

Approved: February 14, 2005  
Date

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 10:30 A.M. on January 27, 2005 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Senior Assistant, Revisor of Statutes  
Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Susan Kannarr, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Becky Krahl, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Matt Spurgin, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Judy Bromich, Administrative Analyst  
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Roger Werholtz, Secretary, Kansas Department of Corrections

Others attending: See attached list

Senator Steineger moved, with a second by Senator Kelly, to approve the minutes for the meetings of January 13 and January 19, 2005. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Chairman Umbarger reminded the committee that Friday, January 28 and Friday, February 4, are being reserved so the subcommittees can use that meeting time because the full Senate Ways and Means Committee will not meet those two days.

The Chairman also explained to the subcommittee chairpersons that the following three systemwide issues will be pulled out of the subcommittee deliberations and will be dealt with systemwide:

- 2.5 percent pay increase
- 27<sup>th</sup> payroll
- Death and Disability

### Bill Introductions

Senator Barone moved, with a second by Senator Wysong, to introduce a separate bill with the Governor's recommended pay plan for state employees for FY 2006 (conceptual bill). Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Morris moved, with a second by Senator Wysong, to introduce a bill concerning taxation; relating to mineral severance tax; disposition of revenue; creating the oil and gas valuation depletion trust fund and providing for distribution of moneys therefrom (5rs0035). Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Teichman moved, with a second by Senator Steineger, to introduce two bills requested by the State Treasurer, the first bill concerning unclaimed property (5rs0568) and the second bill concerning authority to charge certain fees (5rs0569). Motion carried on a voice vote.

Chairman Umbarger welcomed Roger Werholtz, Secretary, Kansas Department of Corrections, who presented an overview of the Kansas Department of Corrections and presented detailed information in his written testimony (Attachment 1). Secretary Werholtz shared the Vision of the agency, A Safer Kansas Through Effective Correctional Services and the agency's Mission: The Department of Corrections, as part of the criminal justice system, contributes to public safety by exercising safe and effective containment and supervision of inmates, by managing offenders in the community, and by actively encouraging and assisting

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Ways and Means Committee at 10:30 A.M. on January 27, 2005 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

offenders to become law-abiding citizens. He referred to new information regarding leased beds on page 8 of his testimony that is being presented to the Legislature for the first time. The Secretary noted that a foot note points out that these beds will be shown in capacity only when resources are budgeted to fund them. The number will vary based on negotiated per diem cost and available funding.

Senator Betts asked if the Secretary would give some examples of training that is given for ex-offenders when they leave prison, and to address the current recidivism rates and how the Department of Corrections is dealing with it. Secretary Werholtz explained that among the programs they offer are targeted to meet particular needs that are identified in the offender population, as they believe and research would indicate contributes to on-going criminal behavior. Specific programs offered in the facilities are: sex offender treatment, limited amount of short-term substance abuse treatment, longer-term substance abuse treatment, academic education. He noted that all these programs are based on how much time the offender has left to serve, the availability of programs at a specific institution where the program can be housed because not every program is at every facility, or the willingness of the individual to go through a program. In regard to recidivism rates, Secretary Werholtz mentioned that after one year out of incarceration, the rate tends to vary between 43-46 percent. After three years, that rate tends to go to about 50-55 percent.

Senator Morris requested information regarding the differences between those in the juvenile justice system and the adult prison population. Secretary Werholtz responded that the only way that could be done is to provide data out of their prison population and see if the Juvenile Justice Authority could identify individuals out of that population. Senator McGinn requested an update on the Shawnee County Re-Entry Pilot Project in Topeka, and what the future is concerning implementing that program in Wichita.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon. The next meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2005.