

Approved: February 23, 2012

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(Date)

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marc Rhoades at 9:10 AM on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Marvin Kleeb - excused

Committee staff present:

J.G. Scott, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department

Dylan Dear, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department

Michael Wales, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department

Jill Wolters, Senior Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Nobuko Folmsbee, Senior Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Cindy O'Neal, Administrative Assistant

Kathy Holscher, Committee Assistant

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

Representative Sullentrop made a motion to introduce legislation regarding revisions for new hires. The motion was seconded by Representative Mast. Motion carried.

Representative Carlin, Ranking Minority Member, Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the 2013 Citizens Utility Ratepayer Board Budget Committee Report (Attachment 1). The Budget Committee concurred with the Governor's recommendation with the following adjustments and comments: add \$16,729 to restore funding the agency's base budget; add language to continue unused balances in consulting fees for use on consultants contracts; add language continuing the prohibition on Citizens' Regulatory Review Board using any money in FY 2013 from regulatory fee fund; and concern with the amount of responsibility on board members and volume of new regulations being considered.

Representative Carlin made a motion to approve the FY 2013 Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board Budget Committee Report. The motion was seconded by Representative Schwartz.

Discussion followed by committee members regarding the addition of \$16,729 from special revenue funds. It was noted this would be money would be carried forward to provide funding for consulting fees.

Representative Carlin renewed the motion to approve the Budget Committee Report. The motion carried.

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Representative Schwartz, Chair, Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the FY 2013 Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Budget Committee Report (Attachment 1). The Budget Committee concurred with the Governor's recommendation with the following notations: noted the Governor's recommendation to use \$1.8 million from the Expanded Lottery Act Revenues Fund to repay Wildscape loans; recommended deleting that language limiting expenditures from the Cabin Revenue Fund for capital improvement expenditures; recommended the agency review membership fees ensuring a good investment for the state; and commended the agency on quality of its budget presentation.

*Representative Schwartz made a motion to approve the FY 2013 Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Budget Committee Report. The motion was seconded by Representative Carlin.*

Discussion followed by committee members regarding the cabin program and provisions of the contract with Kansas Wildscape.

Dick Koerth, Budget Liaison, Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, responded to questions from committee members. He reviewed the pay off of the loans for the Cabin program held with Kansas Wildscape, and noted that Kansas Wildscape would receive 10% of the cabin revenue to support programs that promote outdoor activities for youth and the executive director's wages.

*Representative Schwartz renewed the motion to approve the Budget Committee Report. Motion carried.*

Representative Lane, Member, Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the FY 2013 Kansas Corporation Commission Budget Committee Report (Attachment 1). The Budget Committee concurred with the Governor's recommendation with the following adjustments: recommends introduction of legislation regarding plugging abandoned wells; noted an estimated 905 abandoned wells would be plugged or removed from the inventory; recommended the agency reprioritize vehicle request and for review at Omnibus; recommended that all fines and penalties from the civil assessment program would be deposited into the State General Fund (SGF) including provisos from **Senate Substitute for HB 2014 by Committee on Ways and Means -- Appropriations for FY 2011 through FY 2016 for various state agencies, omnibus appropriation act and omnibus reconciliation spending limit bill, capital improvements, special claims**; noted the decrease in the Governor's recommendation due to final expenditure of the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding in FY 2012; and noted the dramatic increase in oilfield activity in south central Kansas.

*Representative Lane made a motion to approve the FY 2013 Kansas Corporation Commission Budget Committee Report. The motion was seconded by Representative Schwartz.*

Discussion followed by committee members. It was noted that additional information on the maintenance costs, mileage and replacement costs of the off-the road vehicles would be helpful to

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review for discussion at Omnibus. Committee members discussed concerns with the abandoned wells and the need to determine responsible parties through legislation. It was noted that the committee recommended that penalties and fines collected would go in to SGF as opposed to the agency that issued the fines.

*Representative Lane renewed the motion to approve the Budget Committee Report. The motion carried.*

Chairman Rhoades reviewed the agenda for the next committee meeting.

Meeting adjourned at: 10:05 a.m.