

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:08 a.m. on March 9, 2004 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Eric Carter

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee: Tom Day, Kansas Corporation Commission

Others attending: See Attached List

Chairman Holmes announced the formation of a sub-committee on **HR 6026**. The members include Representatives Sloan, Krehbiel, Kassebaum, Dillmore and Svaty.

Representative Sloan distributed a booklet entitled "Broadband for Rural American - 2002 Status Report" to the committee (copy available from Kansas Legislative Research Department).

SB 309 - Increasing certain penalties for public utilities or common carriers

Chairman Holmes opened the hearing on **SB 309**.

Tom Day, Legislative Liaison for the Kansas Corporation Commission, testified in support of **SB 309** (Attachment 1). Mr. Day stated that the Commission had requested the introduction of the proposed legislation in Senate Utilities. He told the committee that even though the Commission had not recently imposed fines under the statute, they felt that the potential penalties should be large enough to be a meaningful and significant incentive for compliance with the Commission requirements. Mr. Day responded to questions from the committee.

Chairman Holmes closed the hearing on **SB 309**.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 10, 2004.