

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 14, 2005 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative L. Candy Ruff- excused
Representative Dale Swenson- excused

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dave Debenham, Kansas County & District Attorney's Association
Chris Tymeson, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks
Dan Ward, Kansas Wildlife Federation
Rick Dykstra, Geary County Convention & Visitor's Bureau
Brad Myers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lon Floyd, Kansas State University Athletics

Others attending:

See attached list.

Moved by Representative Long, seconded by Representative Beamer for approval of Minutes of the House Committee on Wildlife, Parks and Tourism held on February 9, 2005 be approved.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers recognized Lisa Montgomery, Revisor, to brief on amendment for **HB 2117**.

Representative Mah moved that the amendment for **HB 2117** be approved, seconded by Representative Ohara.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers called for working **HB 2117**.

Representative Flaharty moved that **HB 2117** be passed favorably as amended, seconded by Representative Mah.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers announced that Representative Grange will carry **HB 2117**.

Hearings for opponents on **HB 2253- Imposes minimum fines and jail times for certain wildlife violators**, were opened.

Chairman Myers recognized Dave Debenham who testified against the diversion portion of the bill. Mr. Debenham's testimony supports elected prosecuting attorney's handling the diversion decisions. He spoke to Section 1(b)(2) of **HB 2253** requesting that it be deleted from the bill. (Attachment 1)

Chris Tymeson added that between 2003 and 2004, there were 194 diversions out of 6,529 violations that citations were issued for.

Chairman Myers called on Dan Ward to speak to issues and questions on the bill.

Chairman Myers requested that Dan Ward and Dave Debenham work together to find some compromise

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 14, 2005 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

language on **HB 2253** by Wednesday, February 16.

Hearings on **HB 2253** were closed.

Chairman Myers announced that the Committee will work **HB 2253** on Wednesday, February 16.

Chairman Myers recognized Rick Dykstra who gave information on future outdoor events in Kansas. (Attachment 2) Rick Dykstra introduced Brad Myers who spoke to partnerships between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and various programs for outdoor events, programs, and tourism. Mr. Dykstra then introduced Lon Floyd with Kansas State Athletics who spoke to the upcoming Cabela's Ahearn Scholarship Fishing Tournament, April 23 at Milford Lake. (Attachment 3)

Chairman Myers adjourned the Committee at 4:20.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 16.