

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lana Gordon at 3:30 P.M. on January 29, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Valdenia Winn- excused  
Broderick Henderson- excused

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Ryan Hoffman, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Matt Todd, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Ann Deitcher, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Mike Hayden, Secretary of Wild Life & Parks

The Chair introduced Secretary Mike Hayden who addressed the Committee regarding Budget Recommendations and Proposed Legislation. (Attachment 1).

Secretary Hayden said they were "very excited" by the Governor's recommendations which include funding to provide for "Open Admissions" at Kansas' state parks which would eliminate the current ½ vehicle entrance fee and still retain all other existing fees for camping and other services. An amount of \$1.6 million from the State General Fund is provided for this initiative.

An on-going funding for infrastructure maintenance and improvements at the state parks in the amount of \$3.0 million from the Expanded Lottery Act was another major initiative included in the Governor's recommendations. Also provided was \$1.5 million from the Expanded Lottery Act Revenues Fund to finance flood repairs at the state parks that were incurred in 2007. In addition, Kansas Wildlife and Parks will allocate a portion of this funding to local communities to assist in their park flood repairs and develop greenways.

Included in the Secretary's attachment were several legislative initiatives as well as tables displaying the FY 2009 recommendations for the total KDWP budget and capital improvements.

Questions and answers followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm. A joint meeting with the Senate Commerce Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, January 30, 2008.

Overview of KDWP FY 2009 Governor's  
Budget Recommendations and  
Proposed Legislation  
To  
House Committee on Economic Development and Tourism

By J. Michael Hayden, Secretary  
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
January 29, 2008

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) appreciates the opportunity to discuss the Governor's FY 2009 recommendations for the department before the Committee. The Governor's recommendations include several major initiatives that are important to the department and the public we serve. The Governor has included funding to provide for "Open Admissions" at Kansas' state parks. This recommendation would eliminate the current ½ vehicle entrance fee and still retain all other existing fees for camping and other services. The state parks are an asset to the public and adoption of the "Open Admissions" policy would encourage more participation in outdoor recreation activities. An amount of \$1.6 million from the State General Fund is provided for this initiative.

Another major initiative included in the Governor's recommendations is a provision for on-going funding for infrastructure maintenance and improvements at the state parks in the amount of \$3.0 million from the Expanded Lottery Act

Revenues Fund. The state parks have an extensive infrastructure of facilities such as shower buildings, utilities, and campsites that are continuously in need of maintenance or replacement. A dedicated funding source would allow KDWP to plan for capital improvement needs.

The Governor has also provided \$1.5 million from the Expanded Lottery Act Revenues Fund to finance flood repairs at the state parks that were incurred in 2007. In addition, KDWP will allocate a portion of this funding to local communities to assist in their park flood repairs and develop greenways.

KDWP has statewide public service responsibilities including law enforcement and state park and public land management. To assist in the accomplishment of these tasks, the Governor has recommended nine additional positions for the Department in FY 2009. The recommendation includes 4.0 additional law enforcement positions, 2.0 additional positions to administer the state parks, 1.0 position to assist in operations of the Jamestown Wildlife Area which has had a major expansion, 1.0 position to assist in the education and information program at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center and 1.0 position to provide technical IT support to the department.

KDWP will continue the program to provide modern cabins at state parks and public lands. KDWP began the state park cabin program in 1993 by enclosing two open "mushroom" shelters into primitive cabins. These cabins were well received by the public. Due to lack of funding, no additional cabins were obtained until 1997. At that time, a private non-profit organization provided funding to locate five cabins at El Dorado State Park. Since then, KDWP has used federal and private funds to locate a total of 59 cabins at 15 state parks and two public land areas. Currently, the department is working with the Kansas Department of Corrections and WILDSCAPE to construct additional cabins for use by the

public. During 2008 the department estimates that an additional 16 cabins will be located on state parks and public lands. During 2007, the existing cabins averaged 112 nights of use per cabin.

KDWP has submitted several legislative initiatives for the 2008 Session that are attached. In addition, also attached are tables displaying the FY 2009 recommendations for the total KDWP budget and capital improvements. If the members of the Committee have any questions, please advise. Thank you.

Attachments (3)

	FY 2007 Actuals	FY 2008 Gov Rec	FY 2009 Gov Rec
<b>Programs:</b>			
Administration	10,039,820	11,255,782	11,625,641
Grants-in-Aid	1,705,496	2,010,000	1,790,000
Law Enforcement	5,861,501	6,020,020	6,292,760
Parks	10,270,992	10,508,118	11,233,903
Fisheries and Wildlife	17,321,316	18,584,432	18,842,915
Debt Service	763,800	-	-
Capital Improvements	10,172,168	19,094,893	9,779,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56,135,193</b>	<b>57,473,245</b>	<b>59,564,719</b>

**Expenditure Groups:**

Salaries and Wages	24,232,301	26,601,542	27,183,172
Contractual Services	10,455,147	12,621,151	13,254,083
Commodities	5,672,852	4,981,758	5,131,549
Capital Outlay	3,078,960	2,148,901	2,386,415
Aid/Other Assistance	1,757,799	2,025,000	1,830,000
Non-expense Items	2,166	-	-
Debt Service	763,800	-	-
Capital improvements	10,172,168	19,094,893	9,779,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56,135,193</b>	<b>57,473,245</b>	<b>59,564,719</b>

