

Approved: 1-26-98
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Mason at 3:30 p.m. on January 22, 1998 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Barbara Allen
Lisa Benlon
Jerry Henry

Committee staff present: Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department
Renae Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes - Excused
Rose Marie Glatt, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Charles Ranson, President of Kansas Inc.

Others attending: See attached list

Representative Beggs moved that the minutes of January 21 meeting be approved, Representative Vickrey seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Charles Ranson, President of Kansas, Inc., gave the committee a brief career background and spoke, in general, about the ingredients necessary to achieve economic growth in Kansas. He said that after he had enough time to become familiar with the particular issues concerning Kansas he would return to the committee for advice and counsel. He promised to be open and receptive to the legislators.

Chairman Mason encouraged him to get around the state to see the particular problems and opportunities facing each area.

Various invitations were offered to Mr. Ranson for upcoming events.

Chairman Mason presented the idea of formulation of a small strategic planning committee to take a more unified, strategic and futuristic look into its long-term economic needs and develop an integrated economic development plan. He presented a written description, outlining this concept, for discussion. (Attachment 1)

General discussion followed including: lack of long range vision for new legislators, implementation of long term plans and strategies, funding needs, need for orientation on history of economic development, *Kansas Vision for the 21st Century* - Reference Book, consolidation of efforts from various departments, the importance of commitment and cooperation within committees and departments and how Kansas fits in the global market.

Representative Peterson moved that Chairman Mason continue to proceed with his concept. Representative Long seconded the motion.

Chairman Mason adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 1998.

During the last ten years the State of Kansas has been implementing an action plan which was originally designed during a depressed Kansas economy. Currently, our state is enjoying its highest level of economic success ever. Additionally, there have been new programs designed to meet the broad-based economic development needs of the state to ensure that in the event the economy weakens in the future, Kansas will be more resilient than we were in the 80's.

There are three primary state economic development agencies which are responsible for planning and implementing economic development in Kansas:

Kansas Inc.'s mission is to take a visionary look at the strategic economic development needs of the state and make recommendations for program changes or enhancements.

KDOCH and KTEC both develop independent plans of action and are also responsible for implementation of those plans.

I suggest that this is an opportunity for the state to take a more unified, strategic and futuristic look into its long-term economic needs and develop an integrated economic development plan. Previous plans have been more visionary than action-oriented and did not include specific strategies and tactics that could be measured during the implementation process.

My recommendation is that the House Economic Development Committee form a small, long-term strategic planning group to develop an integrated and comprehensive plan of action for Kansas to lead us into the next millennium. The members of this planning group should consist of: the leaders of the three primary economic development agencies, the leadership of the two Economic Development committees in the House and Senate and representation of the Administration. This would ensure that all those who are responsible for developing or implementing the plan will have input in order to effectively support this effort. I recommend this group begin meeting immediately to allow their input to be utilized during our current legislative session.

House Economic Development
1-22-98
ATTACHMENT 1