

Approved: 2/6/06
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE WILDLIFE, PARKS AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Myers at 3:30 P.M. on February 1, 2006 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Virginia Beamer- excused
Representative Patricia Kilpatrick- excused
Representative Ann Mah- excused
Representative Clark Shultz- excused
Representative Shari Weber- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes Office
Betty Caruthers, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Chris Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, KS Dept. Of Wildlife & Parks
Mike Miller, Special Assistant, KS Dept. Of Wildlife & Parks

Others attending:

See attached list.

Moved by Representative Ohara, seconded by Representative Swenson for approval of Minutes of the House Committee on Wildlife, Parks & Tourism held on January 30, 2006 be approved.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers asked for any bill introductions by Committee members or others. There were none.

Chairman Myers recognized Chris Tymeson who in turn introduced staff members of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks who were present, including Mike Miller who then presented the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Deer Task Force Preliminary Report to the Kansas Legislature prepared by a Deer Task Force of agency employees. (Attachment 1)

Mike requested that final changes and recommendations of this report be delayed until January, 2007. The Deer Task Force members want to hear input from numerous others throughout the state of Kansas. They will be doing this by way of the Department's website, Commission meetings, and public meetings held across the state beginning in late summer. Many changes are being looked at and they realize that this affects many people, not just deer hunters.

A final report from the Deer Task Force regarding the recommendations for changes in statutes will be presented to this Committee in January, 2007 with the hope of it remaining the same for at least a five year period.

There was a short discussion about chronic wasting disease on elk, deer, and moose which is different than mad cow disease.

Chairman Myers expressed appreciation to the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for their work on this report.

Chairman Myers announced a hearing on **HB 2561** on February 6, no Committee meeting on February 8, and a hearing on **HCR 5034** on February 15.

Chairman Myers adjourned the meeting at 4:10.

Next Committee is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2006.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 1, 2006 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.