

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE UTILITIES AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Alford at 9:00 am on Thursday, February 18, 2016, 582-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Joe Seiwert – Excused
Representative Stan Frownfelter – Excused
Representative Steven Anthimides – Absent

Committee staff present:

James Fisher, Legislative Research Department
Matt Sterling, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Erica Haas, Legislative Research Department
Linda Borrer, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Nick Myers, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Tom Sloan;
Kim Christiansen, KEC;
Dorothy Barnett, Climate + Energy Project;

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Chairman Alford welcomed all committee members and other guests. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 16th, 2016. Representative Gonzalez moved and Representative Schroeder seconded the motion to approve the minutes of February 16th, 2016. The motion passed.

Hearing on: HB2594 — Utilities and the sale of electricity.

The Chairperson opened the Hearing on **HB 2187**. Nick Myers, staff revisor, provided an overview of the bill.

Representative Tom Sloan testified in support of the bill drawing attention to the fact that as more individuals and corporations are building to provide their own power, there is a concern that the public grid will be greatly affected and the prices will be adversely passed on to other users. ([Attachment 1](#)) .

Kim Christiansen, the spokesperson for the following Kansas Utility providers: Empire District Electric Company, Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, KCP&I, Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., Kansas Municipal Utilities, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, and Westar Energy, testified in opposition of the bill. The objection being that it interferes with existing

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Utilities and Telecommunications at 9:00 am on Thursday, February 18, 2016 in Room 582-N of the Capitol.

business and contracts and may well be unconstitutional as it interferes with the business's ability to contract. ([Attachment 2](#)) .

Dorothy Barnett testified as a neutral conferee by introducing information that is of interest to all parties with regards to the public climate and energy goals to increase usage of renewable energy. ([Attachment 3](#)) .

Written testimony in favor of the bill was submitted by:

Stanley L Rasmussen, Director, Regional Environmental and Energy Office - Central ([Attachment 4](#)) .

Written testimony neutral to the bill was submitted by:

Leo Haynos, Chief of Energy Operations, Utilities Division on behalf of the Staff of the Kansas Corporation Commission ([Attachment 5](#)) .

Ryan Hodum, Vice President, David Gardiner & Associates ([Attachment 6](#))

There being no further conferees, Chairperson Alford closed the hearing on **HB 2594**.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10.