

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

February 17, 2011
Room 144-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Jo Ann Pottorff, Chairperson
Senator Dwayne Umbarger, Vice-chairperson
Senator Marci Francisco
Senator Laura Kelly
Representative Steve Brunk
Representative Bill Feuerborn
Representative Bob Grant

Members Absent

Senator Pat Apple
Senator Jay Emler
Representative Kay Wolf

Staff

Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ryan Weir, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dorothy Hughes, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michael Steiner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees

John Martello, Deputy Superintendent and Director of Operations, Kansas School for the Blind and Kansas School for the Deaf

Other Attending

See attached list.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and invited Dorothy Hughes, Kansas Legislative Research Department, to review the capital improvements budget for the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs; the agency includes the Kansas Soldiers' Home in Dodge City and the Kansas Veterans' Home in Winfield ([Attachment 1](#)). For FY 2011, the revised agency budget of \$1.9 million provides for major maintenance, as well as significant rehabilitation and repair projects, all from the State Institutions Building Fund (SIBF). The Governor concurred with the revised budget. The Senate Ways and Means Subcommittee suggested a prioritized list be developed before the Omnibus session. The agency's FY 2012 budget for rehabilitation and repair (\$848,090, all from the SIBF) represents a reduction of \$1.1 million, because some major repairs have been completed. The Governor concurred with the agency's budget request. The Senate Subcommittee requested a prioritized list before the Omnibus session and noted that the agency has requested a study by the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College to ascertain what other benefits Kansas might provide to its veterans.

Answering questions, Ms. Hughes replied that cottage repairs at the Kansas Soldiers' Home were done only to the occupied cottages; the occupancy rate is 50 percent. The agency recognizes the need to reassess cottage use.

Michael Steiner, Kansas Legislative Research Department, presented the capital improvements budget for the Kansas Department of Commerce. For FY 2011, the agency requested \$160,000: \$80,000 for debt service and \$80,000 for rehabilitation and repair, with the funds coming from special revenue funds and federal sources. The Governor concurred with the agency's budget request. The agency requested the same amount for FY 2012, with the Governor concurring. Answering questions, Mr. Steiner replied that the agency is authorized to spend up to the budgeted amount; funds do not accrue. He will provide follow up information to the Committee regarding the disposition of federal funds.

Ms. Hughes returned to brief the Committee on the Kansas Insurance Department's capital improvements budget request. For FY 2011, the agency requested \$162,678: \$95,000 for rehabilitation and repair and \$67,678 to reduce the bond principal, all from agency funds. The Governor concurred with the agency's budget request. The FY 2012 agency budget request of \$165,115 again includes \$95,000 for rehabilitation and repair; the remainder (\$70,115) would be allocated for bond payments. The Governor concurred with the request; however, the Senate Subcommittee recommends that the bond payment be increased to \$348,850, which is the amount drawn from special revenue funds in order to pay off the bonds. This action, according to Kathy Bonhoff, agency comptroller, will save the agency \$30,000 in interest payments.

Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department, presented the capital improvements budgets for the Kansas School for the Deaf and the Kansas School for the Blind.

The FY 2011 budget for the School for the Deaf, a total of \$675,040, includes normal rehabilitation and repair (\$235,705), upgrades to the Roth Dormitory, roof repair of Emery Hall, and \$63,850 for debt service principal payments for the Facilities Conservation Improvement Project (debt service is drawn from the State General Fund (SGF)). The Governor concurred with the agency's budget request. Responding to a question, Ms. Cussimano replied that the architect fees for the Roth Dormitory renovation were needed to bring the building up to code. She stated the bond expenses are SGF, rather than SIBF, because the project was considered to be an operational expense. The FY 2012 budget request totals \$695,969; debt service (\$66,520) is allocated to the SGF, and the remainder is drawn from the SIBF. The Governor did not recommend the Roth renovation or a refrigeration upgrade; however, his recommendation

did raise the \$210,000 request for rehabilitation and repair to \$300,000 in order to address some critical maintenance issues.

Answering a question, Ms. Cussimano replied that to accommodate an unexpected increase in the student census, the increase in rehabilitation and repair was moved from the FY 2012 budget to the FY 2011 budget.

John Martello, Deputy Superintendent and Director of Operations, explained that the architect fees went to the architect firm that had directed the 2004 renovation ([Attachment 2](#)). Both the Division of Facilities Management and the Division of Purchases agreed the firm was the best choice for the subsequent renovation.

The FY 2011 budget for the School for the Blind (\$586,676) included rehabilitation and repair (\$99,883) and roof work/replacement on the Johnson and the Vogel buildings (\$446,284), all from the SIBF. Debt service principal payments (\$30,509) on the Facilities Conservation Improvement Project are drawn from the SGF. The Governor concurred with the agency's budget request. The FY 2012 budget totals \$320,983 and includes rehabilitation and repair (\$86,460) as well as completing upgrades on the security system (\$105,236), replacing the Health Center roof (\$48,960), and a driveway replacement (\$48,348), all from the SIBF. Debt service payments (\$31,979) are funded by the SGF. The Governor did not recommend the roof work/replacement or the driveway replacement. Responding to a question, Mr. Martello said the flat roof continues to be patched as new leaks occur. Present leak damage has been limited to the tuck-pointing and stone work, but will soon begin to affect interior walls. The driveway can continue to be patched. However, there are tunnels running underneath the driveway which might be compromised by delaying replacement of the driveway. In response to another question, he replied that the list was prioritized, the first items being the most important.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for noon on Monday, February 21, 2011, in Room 144-S, Statehouse.

Prepared by Gary Deeter
Edited by Ryan Weir

Approved by the Committee on:

_____ June 1, 2011 _____
(Date)