

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 13, 2006 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Virginia Beamer- excused  
Representative Broderick Henderson- excused  
Representative Patricia Kilpatrick- excused  
Representative Margaret Long- excused  
Representative L. Candy Ruff- excused  
Representative Shari Weber- 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:

Rick Dykstra, Assistant Director of Geary County Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Kenneth Wenger, Assistant Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Milford Lake Project  
Lon Floyd, Kansas State University, Assistant Athletics Director  
Eric Stong, President of the Kansas Bass Chapter Federation  
Representative Gatewood  
Chris Tymeson, KS Department of Wildlife & Parks  
Representative Oharah

Others attending:

See attached list.

Moved by Representative Oharah, seconded by Representative Treaster for approval of Minutes of the House Committee on Wildlife, Parks & Tourism held on February 6, 2006 be approved.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers asked for any bill introductions.

Representative Miller requested the introduction of a bill to strengthen requirements pertaining to length of stay in parks. Chairman Myers asked if there were any objections to the introduction of this bill. Seeing none the bill was introduced.

Representative Oharah requested the introduction of a bill to remove some of the requirements presently required for the Secretary of Wildlife and Parks. Chairman Myers asked if there were any objections to the introduction of this bill. Seeing none the bill was introduced.

Chairman Myers recognized Rick Dykstra for a presentation on building outdoor tourism in Kansas. To begin, a video was shown highlighting various 2005 outdoor events in Kansas. Mr. Dykstra stated that Kansas competes at the highest level when it comes to the great outdoors in America and he encouraged members to think outside the box and to be creative. (Attachment 1)

Kenneth Wenger was introduced. His main message was that “partnering is smart business” when it comes to promoting outdoor tourism. (Attachment 2)

Lon Floyd was introduced. He gave an overview of the Kansas State University Cabela’s Ahearn Scholarship Fishing Tournament held in 2005. The next tournament will be held April 29, 2006 at Milford Lake. This event is a prime example of what partnership is all about. (Attachment 3)

Eric Stong was introduced. He talked about the Kansas Bass Chapter Federation, the largest fishing

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 13, 2006 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

organization in Kansas, the events they hold and how they benefit Kansas. (Attachment 4)

Chairman Myers called for working **HB 2561- Appointment of Members to Wildlife & Parks Commission.**

Chairman Myers recognized Representative Gatewood to speak to the bill which was amended with a substitute bill. Representative Flaharty moved to accept the substitute for HB 2561 and change the word 5 to each. Seconded by Representative Swenson.

Motion carried.

Representative Flaharty then moved to pass the substitute for HB 2561 out of Committee favorably as amended. Seconded by Representative Grange.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers called for working of **HB 2210 - Exemption from hunter safety education requirements for certain current or former members of armed forces.**

Chairman Myers requested that Representative Oharah give a report of the subcommittee which met on this bill. The main thing which came from the subcommittee was that there is already a training course involving 4 hours on-line along with 6 hours hands on, therefore it was felt that the bill was no longer necessary. Representative Oharah moved to table HB 2210. Representative Swenson seconded.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers announced hearings coming up on February 15 on **HCR 5034 - Cheyenne Bottoms - "Migratory Bird Capital of Kansas"** and **HB 2795 - Nonapplication of pet animal act to hunting dogs.**

Chairman Myers adjourned the meeting at 4:15.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2006.