

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

The meeting was called to order by Senator Paul Hess at _____
Chairperson

11:00 a.m./p.m./on February 9, 1984 in room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Senators Doyen, Harder, Talkington and Steineger

Committee staff present:
Research Department: Ed Ahrens, Mary Galligan, Lynne Holt, Carolyn Rampey,
Chris Stanfield
Revisor's Office: Norman Furse
Committee Office: Doris Fager, Mark Skinner

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Bill Hanzlick, Kansas Fish and Game Commission

SB 578 - Supplemental Appropriations FY 1984
SB 550 - Appropriations, FY 1985, Department of Administration, Fish and
Game Commission, Historical Society, Kansas Corporation Commission,
Park and Resources Authority

Section 3 - State Finance Council

Senator Hein presented the subcommittee report on this section, and committee members were given opportunity to question him.

SB 578 - Park and Resources Authority

There were no questions from the committee following Senator Hein's presentation of the subcommittee report on this section.

SB 550 - Section 4, Park and Resources Authority

In connection with his comments on recommendation No. 2, Senator Hein said the Director of the Authority feels the Planner III position would not be an ongoing position; and it was the subcommittee's decision that it would be cheaper to contract the job for FY 1985.

Senator Hein called the committee's attention to the fact that the subcommittee report (Item #8) recommends introduction of a bill regarding contracting with private persons for park permits, fishing licenses and hunting licenses. He stated that the subcommittee also wanted to recommend a change in the bonding law for such vendors. He suggested if they had some real property a lien could be placed on that property.

Senator Gaines mentioned that the dedication of the El Dorado reservoir is on September 1, 1984, and it is estimated there will be 40,000 people there on that day. He indicated there is need to waive the park permit fee for that day, and the Director of the Park Authority says there will need to be a special bill to do it. Senator Gaines stated he will request a letter from the Park Authority on this subject.

Senator Hess asked staff to give the balance between State General Fund and Fee Fund for income purposes. Staff indicated that 42% of the budget will be paid by fees, and the ultimate goal is to have it half and half.

There followed a discussion about sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Staff stated convenience stores cannot now sell those licenses unless the County Clerk issues the licenses.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

SB 550 - Continued

Section 5 - Fish and Game Commission

Senator Hein presented the subcommittee report on this section. There was continuation of the discussion initiated during presentation of Section 4 concerning contracting with private entities for sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Mr. Hanzlick said it would be feasible to contract with private entities if the Commission could have access to the 25 cents over and above the \$9.00 license fee. He said that, at the present time, some County Clerks are cutting down on contracting with vendors, but this has to do with bonding laws limiting the number of licenses going through a vendor's hands.

In connection with recommendation No. 9, Senator Hein indicated that new employees would be required to pay utilities, but their rent would be free.

The committee then discussed recommendation No. 8 of the subcommittee report. Mr. Hanzlick said his Commission is attempting to make the Kansas Wildlife Magazine self-supporting. He said it is now published only every other month. An attempt is being made to increase the circulation of the magazine, according to Mr. Hanzlick. He has received permission to include renewal slips in each drivers' license renewal envelope; and he indicated the subscription rate probably will be increased by one dollar per year.

In accordance with a recommendation made by the Joint Committee on State Building Construction, a motion was made by Senator Bogina and seconded by Senator McCray to amend SB 550 to include an addition of \$25,000 from the Fish and Game Fee Fund for planning and design of a Wildlife Education Center at the new Milford Fish Hatchery; and to further amend SB 550 by deleting lines 418 through 424.

During ensuing discussion, Senator Bogina explained that an agreement had been made that 50% of construction costs for the Education Center would be paid from private donations; therefore, \$12,500 of the \$25,000 included in his motion will be paid in that manner.

Referring to the deletion of lines 418 through 424, Senator Bogina indicated that language contradicts K.S.A. 32-606 which provides for all bond proceeds and hatchery stamp revenues to be held outside of the State Treasury. Of significant importance, Senator Garr had stated that the present language goes against the covenants of the bond issue.

In answer to questions from committee members, Senator Bogina stated the total estimated cost of the new Education Center is \$250,000; and half of that would be the state portion of the cost.

The above motion carried by voice vote.

Senator Gaines asked if the money for renewal insurance for the Fish and Game Commission is included in SB 550. Staff indicated that amount is included.

Section 7 - Historical Society

Senator Hein reviewed the subcommittee report on Section 7. In connection with recommendation No. 4b, there was extended discussion regarding the need for charging fees at Historical Society sites. Senator Hein indicated that SB 553 has broad enough language that fees may be charged at any of the sites.

There were questions and discussion regarding various recommendations by the subcommittee.

The meeting was recessed until Senate adjournment.