

Approved: 3-5-96
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Don Sallee at 8:00 a.m. on February 26, 1996 in Room 254-E- of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Martin, Excused
Senator Walker, Excused
Senator Wisdom, Excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Ardan Ensley, Revisor of Statutes
Clarene Wilms, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See attached list:

Chairperson Sallee reconvened the Committee meeting at 8:05 a.m.

The Committee received information presented during a meeting attended by the Chairperson concerning **HB 2663** dealing with rivers belonging to the state and concerning royalties for removal of certain materials from the beds of such rivers. This bill will nearly double royalties paid on sand and gravel removed from the rivers and will impose a tax on municipalities, previously exempted. Funds received from increased royalties will be used to clean up oil and gas contamination sites, some of which endanger the equus beds near Wichita. Funds from various sources will also be used, some federal royalties will be given up, the oil industry will be asked for funds as well as using funds from the conservation fund. The monies will be used in a three year program and will continue to be ongoing, dealing with 17 sites of serious contamination endangering the state water supplies.

It was suggested that no attempts be made to change the bill due to the narrow passage in the House, that this is a part of an overall plan to deal with these contamination sites and the administration wanted the bill.

Chairperson Sallee stated that **HB 2663** will be addressed at the earliest possible date in March.

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 5, 1996.

