

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Les Donovan at 8:30 a.m. on January 28, 2003 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes
Marian F. Holeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Deb Miller, Secretary, KS Dept. Of Transportation (KDOT)

Others attending: See attached list

Briefing: Ks. Department of Transportation Secretary, Deb Miller

Chairman Donovan introduced newly appointed Secretary, Deb Miller. Ms. Miller has met with as many members of this Committee as time and schedules permitted. She will be meeting with the rest as soon as appointments can be arranged. Ms. Miller made a few introductory comments, provided some information about herself, and explained current philosophy of the Department while looking at the present financial situation (Attachment 1). She will also be presenting a program to the House Transportation Committee this afternoon,. Because the House has so many new members that presentation will be more of an introduction to KDOT, how it is organized, and how the Comprehensive Transportation Program was put together. If you would like copies of that presentation please call the Kansas Department of Transportation office.

Later this week KDOT will be sending members a copy of what has been called the "Red Map" and a list of systems enhancement projects. She reminded members the Comprehensive Transportation Program is really an umbrella term covering all of the Department's activities including paying salaries, keeping lights on, plowing snow, public transportation issues, airports, etc. as well as construction. KDOT cannot take a cut without having an impact on the Program. She believes we can maintain the commitments already made to announced and designated projects for Kansas communities. Local communities are reeling from the present cuts and some have withdrawn from systems enhancement projects. They simply do not have the resources to provide local matching funds. However, it is a fact that the CTP has a great economic impact and the state needs this economic stimulus. While the Department believes it can deal with this year's cuts in funding they cannot maintain this level of reductions and still not cut into the core of the program. This will further threaten the agency's ability to protect the traveling public, fulfill its mission, and maintain credibility.

Members asked several questions, most often related to specific projects in their districts. They briefly touched on the subject of possible alternative sources of funding. It was suggested that perhaps a search could be made for dedicated sources of funding rather than funding from demand transfer. As initially

CONTINUATION SHEET

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developed the Comprehensive Transportation Program would create 53,000 good paying jobs, adding significantly to the economic development in the State.

Approval of minutes

Senator Salmans moved to approve minutes of the January 22, 2003 meeting. Senator Schodorf seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Next meeting will be a presentation by the Kansas Motor Carriers Association on February 4, 2003.