

Approved: March 1, 2012
(Date)

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carl Holmes at 9:00 AM on Monday, February 13, 2012 in 785 of the DSOB.

All members were present:

Committee staff present:

Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research
Brian Turnbull, Kansas Legislative Research
Mike Sterling, Kansas Revisor of Statutes
Tamara Lawrence, Kansas Revisor of Statutes
Renae Hansen, Committee Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Kurt Fairchild,
Colin Hansen, Kansas Munciple Utilities
Mel Chesbro, City of St. Johns Kansas
Tim Maier, McPherson BPU
Kimberly Winn, League of Kansas Municipalities

Others in attendance:

Twenty Three including the attached list.

Hearing on:

HB 2661-Municipally-owned utilities and rates

Matt Sterling, Revisor of Statutes, (Attachment 1) spoke to the committee explaining **HB 2661**.

Proponents:

Representative Mitch Holmes presented a proposed an amendment (Attachment 2) to be possibly included with **HB 2661**.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES Committee at 9:00 AM on Monday,
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Kurt Fairchild, St. John, Kansas, (Attachment 3), spoke to the committee in support of **HB 2661**. He noted that often there are charges for services, included in the electricity bill for services that those in the rural area do not receive.

Opponents:

Colin Hansen, Kansas Municipal Utilities, (Attachment 4), spoke in opposition of **HB 2661**. He spent time talking about some of the independent consequences of this bill.

Mel Chesbro, City Superintendent, City of St. John, Kansas, (Attachment 5), spoke in opposition to **HB 2661**. He relayed to the committee information on the specific issue that brought forth this piece of legislation.

Tim Maier, General Manager McPherson BPU, (Attachment 6), spoke in opposition of **HB 2661**. He noted that the city attorney, Jeff Houston, was in attendance to answer any questions the committee might have.

Kimberly Winn, League of Kansas Municipalities, (Attachment 7) presented testimony in opposition to **HB 2661**.

Opponent (Written):

Jeff Morris, City Manager, Coffeyville, KS, (Attachment 8) offered written testimony in opposition to **HB 2661**.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Vern Swanson, Joe Seiwert, Don Hineman, Tom Sloan, and Forrest Knox.

Jeff Houston, City Attorney for McPherson helped to answer questions asked by committee members.

The hearing on **HB 2661** was closed.

Action on:

HB 2642- Regulation of Hydraulic Fracturing; Requiring disclosure

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Representative Stan Frownfelter moved to pass **HB 2642** to the House of Representatives, seconded by Representative Mike Slattery.

Discussion ensued between Representatives: Stan Frownfelter, and Annie Kuether.

The motion was withdrawn.

Action on **HB 2642** was suspended.

Action on:

HB 2685-Allowing eligible water right holders to create reservoir improvement districts

Representative Tom Sloan moved to pass **HB 2685** favorable for passage, seconded by Representative Vern Swanson. Motion carried.

Representative Tom Sloan will carry **HB 2685** on the floor.

The action on **HB 2685** was closed.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 14, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

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