

Approved: April 12, 2002
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:12 a.m. on March 20, 2002 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Ward Loyd
Representative Ray Merrick

Committee staff present: Robert Chapman, Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee: none

Others attending: See Attached List

Chairman Holmes announced the committee could possibly hold hearings on **SB 296** and **SB 547** next week.

SB 546 - Natural gas supplier, termination of franchises

Chairman Holmes opened the debate on **SB 546**. Representative Dillmore moved to report SB 546 favorably for passage. Representative Lightner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Representative Toelkes will carry the bill.

SB 545 - Public utilities, public right-of-way, fees

Representative Sloan distributed a copy of the City of Wichita ordinance regarding the tree pruning permit requirements (Attachment 1). A proposed substitute for SB 545 was distributed (Attachment 2). Representative Sloan moved to adopt the substitute. Representative Kuether seconded the motion. The motion carried. Representative Dillmore moved to amend the first line of the second page of the adopted substitute by replacing the word 'shall' with 'may.' Representative Goering seconded the motion. The motion failed. Representative Myers moved to recommend Substitute for SB 545 favorable for passage. Representative Dreher seconded the motion. The motion carried. Representative Huy requested her 'no' vote be recorded in the minutes. Representative McLeland requested his 'abstain' vote be recorded in the minutes. Representative Sloan will carry the bill.

Chairman Holmes announced the committee would not meet on Thursday.

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

The next meeting will be March 22, 2002.