

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Donovan at 8:30 A.M. on January 13, 2005 in Room 120-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent: Dennis Wilson- excused
Anthony Hensley- excused

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Robert Waller, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisors of Statutes
Maggie Breen, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others Attending:
See Attached List

Committee Members

Senator Kay O'Connor lives in Olathe, her district is District 9. She represents Lenexa, De Soto, parts of Olathe, and some rural areas. It's a fairly large district in Johnson County. She's served 8 years in the House and 4 years in the Senate.

Senator Phil Journey represents the 26th District. He is, if there is such a thing, a rural Senator from Sedgwick County. He serves west and south Sedgwick County, everything west and south of town.

Senator Vicki Schmidt, has District 20 southwest Topeka and western Shawnee County. She is a freshman Senator.

Senator Mark Gilstrap, District 5, lives in Wyandotte County. His district covers Wyandotte and Leavenworth Counties. He was on the Transportation Committee his first 4 years a long time ago, then he wasn't on it for 2 years. Now, he's very happy to be on the committee again as he's always enjoyed it.

Senator Mike Petersen, District 28, just east of Senator Journey's District. Covers southeast Wichita, and southeast Sedgwick County. He's an Industrial Electrician and a freshman Senator. He requested to be on the committee.

Senator Peggy Palmer, District 16, has Butler and Greenwood counties. She is a freshman Senator with 6 years previous experience as State Representative.

Senator Les Donovan, Chairman of Committee, District 27, Southwest Wichita. Has Chaired the committee for the last 4 years. This is his 13th year in the legislature. Served 5 years in the House and 7 years in the Senate. He's an automobile and truck dealer in Wichita. He has great interest in transportation issues and he is also a "numbers guy."

Committee Staff

Robert Waller, Legislative Research, this is his 7th session. He handles KDOT's budget. Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes, (Senator Donovan said that Bruce probably knows more about transportation than KDOT and the legislature combined, he's been around a long time). Hank Avila, Legislative Research on the policy side. (Senator Donovan said that Hank can find out anything about any project or item of information there is.) Maggie Breen, Committee Secretary.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Transportation Committee at 8:30 A.M. on January 13, 2005 in Room 120-S of the Capitol.

Regular Committee Attendees

Marcy Ferrill, Chief of Management and Budget, Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). She also is a freshman this year. This is her first session. Has only been in her position for three weeks. She extended an invitation to the committee to contact her office at any time with questions that may arise.

Ken Gudenkauf, Legislative Liaison - KDOT, retired from KDOT after 35 years in June of 2003. In now the Legislative Liaison for them.

Mike Hoeme, Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC), has been the Transportation Director for about 4 years. He works with safety or compliance and economic authority issues and would be happy to answer any questions regarding them.

Tom Whitaker, Kansas Motor Carriers Association, represents the Kansas Trucking Industry. This is his 24th session. For those who think it's all big carriers, in Kansas less than 25% operate more than 100 trucks. And 90 % operate 19 or fewer trucks. It's made up of a lot of small businesses. He will be happy to help in any way he can.

Carmen Alldritt, Director, Division of Vehicles, Department of Revenue (DOR). They deal with drivers licenses, driver control, motor carriers, titles and registration, license plates, etc.

Kelly Hartner, Division of Vehicles, DOR, runs the legal inventory system which supplies all the counties and various other state agencies, highway patrol, central motor pool, dealerships, licenses, ets.

Diane Elbert, Division of Vehicles, DOR, has responsibilities of division planning, helps Carmen track all legislation and make sure they get all they need. Also handles the protracts for license plates manufacturing, and the raw materials and labor involved with the process. The plates are currently manufactured in Wichita at Center Industries and have been for 25 years.

Don McNeely, President of Kansas Automobile Dealers Association, has served the auto dealers in Kansas for 14 sessions. Prior to that he was Director of Governmental Relations for another association. Whitney Damron is their Legislative Counsel and has been with them for 7 sessions.

Pat Hubbell represents the Railroad Industry. This is his 37 session. Kansas is very important key state to the industry and they are doing a lot of work on infrastructure. Their business is good and their taxes have went up since they are unit appraised. He would be happy to help the committee members in any way he can if they have a railroad problem in their district.

Bob Totten, Kansas Contractors Association, has been the Public Affairs Director for 15 years and has been around the area and the statehouse for about 33 years in some form or other. Their members are the contractors that do business with KDOT. About 85% of their members do 80% of the work here in Kansas.

Chairman Donovan welcomed the committee and all in the audience. He said he likes to begin the meeting on time as there is only an hour allotted.. He said that there would be an overview of KDOT next Tuesday and a tour of their new facility later in the session.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18.