

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Corbin at 11:45 a.m. on April 1, 2004, in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Barbara Allen- excused
Senator Greta Goodwin- excused
Senator Lana Oleen- excused
Senator Les Donovan- excused
Senator Mark Buhler- excused
Senator Mark Taddiken- excused
Senator Phillip Journey- excused

Committee staff present:

Chris Courtwright, Legislative Research Department
Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes Office
Shirley Higgins, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Thomas H. Slack
Don R. Paxson

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Confirmation hearings on Thomas H. Slack and Don Paxson, Members, State Board of Tax Appeals

Noting that several committee members were not present because they were still in caucus, Senator Corbin opened the confirmation hearings. As to Mr. Slack, he commented that he appeared before the Committee earlier in the session at a confirmation hearing; however, there was some confusion after the hearing with regard to what term and what vacancy he would be filling on the Board. Since that time, the situation has been clarified. (Attachment 1) Mr. Slack stood for questions, but committee members present had no questions.

Mr. Paxson informed the Committee that he is a native Kansan, and he has two degrees from the University of Kansas--Bachelor of Science in Business and a J.D. in the School of Law. He has practiced as a certified public accountant for almost 40 years. He retired August 1, 2000, and he and his wife have spent a lot of time traveling the last four years. He informed the Committee that he currently has a CPA certificate, but he does not hold a permit to practice. He noted that the statutory requirement for his position on the Board is five years of practice as a CPA. He confirmed that he will be succeeding Dwight Keen. Further background information is shown on the summary prepared by the Office of the Governor. (Attachment 2)

Senator Haley commented that the Board's membership was recently reduced from five to three. He asked Mr. Paxson if he had an opportunity to gauge the three-member Board's overall case load. Mr. Paxson said the Mr. Keen gave him statistics concerning the number of cases and the current schedule of hearings. He went on to say that he is retired, and his very small legal practice is in the process of being shut down. Therefore, he will be available at all times, and he is willing to devote such time as necessary to the Board.

There being no further questions, Senator Corbin closed the confirmation hearings on Mr. Slack and Mr. Paxson. He noted that a vote on the confirmations could not be taken because there was not a quorum. Therefore, there will be a vote at the rail later in the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE at 11:45 a.m. on April 1, 2004 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.