

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE VISION 2020 COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Sloan at 1:30 p.m. on March 9, 2009, in Room 711 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Clay Aurand- excused
Representative Mario Goico- excused

Committee staff present:

Art Griggs, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Scott Wells, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Chris Courtwright, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mary Koles, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Mike Hayden, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Tracy Streeter, Kansas Water Office
Stan Ahlerich, Kansas, Inc.

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Sloan welcomed and introduced Secretary Hayden and Director Streeter to the committee.

Hearing on:

HCR 5012 - A review of the Pick-Sloan Act.

Mike Hayden, Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, and a former Governor, testified in support of **HCR 5012**. He discussed the reasons behind the resolution and noted that this is an excellent time to send it to Congress (Attachment 1).

Chairman Sloan asked if others wished to appear before the committee; there were none.

Questions were asked by Representative Tom Hawk; Secretary Hayden responded.

Chairman Sloan closed the hearing on **HCR 501**.

Hearing on:

HCR 5013 - Protection, preservation and extension of the productive lives of reservoirs in Kansas.

Tracy Streeter, Director, Kansas Water Office, spoke in support of **HCR 5013**. He explained that during the recent Bush Administration, Kansas developed a productive working relationship with the United States Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. Continuing that relationship with future appointees to the position could be advantageous (Attachment 2).

Chairman Sloan asked if others wished to appear before the committee; there were none.

Chairman Sloan closed the hearing on **HCR 5013**.

Action on:

HCR 5012 - A review of the Pick-Sloan Act.

It was moved by Representative Doug Gatewood and seconded by Representative Tom Hawk that HCR 5012 be adopted. The motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Vision 2020 Committee at 1:30 p.m. on March 9, 2009, in Room 711 of the Docking State Office Building.

HCR 5013 - Protection, preservation and extension of the productive lives of reservoirs in Kansas.

It was moved by Representative Bill Feuerborn and seconded by Representative Don Hineman that HCR 5013 be adopted. The motion carried.

Chairman Sloan asked Representative Don Hineman to carry HRC 5012 and Representative Don Navinsky to carry HRC 5013.

Chairman Sloan welcomed and introduced Stan Ahlerich to the committee.

Stan Ahlerich, President, Kansas, Inc., provided each committee member with a copy of Leveraging our Foundations and Designing the Future: A Kansas Economic Renaissance, the 2007 Kansas Economic Development Strategic Plan. He mentioned that many, many individuals participated in creating the document. He addressed specific pieces of the strategic plan including: priorities, creating an environment for opportunity, the five areas of strength of our present economy, and Kansas' current and potential future business tax climate (Attachment 3). He reported that rural areas need access to broadband internet service - the mapping work has been done. Also, the idea of universal expensing remains controversial and workforce development is a major concern.

Questions were asked throughout the presentation. Chairman Sloan and Representatives Raj Goyle, Tom Hawk, Don Hineman, Don Navinsky, Joe Seiwert and others asked questions and many committee members commented.

Mr. Ahlerich and Dr. Art Hall responded to questions and comments. Numerous discussions followed.

Chairman Sloan invited Mr. Ahlerich and the economic development staff who made presentations earlier to the committee to return on Monday, March 16, 2009, for further discussion and to answer additional questions. He also requested the group provide an update to the committee in January, 2010.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

House Vision 2020 Committee Guest List

Date: March 9, 2009

Name	Representing Client/Authority
Earl Lewis	KS Water Office
Kim Christiansen	KWO
Hakim Saadi	SCC
Joe Mosimann	Hein Law
Don Kerber	Kansas, Inc
Tracy Streets	KWO
Lindsey Douglas	KDA
Sten Ahlbeck	KS F. -
Emily Gray	
Art Hall	KU
Taraese	Wentworth
Mike Reelst	Charles Broder
Mark Turnbull	City of Pittsburg
Pat Seiber	KS B.O.
Ashley Steward	Linexa Chamber

**Testimony on HCR 5012 regarding the Flood Control Act of 1944
To
The House Vision 2020 Committee**

**By J. Michael Hayden
Secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks**

March 9, 2009

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 5012. House Concurrent Resolution 5012 expresses support for a funding measure currently before Congress that would provide funds for a review of the Flood Control Act of 1944. The intent of this review is to determine of changes are needed to make the Act better reflect and serve the contemporary needs of the nation. Currently, the measure has passed the U.S. House of Representatives and awaits action in the Senate.

