

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Melvin Neufeld at 9:00 a.m. on January 30, 2003, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present:

Committee staff present:

J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department
Becky Krahl, Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Legislative Research Department
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Administrative Analyst
Sue Fowler, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Chief Justice Kay McFarland, Kansas Supreme Court, Judicial Branch
Jerry Sloan, Fiscal Officer, Kansas Supreme Court, Judicial Branch
Jim Garner, Acting Secretary, Department of Human Resources

Others attending: See Attached

Chief Justice Kay McFarland, Kansas Supreme Court, presented an overview of the Judicial Branch (Attachment 1). She expressed her pleasure with the Governor for reviewing their budget and making no recommendation and forwarding it to the Legislature for their perusal. She reiterated the stringent approach her budget division uses when developing the Judicial Branch budget. The Court of Appeals judgeship will be delayed at this time due to budget constrictions. The Senior Judge Program which allows retired judges to preside over the Court of Appeals for 25 percent of the normal pay rate has temporarily alleviated the need for this position at this time. Jerry Sloan, Fiscal officer for the Kansas Supreme Court, Judicial Branch, reviewed the details and responded to budgetary questions by the Committee.

Jim Garner, Acting Secretary, Kansas Department of Human Resources presented a brief general overview of the Department of Human Resources (Attachment 2). The Kansas Department of Human Resources has a staff of 940 FTE's with physical locations in 26 cities throughout the state. Major programs, or departments, with KDHR include Unemployment Insurance, Employment and Training, Workers Compensation, Labor Market Information Services and Support Services. This agency provides a wide variety of services to Kansas citizens and the 68,000 Kansas employers in our state. Mr. Garner reviewed the permissible uses of the Reed Act distribution, which is controlled by Congress (Attachment 3). The Committee requested unemployment rates by county for the past six years.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2003.

Melvin Neufeld, Chair