

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Hayzlett at 1:35 p.m. on February 6, 2002 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Aday, excused  
Representative Beggs, excused

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor  
Chris Courtright, Legislative Research Department  
Ellie Luthye, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Steve Kearney, Kansas Association of Auto Recyclers  
Mark Schrieber, Westsar Energy  
Representative Compton  
Representative Stone  
Carole O'Dell  
Kathryn Kayser  
Cameron Stebral

Others attending:

See attached sheet

Chairman Hayzlett called for bill introductions. Steve Kearney requested a bill which would create two separate licenses, instead of a dual license, for salvage dealers and used car dealers. Representative Humerickhouse made a motion to introduce this bill, seconded by Representative Vickery and the motion carried.

Mark Schrieber requested a bill be introduced which would repeal Kansas Statute 68-163 concerning the approval of plans and specifications by the corporation commission regarding lighting system. (Attachment 1) Representative Osborne made a motion to introduce this bill, seconded by Representative Levinson and the motion carried.

Representative Pauls made a motion to introduce a bill which would give an additional method for reinstatement of drivers' license or vehicle tag to a person without insurance who was involved in an accident which was not their fault. This was seconded by Howell and the motion carried.

**HB 2658 - designating part of U.S. highway 400 as Clayton J. Connell memorial highway**

Representative Mary Compton said she was contacted by the Fredonia City Council to introduce this bill in memory of Clayton Connell who worked from an idea stage to the finish of a super-two highway from Wichita to Joplin. She stated this is a small section, about ten miles from Fredonia to Neodesha. (Attachment 2) She then introduced City Commissioner Carole Odell to speak to the committee.

She told the committee that Mr. Connell had spent many hours working on the Highways for Progress committee because he felt that such a transportation route was vital to the economy of southeast Kansas as well as having a modern and safe thoroughfare for travel. She said the cost of the signs would be approximately \$350.00 each and that donations would take care of this expense. She concluded that it would be fitting and appropriate to name this section of the highway adjacent to Fredonia in Clayton Connell's honor. (Attachment 3)

There were no opponents. Following discussion Chairman Hayzlett closed hearings on **HB 2658.**

**HB 2656 - license plates for survivors of attack on Pearl Harbor**

Representative Stone stated **HB 2656** would make it possible for the family of survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor to retain their license plate after their death. He then introduced Kathryn Kayser who spoke in support of this bill. She said the Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates are wonderful keepsakes for the families of those honored by this license plate and she asked the committee to please support **HB 2656**. (Attachment 4)

Cameron Stebral addressed the committee next. He said Ben Phillips was his great grandpa and he would like to have his license plate someday. (Attachment 5)

Chairman Hayzlett closed hearings on **HB 2656**.

Since there were no opponents, and with no objection from the committee, Chairman Hayzlett called for final action on **HB 2658**. Representative Compton made a motion to pass **HB 2658** favorably, seconded by Representative Powell and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett called for final action on **HB 2656**. Representative Ballou made a motion to pass **HB 2656** and place it on the Consent Calendar, seconded by Representative Levinson and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting of the House Transportation Committee will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2002.

# HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: February 6, 2002

NAME	REPRESENTING
Diane Albert	KDOR-DMV
Sheila Waeker	KDOR-DMV
Carole Odell	City of Hedonia
Marcia Stambough	KDOT
Robin Tennison	Westar
Kathryn Kayser	
Cameron Stebra	
Jennifer Stebra	
Imma Phillips	
GARY DAVENPORT	KS MOTOR CARRIERS ASSN
STEVE KEARNEY	KS AUTO RECYCLERS



February, 6, 2002

Westar Energy respectfully requests the repeal of Kansas Statute 68-163. Following is the text of the referenced statute:

### **68-163**

#### **Chapter 68.--ROADS AND BRIDGES**

#### **Article 1.--GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**68-163. Same; approval of plans and specifications by corporation commission.** No such lighting system or lighting service shall be commenced, contracted for or installed on any road or highway or any bridge thereon until all plans and specifications therefor have been submitted to and approved by the state corporation commission.

**History:** L. 1947, ch. 349, § 3; June 30.

House Transportation Committee  
February 6, 2002  
Attachment 1

818 South Kansas Avenue / P.O. Box 889 / Topeka, Kansas 66601  
Office Telephone: (785) 575-6300  
House Transportation Committee  
February 6, 2002  
Attachment 1

February 5, 2002

Thank you Chairman Hayzlett and members of the Transportation Committee for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am asking your consideration of HB 2658.

The Fredonia City Council contacted me to introduce this bill in memory of a man who worked from an idea stage to the finish of a super-two highway from Wichita to Joplin.

Southeast Kansas was in need of a highway for economic development, and transportation needs.

We are asking a small section, about ten miles from Fredonia to Neodesha to bear Clayton Connell's name. The two signs will cost about \$350 and we are expecting donations to cover the cost.

Clayton Connell worked with Congressman Bob Whitaker in the early 80's. He was appointed to the Highway Task Force and worked tirelessly with the legislature until the first Comprehensive Highway Plan was passed for 400 East to be built replacing 96 Highway. Clayton was at every meeting concerning 400 East. He lived to see it come to Fredonia, but did not see it continued to Parsons.

When the Comprehensive Highway bill was signed, Clayton was instrumental in having Governor Mike Hayden come to Fredonia for the signing. We would appreciate your support.

