

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Don Myers at 9:00 a.m. on January 15, 1997 in Room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department  
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes  
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Myers began the meeting by introducing the following members: Representative Clay Aurand, Vice Chairperson, Representative Dennis McKinney, Ranking Minority Member, Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department, and Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes. Mary Ann Torrence mentioned that Fred Carman will be her backup and that he will regularly staff the Senate Utilities Committee. The Chair had the Committee members introduce themselves.

The Chair directed the Committee to look in their Bill Books where some helpful aids have been placed such as Utilities Committee Rules. He called attention to item number one which states that he will not allow any substitute motions, they are not in order. He mentioned a switch in seating arrangements (Representatives Mayans and Sloan). A list of the committee members and Staff with their room and telephone numbers was included. He mentioned that in the committee folder, the Committee Recommendations that are listed, are directly out of the Legislative Procedures Manual that is used for the Committee Report to take back to the Speaker when legislation has been moved out of the committee.

The Chair described the purpose of a committee and read a paragraph out of the Committee Manual that stated, "Legislative committees are the mainstay of the policy making process in which Legislators and Staff invest enormous time and energy. They do the homework of the Legislature, they are the gatekeepers of information and provide citizens and interest groups with a formal opportunity to affect legislative decisions. If committees work, the legislative process works." He mentioned that the Committee will be judged by their work from this Committee.

Special Instructions. The Chair instructed the Committee that the folders are for conferee testimony. He mentioned that they may take them back to their office, but bring them back to meetings if they do. The Committee was also instructed not to take the Bill Books and that the secretary will keep them up to date and put in legislation so the Committee will have them for the meetings. The Chair mentioned that when the Committee is in hearings during legislative action, it would be appreciated if they would point their questions to agenda items and ask questions of the conferee to get information, but not go into deliberative action when in hearings. That is set aside for the times when the Committee does go into deliberation.

The Chair mentioned that there should be some interesting subjects to come before the committee. So far, there have been no bills assigned to the Committee and that the Committee may be hearing a lot about electric wheeling and gas gathering. The Chair asked Staff if they were aware of any legislation to come before the Committee, and they were not aware of any at this time. The Chair reminded the members that their task is to hear all sides of every issue. If the Committee does not think they are getting all sides of an issue, the Chair expects the Committee to ask enough questions so they can get all sides of each issue.

The Chair asked the Vice Chairman and the Ranking Minority members if they had anything to say. Ranking Minority Member Representative McKinney inquired of the Chair if it would be appropriate to have some hearings or briefings from the Kansas Corporation Commission or any interested private parties on what the driving forces are behind the current natural gas and propane price increases. The Chair indicated that tomorrow the Committee will have the Kansas Corporation Commission coming before the Committee and

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES, Room 522-S Statehouse, at 9:00 a.m. on January 15, 1997.

they will talk about what the agency does. Next week the committee will be taking up gas gathering, a report from the Interim Task Force on Gas Gathering, and two reports from the Retail Wheeling Task Force. The Committee will work on educating itself on what has happened in the past in these areas taking an opportunity to find out what the agencies that they will be working with do and their charters.

The Chair mentioned that committee members are welcome to stop by to see him in Room 175-W or make an appointment with the Secretary.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 1997.

# HOUSE UTILITIES COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: January 15, 1997

NAME	REPRESENTING
Tom Bruno	Allen & Assoc.
Jamie Clover Adams	Governor's Office
Juli Heid	Hain & Chair
J.C. Long	UtiliCorp United, Inc.
Tom & Miles	Kansas Electric Cooperatives
Bruce Graham	KEPCO
Michelle Peterson	Peterson Public Affairs Group
EB SCHAUB	WESTERN RESOURCES INC.
Rebecca Rice	Midwest Energy
DAVID B SCHLOSSER	PETE McGINN & Assoc.
Annette Lown	KU Student
Charles Benjamin	KNRC/KS Sierra Club
John Peterson	Ks Governmental Consulting
M. Hawver	Hawver's Capital Report
Ken Peterson	KS Petroleum Council