The Flood Control Act of 1944 authorized most of the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs in the Missouri River basin including the majority of federal reservoirs located in Kansas. Also, the Act is the guiding legislation for how these reservoirs are managed.

To put this in perspective, the Flood Control Act of 1944, also known as the Pick-Sloan Plan, was developed in the 1930's and 40's. It began as a result of both the Great Depression with efforts to provide jobs and also in response to the drought of the 1930's.

The needs of society, our economy, and the demands for water resources were largely different 65 years ago than they are today. Yet these reservoirs that are vital components of our water supplies and economy are managed under a set of guidelines developed during World War II.

To ensure these reservoirs are managed to best provide for the needs of Kansas the Flood Control Act of 1944 needs to be reviewed. We urge you to support HCR 5012.

House Concurrent Resolution 5013
House Vision 2020 Committee

Tracy Streater, Director
March 9, 2009

Chairman Sloan and members of the Committee, I am Tracy Streater, Director of the Kansas Water Office. I am pleased to appear before you today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 5013. HCR 5013 memorializes the desire for Kansas to have a strong working relationship and partnership with the appointed United States Assistant Secretary of the Army (ASA) for Civil Works in order to protect, preserve and extend the productive lives of reservoirs in Kansas.

The ASA for Civil Works is the highest appointed position with responsibility over the Corps of Engineers. President Obama has yet to name a replacement for ASA John Paul Woodley, who served President Bush in this capacity. Kansas has enjoyed a productive relationship with Mr. Woodley, including three visits to Kansas and several meetings in the Pentagon relative to reservoir management and sustainability issues.

As has been discussed previously, the Vision 2020 Committee has endorsed a planning process to ensure that actions are taken to sustain the useful lives of these and other reservoirs. It is imperative that the ASA for Civil Works and the Corps of Engineers are actively engaged in this process. HCR 5013 will encourage continuity as we transition into new leadership for the Corps of Engineers.

To reiterate some key points delivered to the Vision 2020 Committee this session, Kansas has 17 reservoir projects managed by the Corps with 13 of those reservoirs providing water supply to roughly two-thirds of the Kansas population. These reservoirs also provide significant economic development and enhancement for the areas they serve and a source of recreation that can be enjoyed by Kansans and visitors to the state.

The vitality of our reservoirs as a source of public water supply should not be undersold. The Kansas Water Office provides water to municipal and industrial customers under the Marketing and Water Assurance programs. We have worked closely with the Corps of Engineers to manage and operate the reservoirs to supply water to Kansans. Part of that work includes efforts to measure storage lost to sedimentation, programs that protect the reservoirs from reduce additional sedimentation and plans to restore storage capacity within reservoirs. In some instances, we have advocated for raising the water levels or "pools" to add storage capacity for water. Currently, studies on additional storage are underway at both John Redmond and Wilson Reservoirs.

The state of Kansas, working through a number of agencies and officials, has developed a close working relationship with the Corps of Engineers at the project, district and division level. Having a solid commitment at the national level will assist in sustaining those relationships in our overall effort to preserve and enhance Kansas' reservoirs.

In closing, Kansas has made great strides in identifying the critical water supply needs for our future and strong involvement from the Corps of Engineers is vital to addressing those needs. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you this afternoon and I encourage your favorable support of HCR 5013.

House Vision 2020
3-9-2009
Attachment 2-0

Notes from

Stan Ahlerich's presentation to the House Vision 2020 Committee on March 9, 2009, Room 711, Docking State Office Building, Topeka, Kansas

Stan Ahlerich, President, Kansas, Inc., provided each committee member with a copy of Leveraging our Foundations and Designing the Future: A Kansas Economic Renaissance, the 2007 Kansas Economic Development Strategic Plan. His remarks to the committee addressed primarily the following pieces of the strategic plan.

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Compiled by Mary Koles, Committee Assistant

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 Attachment 3*