representative Bill Reinhardt, HB 2853

Chairman, Ivan Sand, called for hearings on the following House Bills:

HB 2782, concerning townships; relating to ambulance service and tax levies therefor; - By Rep. R. D. Miller

Mike Heim of the staff gave a brief overview of the bill. (See Attachment I.)

Representative Robert D. Miller, sponsor of the bill, gave background and intent of the bill.

Mr. Miller introduced Ms. Beth Carrier, EMT ambulance coordinator, LaCrosse, Kansas, who testified in support of the bill. Ms. Carrier testified that her service is offered to six townships; that the present budget is not adequate to continue operations; that 81% of their runs are medicare runs which accounts for part of the funding problem; that their annual budget is \$34,647; that they provide 24-hour service with volunteer people reimbursed by the run.

Mr. Dan Keener, EMT, LaCrosse businessman, testified that he is totally in support of HB 2782.

Ms. Nancy Brown, President, Kansas Assn. of Townships, testified that her association also supports the bill.

There was no opposition to the bill.

Representative Arthur W. Douville moved and Representative Dorothy Nichols seconded that HB 2782 be passed. Motion carried.

HB 2807, concerning county and township roads; relating to the duties of the county engineer and township board; - By Reps. Harder and Wunsch

Mike Heim gave a brief overview of the bill. (See Attachment II.)

Representative Jesse J. Harder appeared to give background and intent of the bill. (See Attachment III.)

A question was raised regarding the reporting by Township Boards of all purchases and contracts, regardless of the amount to County Engineers.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
room 521-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on FEBRUARY 15, 1984.

Mr. Jim Melvin, Organization of County Engineers, explained that Township Boards are to keep those records in their minutes and report them to the County Engineers, but that many times the reports are not furnished.

It was pointed out that if a county has no County Engineer, then the Road Supervisor is designated as an official.

Ms. Nancy Brown, President, Kansas Assn. of Townships, testified that her association, made up of 40 counties, supports the bill.

Mr. Jim Melvin, Organization of County Engineers, testified that his organization supports the bill; that it is a necessary change.

It was noted that the title, "County Road Supervisor", might need to be added to the bill where appropriate.

The hearing on HB 2807 was closed.

HB 2853, concerning townships; relating to fire protection; - By Rep. Reinhardt

Mike Heim gave a brief overview of the bill. (See Attachment IV.)

Representative Bill Reinhardt appeared to give background and intent of the bill.

Ms. Nancy Brown, President, Kansas Assn. of Townships, testified in support of the bill and stressed that townships will generally not levy taxes if they don't have to.

Representative W. Edgar Moore moved and Representative Dorothy Nichols seconded that HB 2853 be passed. Motion carried.

The minutes of the meeting of February 9, 1984, were approved as presented.

Meeting adjourned.

MEMORANDUM

February 15, 1984

TO: House Local Government Chairman
FROM: Legislative Research Department
RE: H.B. 2782

H.B. 2782 authorizes any township which has established an ambulance service to levy not to exceed two mills. Under current law townships are limited to one mill except townships in Johnson County may levy not to exceed two mills, and townships in Ford County may levy not to exceed $1\frac{1}{2}$ mills. The mill levy is subject to a protest petition.

(ATTACHMENT I)

MEMORANDUM

February 15, 1984

TO: House Local Government Chairman
FROM: Legislative Research Department
RE: H.B. 2807

H.B. 2807 amends statutes dealing with duties of the county engineer. The bill raises the dollar amount of contracts and purchases of material and machinery used in road construction that a county engineer must keep track of from \$1,000 to \$10,000 in county unit road system counties, and makes a similar change in a statute covering purchases by townships which the county engineer must approve in counties not operating under the county unit road system.

(ATTACHMENT II)

JESSE J. HARDER
REPRESENTATIVE, ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD DISTRICT
636 N. MAIN
BUHLER, KANSAS 67522



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HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
INSURANCE
PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

TO: House Committee on Local Government
FROM: Representative Jesse Harder
SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2807
DATE: February 15, 1984

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you in behalf of HB 2807.

You will note from the bill before you that KSA 68-502 deals with records to be kept by the county engineer and KSA 65-526 increases the amount that township boards may spend without consulting the county engineer from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

About a year ago, members of several township boards in Reno County called to my attention that the limitation in current law makes it very inconvenient to do township business. In fact, it appears the law is ignored on many occasions.

Last summer, in answer to my inquiry, Legislative Research reported that the dollar amount in KSA 65-526 (\$1,000) was last changed in 1961. We all know that \$1,000 today will not buy what it did in 1961. It only seems logical that the law should be updated to better serve the needs of our township boards and to help bring about greater compliance with the law.

In December of 1982, Mr. Jim Melvin, Public Works Director of Reno County, in a letter to Representative Wunsch provided a rather extensive review of KSA 68-502 thru 68-589. Among other things he suggested the changes that appear in HB 2807.

(ATTACHMENT III)

All of the township board members I have consulted agree with the proposed changes. Mr. Carl Koster, Township Trustee of Morton Township in Sedgwick County and Chairman of the Sedgwick County Township Association called yesterday to say that he supports the bill.

In summary, it seems right that the spending limits for township boards set in 1961, should be raised to meet the needs of the 1980's.

Thank you.

MEMORANDUM

February 15, 1984

TO: House Local Government Chairman
FROM: Legislative Research Department
RE: H.B. 2853

H.B. 2853 authorizes townships to raise an added one mill to be used for the joint operation of a fire department with a city and county or to pay for fire protection services provided by a city. The mill levy is subject to a 10 percent protest petition which, if filed, requires an election on the issue. Other amendments are cleanup.

(ATTACHMENT IV)