

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Rep. Carol Dawson, at 9:00 a.m. on February 1, 1996 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:     Rep. Troy Findley, Excused  
  Rep. Britt Nichols, Excused  
  Rep. Ralph Tanner, Excused

Committee staff present:           Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department  
  Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department  
  Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the committee: Trish Pfannenstiel, Legislative Division of Post Audit  
  Sharon Patnode, Legislative Division of Post Audit  
  Dr. Ron Hammerschmidt, Dir of Environment, KDHE

Others attending:

Madam Chairman Dawson requested bill introductions. Upon a motion by Rep. Gilbert, seconded by Representative Yoh, the committee voted to recommend for introduction a bill by Rep. Welshimer authorizing political or taxing subdivisions of the state to consolidate operations, procedures, and functions in order to operate more efficiently (5 RS 1719).

The Chair recognized Trish Pfannenstiel, who presented the finding of the audit entitled *Reviewing the Implementation of Kansas' Waste Tire Disposal Program*.

Following her presentation, Dr. Ron Hammerschmidt told the committee what the Department of Health and Environment has done in response to the audit recommendations. Activities he identified include:

1. Sponsoring a conference to discuss issues relating to waste tires;
2. Working with the 1995 interim Special Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which recommended legislation dealing with rules and regulations that relate to the processing and disposal of waste tires (1996 S.B. 399);
3. Making mass mailing to retailers giving them information they need to identify permitted operators;
4. Assigning staff to do financial audits of grants; and
5. Considering fines that could be assessed for violations.

In addition, the Department of Health and Environment is developing a policies and procedures manual, but will not finalize the manual until the Legislature takes action on S.B. 399. In response to a question, Dr. Hammerschmidt said there currently are ten monofills (disposal sites for waste tires only), but he believes there may be many more in the future.

Sharon Patnode presented the findings of the audit entitled *Reviewing the Department of Health and Environment's System for Assessing the Impact of Rules and Regulations Mandated by the Federal Government*. Recommendations highlighted included the need for the agency to develop standardized procedures, solicit broadbased input from persons who might be affected by regulations, and clearly state all costs (state and federal) in economic impact statements.

Dr. Hammerschmidt responded that the Department has developed a list of standardized procedures and is working with regulated groups to get input and make them aware of any proposed regulations so that they have early access to the process.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ELECTIONS, ROOM 521-S Statehouse at 9:00 a.m. on February 1, 1996.

Rep. Dawson expressed frustration with economic impact statements, saying that most of them are wrong because they fail to include all of the costs involved, such as the impact on consumers and the public at large.

The Madam Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:00 a.m. and announced that the next meeting would be February 2, 1996, in Room 521-S of the Capitol on adjournment of the House.