

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mark Parkinson at 9:00 a.m. on January 19, 1995, in Room 531-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senators Gooch and Ranson

Committee staff present: Mike Heim, Legislative Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes
Shirley Higgins, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Anne Speiss, Kansas Association of Counties
Gerry Ray, Johnson County Commission

Others attending: See attached list

The Chairman announced that this committee generally will be meeting on Tuesday and Thursdays this session.

He then called attention to copies of a bill draft concerning certain mandates imposed on cities and counties. He informed the committee he would be introducing the bill January 24 and that if anyone wished to sign as a co-sponsor, they could do so.

Anne Speiss, Kansas Association of Counties, requested the introduction of a bill on behalf of the County Engineers. The bill would delete a statute that deals with water marks at rivers and creeks. The water marks indicate water level only and not the conditions such as heavy undercurrents. This creates a false sense of safety for those who may drive through the water when the water is below the water marks.

Senator Ramirez made a motion to introduce the bill, Senator Langworthy seconded, and the motion carried.

Jerry Ray, Johnson County Commission, requested the introduction of a bill which would amend the park and recreation districts statute with regard to competitive bidding.

Senator Langworthy made a motion to introduce the bill, Senator Tillotson seconded, and the motion carried.

The Chairman informed the committee that Senator Kerr had made a request for a bill to be introduced as a committee bill. The bill amends K.S.A. 19-4503. It would allow counties to provide some services to subdivisions which is not allowed at present.

Senator Feleciano made a motion to introduce this bill, Senator Reynolds seconded, and the motion carried.

Senator Reynolds had a request by a member of the Dodge City Commission for the introduction of a bill which would allow, at the discretion of cities and counties, the combining of city and county law enforcement. Mr. Heim explained that this is a simpler way to get the law enforcement agencies fully consolidated, especially with regard to the retirement system.

Senator Reynolds made a motion for the introduction of the bill, Senator Langworthy seconded, and the motion carried.

The Chairman had a request for a bill on the open meetings issue which was the subject of an interim committee study. The two issues that continued to arise concern the confusion as to if members can meet at social gatherings and the need for the inclusion of the discussion of appointments to boards as a reason for an executive session to eliminate the possible embarrassment of discussing candidates in an open meeting.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, Room 531-N Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. on January 19, 1995.

Senator Tillotson made a motion for the introduction of this bill, Senator Langworthy seconded, and the motion carried.

There being no further requests for the introduction of bills, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

The next meeting is to be announced.

