

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharon Schwartz at 9:00 A.M. on February 21, 2008, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Jason Watkins - excused

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department
Cody Gorges, Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department
Nobuko Folmsbee, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Chief of Staff
Shirley Jepson, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

- Attachment 1 Budget Committee Report on Department of Transportation

Introduction of Legislation

Representative Bethell moved to introduce legislation regarding health care reform. The motion was seconded by Representative Ballard. Motion carried.

Representative Carlin moved to introduce legislation regarding election crime and penalty for voting more than once. The motion was seconded by Representative Gatewood. Motion carried.

Department of Transportation

Representative Williams, member of the Transportation and Public Safety Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Department of Transportation for FY 2008 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2008 (Attachment 1). The motion was seconded by Representative Holmes. Motion carried.

Representative Williams, member of the Transportation and Public Safety Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Governor's budget recommendations for the Department of Transportation for FY 2009 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2009 (Attachment 1). The motion was seconded by Representative Tafanelli.

Responding to a question from the Committee, the Budget Committee stated that the construction of the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) Troop F Headquarters facility in Wichita was addressed with testimony from the Department of Transportation indicating that the project was approved for construction in 1993 by the State Building Committee. It was reported that it was the consensus of the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Department of Transportation that a substantial amount of work has been done on the project and could move forward with funding from the State Highway Fund.

Representative Schwartz made a substitute motion to amend the Budget Committee report on the Department of Transportation for FY 2009 by deleting the funding of \$6,367,000 from the capital improvements budget for the construction of a Kansas Highway Patrol Troop F headquarters facility in Wichita and review the appropriation at Omnibus. The motion was seconded by Representative

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Appropriations Committee at 9:00 A.M. on February 21, 2008, in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

Bethell. Motion carried.

Responding to a question from the Committee, the Budget Committee stated that installation of an 800 MHZ communication system has been completed in southeast Kansas with installation work progressing across the State. The Budget Committee noted that \$2 million was appropriated by the 2007 Legislature toward securing a \$10 million Federal Communication Grant. The State received the \$10 million federal grant during the fall of 2007. This funding will be used across the state to expedite the installation of the 800 MHZ system as well as some other forms of communication initiatives to provide better coverage for response to state disasters.

Representative Gatewood moved to amend the Budget Committee report on the Department of Transportation for FY 2009 by adding language to record the success of the installation of the 800 MHZ system and the leverage of state funding to secure federal grant funding to accelerate installation of the project across the state. The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

The Committee voiced concern with the shrinkage adjustment in Item No. 2 and felt that agencies should be encouraged to review vacant positions on a regular basis to determine if there are vacancies that could be eliminated.

The Budget Committee noted that the Department of Transportation testified that they felt the flow of funding to the State from the Federal Highway Trust Fund for the current Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) is secure; however, there is concern regarding federal funding in future years.

Representative Williams renewed the motion to adopt the Budget Committee report on the Department of Transportation for FY 2009 as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Tafanelli. Motion carried.

- ◆ The Committee requested a copy of the Department of Transportation report on the Traffic Records Enhancement Fund.

Approval of Minutes

Representative Feuerborn moved to approve the minutes of February 11, February 12, February 13 and February 14 as written. The motion was seconded by Representative Bethell. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 22, 2008.

Sharon Schwartz, Chair