**Funding:**

*Operating Expenditures:*

State General Fund	6,640,181	7,032,763	8,849,851
Nonrestricted Fund	240,708	200,000	200,000
Park Fee Fund	4,229,026	4,525,963	3,502,197
Roads Fund	-	-	-
Boating Fee Fund	887,202	1,300,915	1,177,428
Boating Fee Fund – Federal	487,575	423,800	403,164
Wildlife Fee Fund	20,631,605	25,064,899	20,532,729
Wildlife Fee Fund – Federal	6,881,072	5,997,080	11,237,056
Federal Ag Fund	818,810	600,000	675,055
Land and Water Conservation Fund	467,514	500,000	500,000
Federal Grants Fund	2,315,731	1,678,661	1,785,483
Wildlife Conservation Fund	460,452	160,000	180,000
Water Plan Fund	100,001	40,000	40,000
Nongame Fund	206,160	219,000	215,000
Other Funds	1,596,988	635,271	487,256
	45,963,025	48,378,352	49,785,219

*Capital Improvements*

State General Fund	1,448,735	2,291,264	-
Cheyenne Bottoms Fed Grts Fund	2,470,680	-	-
Bridges Fund	557,380	332,096	200,000
Roads Fund	93,059	4,280,816	1,592,000
Wildlife Conservation Fund	1,309,268	834,341	650,000
Wildlife Conservation Fund – Federal	50,000	2,075,000	923,500
Park Fee Fund	13,214	8,167	500,000
Boating Fee Fund	58,810	356,481	100,000
Boating Fee Fund – Federal	95,329	209,000	50,000
Wildlife Fee Fund	562,584	3,580,790	480,000
Wildlife Fee Fund – Federal	798,319	2,489,882	200,000
Migratory Waterfowl Fund	91,248	85,511	150,000
Land and Water Conservation Fund	914,432	1,136,644	400,000
Federal Grants Fund	1,703,893	181,851	-
Lottery Proceeds	-	-	4,500,000
Water Plan Fund	-	1,000,000	-
Other Funds	5,217	233,050	34,000
	10,172,168	19,094,893	9,779,500

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56,135,193</b>	<b>57,473,245</b>	<b>59,564,719</b>
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Y 2 Gov Rec

	SGF	Gaming	PFF	BFF	WF - F	WFF	BF - F	WCF	WCF - F	LWCF	Other Funds	Roads Fund	Total
Parks Maj Maint		3,000,000	500,000							\$ 400,000	\$ 34,000		\$ 3,934,000
Flood Damage/Green Space Dev		1,500,000											\$ 1,500,000
Wetlands Acquisition/Development									\$ 100,000		\$ 350,000		\$ 450,000
Land Acquisition								\$ 500,000					\$ 500,000
Public Lands Major Maintenance								\$ 150,000					\$ 150,000
Bridge Maint											\$ 200,000		\$ 200,000
River Access							\$ 50,000						\$ 50,000
Road Maint												\$ 1,592,000	\$ 1,592,000
Federally Mandated Boating Access					\$ 200,000	\$ 280,000			\$ 823,500				\$ 1,303,500
Coast Guard Boating Projects				100,000									\$ 100,000
													\$ -
	\$ -	\$ 4,500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 280,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 923,500	\$ 400,000	\$ 584,000	\$ 1,592,000	\$ 9,779,500

) \$350,000 for wetland acq/dev from Migratory Waterfowl Fund; \$200,000 for bridge maint from Bridge Repair Fund; \$34,000 for parks maj maint from Pvt Gifts & Donations Fund

## KDWP Legislative Initiatives for 2008 Session

### 1) **Park Funding**

The Department continues to seek a permanent solution to the funding problems of the state park system. State general fund support, until the past two Legislative Sessions, had dwindled dramatically and patrons are not willing to continue to support increases in user fees. As of January 1, 2007, entrance to state parks was one-half of the previous year's fees and the Department would like to have open and free access to all patrons beginning on January 1, 2009.

### 2) **Law Enforcement**

At the request of the KDWP Commission, the Department requested introduction a bill, SB 267, creating the misdemeanor crime of failure to comply, similar to the failure to comply system in the traffic code. This initiative also requires the amendment of an existing statute, K.S.A. 32-1054. The bill passed the Senate late in the 2007 Session and awaits action in the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

### 3) **Vessel Liability Insurance**

State statutes require statutory authority for the purchase of insurance. Department vessels are not covered by the motor vehicle liability purchased for state vehicles and therefore the Department seeks coverage in light of the litigious nature of today's society. SB 157 passed the Senate and House Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Sub-Committee but stalled on the House Calendar where it awaits action.

### 4) **Wild Turkey Tagging Requirements**

State statutes require that a wild turkey be tagged with a carcass coupon when harvested. In the interests of exploring alternative options for future wild turkey seasons and management, the Department seeks to make tagging of a wild turkey carcass only as required under regulatory authority.

### 5) **Field Trial Permits**

Currently field trial permits are required for field trials that occur on controlled shooting areas during the controlled shooting area upland game bird season. The Department seeks to repeal this form of double regulation.