At this time, City Commissioner Carole Odell will speak in favor of the bill.

Mary Compton

Representative 13th District

House Transportation Committee  
February 6, 2002  
Attachment 2



MAX V. WILSON, MAYOR  
CAROLE ODELL, COMMISSIONER  
ELDON D. MCGINNIS, COMMISSIONER

314 N. 7TH  
FREDONIA, KS 33736  
PHONE 620-378-2231  
FAX 620-378-2693

February 6, 2002

Rep. Gary Hayzlett  
Transportation Committee Chairperson  
Kansas House of Representatives

Rep. Hayzlett and Members of the Transportation Committee,

The purpose of my meeting with you today is to request the naming of a section of U. S. Highway 400 that bypasses Fredonia in southeast Kansas in honor of Clayton J. Connell. (See attached biographical information)

Clayton Connell, a long-time Fredonia resident, was involved from the beginning with the Southeast Kansas Comprehensive Highway Plan. He worked on the project with former Governor Mike Hayden, U. S. Representative Bob Whittaker, other state and local officials, as well as numerous volunteers. Clayton attended all of the planning sessions during the 1980's that were held for the proposed new highway system from Wichita to Joplin. He also was involved with the collecting of several thousands of dollars in pledges for the program. Clayton spent many hours working on the Highways for Progress committee because he felt that such a transportation route was vital to the economy of southeast Kansas as well as having a modern and safe thoroughfare for travel.

Clayton saw the Southeast Kansas Comprehensive Highway Plan become official with the signing of the official document at Fredonia High School in 1989 by Governor Mike Hayden. Clayton's dream had been fulfilled and he monitored the progress of the construction for the next nine years.

The Southeast Kansas Comprehensive Highway Project was a labor of love for Clayton. In August, 1998, Clayton's health was deteriorating to a point where he was taken to Texas to stay with his son. As he left Fredonia Regional Hospital, but before leaving town, Clayton was asked by his son if he wanted to go by the house one last time. Clayton's response was that he did not - he only wanted to drive the new highway one final time before leaving Fredonia.

Clayton didn't live to see the entire U. S. Highway 400 built to completion. He was able to see and to be driven from Beaumont to the Highway 47 intersection east of Fredonia. Because of his love and dedication to the Highway 400 project, I feel it is very fitting and appropriate to request the naming of a section of the highway adjacent to Fredonia in Clayton Connell's honor. The cost of the signs will be taken care of by Clayton's family as well as the city of Fredonia.

Thank you for allowing me to appear before you and your committee.

Sincerely,

Carole Odell  
Fredonia City Commissioner

House Transportation Committee  
February 6, 2002  
Attachment 3

## **Clayton Jefferson Connell**

June 24, 1911 - August 3, 1998

Clayton J. Connell was born June 24, 1911, at Fall River, Kansas, to Johnnie and Elizabeth (Proehl) Connell. After graduation from Fall River High School in 1928, he attended Fredonia Business College, earning his associate's degree in business. On May 2, 1932, he married Grace L. Gerrard at Eureka. They had two sons, Billie and Jack. Mr. Connell was appointed postmaster at Fall River on January 1, 1935, and became a rural mail carrier in 1942. He moved to Fredonia in the early 1970's. Mr. Connell retired as a rural mail carrier in 1982.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Fredonia and Masonic Lodge No. 163 in Fall River.

Mr. Connell officiated high school and college football and basketball games for more than thirty years. He was appointed to work several state basketball tournaments during his career as a referee.

During the 1980's, Mr. Connell was a member of the Highways For Progress group of volunteers, organized by U. S. Rep. Bob Whittaker to lobby for improvement to southeast Kansas' highway system. Mr. Connell was appointed by Governor Mike Hayden to the Governor's Highway Task Force to study and implement a comprehensive highway program for the state of Kansas. Gov. Hayden eventually signed a ten-year improvement project in 1989 that created the new U. S. Highway 400 corridor from Wichita through southeast Kansas to Joplin. The highway section to Fredonia opened on August 24, 1998, just three weeks after Mr. Connell's death on August 3, 1998.

Mr. Connell is buried at the Fredonia City Cemetery along with his wife, Grace, and son, Jack. He is survived by a son Billie, daughter-in-law Joanne, three grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

My name is Kathryn Kayser, and I am here to support HB 2656. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting this legislation because the Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates are wonderful keepsakes for the families of those honored by this license plate.

My father Benjamin L. Phillips received his license tag when it was issued approximately 10 years ago. The Emporia Gazette featured him in an article about the license plates. My father was so proud of the license plate. It was not unusual for people to ask him about it, and he was always eager to explain its significance - both to him and to our country.

When my mother returned the license plate to the Motor Vehicle Department upon my father's death, we were appalled to learn that it had to be destroyed. I made many phone calls at that time, and though everyone was sympathetic, each told me that it was the law.

One of the people I spoke with at that time was Representative Stone. Because of his efforts, I stand before you today and once again thank you for helping insure that these Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates can be kept as heirlooms by the families and passed to future generations so that we may never forget the sacrifices these men made for their country.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathryn Kayser". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Kathry Kayser



My name is Cameron Washington Stebral, and I am here to support HB 2656. You might think I'm just a regular kid, but Ben Phillips was my great grandpa and I loved him a lot. I would like to have that license plate someday.

Thank you,

Cameron W. Stebral  
Cameron W. Stebral