

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The meeting was called to order by Representative Kent Ott at
Chairperson

3:30 ~~am~~/p.m. on March 21, 1985 in room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Ramon Powers, Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Bob Frey
Bill Hanzlick, Director, Fish & Game Commission
Denny Burgess, Kansas Wildlife Federation
Senator Gerald Karr
Dr. Gerald Hannah, Dept. of Social & Rehabilitation Services
Frank Hendricks, Fish & Game Commission
Ken Kearns, State Conservation Commission
Barbara Sabol, Secretary, Health & Environment

Representative Ott called the meeting to order for the purpose of hearing SB 111, SB 213, SB 43, SB 61 and SB 119.

Hearing SB 111

Senator Frey spoke in opposition to SB 111 as amended. The bill makes it illegal to hunt coyotes during the open season for the hunting of deer by firearms unless such hunting is authorized by the Fish and Game Commission.

Bill Hanzlick testified in support of SB 111 as amended to prohibit the hunting of coyotes during firearms deer season unless the Fish and Game Commission authorizes same by rules and regulations.

Denny Burgess stated he favored SB 111 in its original form.

Hearing SB 213

Senator Karr in explaining his bill stated the fee for a landowner-tenant archery deer permit is greater than the fee for a landowner-tenant firearm deer permit. His bill requires that fees be identical.

Bill Hanzlick supports SB 213 as amended. He opposes the inequity in price of permits as the law now stands.

Hearing SB 43

Dr. Gerald Hannah testified in support of SB 43 stating this bill would provide an opportunity for patient/residents residing in SRS state facilities to participate in group fishing under an institutional group fishing license without requiring purchase of individual licenses. Attachment 1

Bill Hanzlick testified in support of SB 43.

Denny Burgess spoke in support of SB 43 stating it provided good therapy for patients.

Hearing SB 61

Frank Hendricks spoke in favor of SB 61. Fish & Game supports changing the title of "Game Protector" for law enforcement officers, explaining the title does not adequately describe their responsibilities.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SUB- COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

room 313-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~xxx~~/p.m. on March 21, 1985

The title "Wildlife Conservation Officer" better describes their job. Attachment 2

Hearing SB 119

Bill Hanzlick favors SB 119 and supports the addition of a representative of the Kansas Fish & Game Commission on the Kansas Water Authority.

Ken Kearns requested SB 119 be amended to include the Executive Director of the State Conservation Commission as a non-voting ex officio member of the Kansas Water Authority. Attachment 3.

Barbara Sabol stated she supported SB 119.

Denny Burgess said he would like to see a public member on the Kansas Water Authority who would support interests of sportsmen.

Representative Sughrue moved SB 43 be amended to define adult care home. Motion seconded by Representative Webb. Motion passed.

Representative Sughrue moved to recommend SB 43 for favorable passage as amended. Representative Webb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Representative Barr moved to recommend SB 61 for favorable passage. Representative Heinemann seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Representative Fry moved recommending SB 111 for favorable passage. Representative Guldner seconded motion. Motion passed.

Representative Fry moved SB 119 be amended to include the Executive Director of the State Conservation Commission as a member of the Kansas Water Authority. Representative Rezac seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-3.

Representative Sughrue moved SB 119 be recommended for favorable passage. Representative Webb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Representative Heinemann moved SB 213 be recommended for favorable passage. Representative Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

Statement Regarding S.B. 43

1. Title - This bill authorizes the issuance of institutional group fishing licenses for facilities licensed by or under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services.
2. Purpose - Persons that have been admitted to and are currently residing at a S.R.S. state facility, not to exceed 20 at any one time, may fish under an institutional group fishing license within the state while on a group trip, outing, or other group activity which is supervised by the facility. Group fishing is an important patient/resident activity, e.g. group therapy, recreation. It provides an opportunity for patients/residents to practice appropriate individual and group behaviors and tasks.
3. Effect of Passage - Passage of this bill would provide an opportunity for patients/residents residing in S.R.S. state facilities to participate in group fishing activity without requiring the state agency to purchase an individual license for each patient/resident.
5. SRS Recommendation - The Department supports this bill.

Robert C. Harder
Secretary
Social and Rehabilitation Services
296-3271
February 5, 1985

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Presentation on SB 119

1. The State Conservation Commission supports the addition of the Director of the Kansas Fish & Game Commission as a nonvoting ex officio member of the Kansas Water Authority.
2. The state water plan that has been developed the past tow years involves the State Conservation Commission as a major implementing state agency. The Management Section includes three recommendations in the Multipurpose Small Lakes Program subsection and three recommendations in the Rural Flood Management subsection. The Conservation Section includes four recommendations in the Agricultural Water Conservation subsection, and the Quality Section includes one recommendation in the Agricultural Run-off subsection. All of these recommendations, plus several others, involve implementation by the Commission.
3. There is a member on the Kansas Water Authority representing the local conservation districts and one member representing the local watershed districts.
4. The State Conservation Commission feels that the Commission needs to represent the state on the Kansas Water Authority. Therefore, the State Conservation Commission requests that SB 119 be amended to include the Executive Director of the State Conservation Commission as a nonvoting ex officio member of the Kansas Water Authority.

Senate Bill 61

Prepared by: Frank Hendricks, Training Officer, Kansas Fish & Game Commission

The title "Game Protector" is not indicative of the total professional job our law enforcement officers perform for the Kansas Fish & Game Commission.

Their job is a unique blend of law enforcement, public relations and fish and game management responsibilities.

First, they are highly trained professional law enforcement officers. They receive the same training required of all Police and Sheriff's officers in Kansas. They must be certified Law Enforcement officers by the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center.

In addition our officers must be trained in wildlife forensic investigation techniques. Some of these techniques include; time of death of a particular wildlife species by body temperature, eye condition or electric stimulus of various body parts; wildlife identification using only various feathers or body parts; habitat and life history requirements of individual species; sex and age determination of wildlife species and various forensic chemical testing techniques.

The job of these officers also include numerous public relation responsibilities. These responsibilities include teaching Hunter Safety, Boating Safety, Furharvester Education, speaking before public groups on hunting and fishing ethics, wildlife management programs such as W.H.I.P. and farm pond management and other conservation and environmental issues.

Often these officers are the only contact the public has with the Kansas Fish & Game Commission. Therefore they must be well versed and well trained in agency programs. It is one of their primary responsibilities to promote good sound conservation of our wildlife resources.

Our officers assist the other divisions of the Kansas Fish & Game Commission with fish and game management programs. They assist in fish kills and pollution investigations, fish propogation, fish and game surveys, wildlife damage control and trapping and transplanting operations, threatened and endangered species, etc.

As you can see, the job of the Law Enforcement officer of the Kansas Fish & Game Commission is very complex and diverse. The name "Game Protector" does not adequately describe their responsibilities. The term "Wildlife Conservation Officer" is more indicative of what their true professional job entails.

Let's recognize them for the professional job they do. They are Wildlife Conservation Officers!

If you have any questions concerning this issue I will respond to them at this time.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, thank you for your time.