

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Stephen Morris at 10:40 a.m. on February 12, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator David Adkins - excused  
Senator Tim Huelskamp - excused

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Leah Robinson, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Deb Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Robert Chapman, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Audrey Nogle, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Becky Krahl, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Michael Corrigan, Assistant Revisor of Statutes\  
Judy Bromich, Assistant to the Chairman  
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Janet Chubb, Assistant Secretary of State

Others attending: See attached list

Subcommittee reports on:

**Governmental Ethics Commission** (Attachment 1)

Subcommittee Chairman Salmans reported that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2002.

Subcommittee Chairman Salmans reported that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2003.

Senator Salmans moved, with a second by Senator Barone, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the Governmental Ethics Commission for the FY 2002 and FY 2003 budget. Motion carried on a voice vote.

**Citizen's Utility Ratepayer Board** (Attachment 2)

Subcommittee Chairman Salmans reported that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2002.

Subcommittee Chairman Salmans reported that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2003 with an added comment as listed in the subcommittee budget report.

Senator Salmans moved, with a second by Senator Barone, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board for the FY 2002 and FY 2003 budget. Motion carried on a voice vote.

**Kansas Corporation Commission** (Attachment 3)

Subcommittee Chairman Salmans reported that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2002.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Subcommittee Chairman Salmans reported that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2003 with an observation as listed in the subcommittee budget report.

Discussion followed regarding the Abandoned Well Plugging Operations (Attachment 4). In response to a question from Chairman Morris regarding the current status of the number of wells that are still pending on the Priority I-A list, Susan Duffy, Kansas Corporation Commission, responded that there are 200 wells left which are also the most severe. Ms. Duffy noted that the problem is that now the wells are in isolated pockets and are more difficult to reach.

Senator Salmans moved, with a second by Senator Barone, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the Kansas Corporation Commission for the FY 2002 and FY 2003 budget. Motion carried on a voice vote.

### **Kansas Human Rights Commission (Attachment 4)**

Subcommittee Chairman Salmans reported that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2002.

Subcommittee Chairman Salmans reported that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2003 with observations as listed on the subcommittee budget report.

Senator Salmans moved, with a second by Senator Barone, to amend the subcommittee report and strike the name listed on the subcommittee budget report for FY 2003, Kansas Human Rights Commission, Item Number 1, for technical reasons in that names have not been listed before in subcommittee reports. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Salmans moved, with a second by Senator Barone, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the Kansas Human Rights Commission for the FY 2002 and FY 2003 budget as amended. Motion carried on a voice vote.

### **Department of Administration, (Including Public Broadcasting) (Attachment 5)**

Senator Salmans reported for Subcommittee Chairman Adkins that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendations for FY 2002.

Senator Salmans reported for Subcommittee Chairman Adkins that the Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendation for FY 2003 with observations as listed in the subcommittee budget report.

Committee discussion followed on Item Number 1 under observations regarding changing the in-house design fee charged by the Division of Architectural Services from 6 percent to 8 percent. A copy of testimony was distributed from the Subcommittee on the Department of Administration, dated February 6, 2002, by Pat Higgins, Chief Fiscal Officer (Attachment 6).

Senator Salmans moved, with a second by Senator Kerr, to amend the subcommittee report Item Number 3, regarding Public Broadcasting Council, operating grants in FY 2004 at the FY 2003 current services base request level, to change the word "recommends" to "considers". Senator Downey expressed concern that the member of the Subcommittee that made that motion in the subcommittee was not present. Motion carried on a voice vote. Senator Downey requested to be recorded as voting "No" on the amendment.

Senator Salmans moved, with a second by Senator Schodorf, to amend the subcommittee report and strike the name listed on the subcommittee budget report for FY 2003, Department of Administration, Item Number 7, for technical reasons in that names have not been listed before in subcommittee reports. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Salmans moved, with a second by Senator Jackson, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the Department of Administration for the FY 2002 and FY 2003 subcommittee budget report as amended. Motion carried on a voice vote.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Chairman Morris opened the public hearing on:

**SB 499 – Establishing the technology communication fee fund**

Staff briefed the Committee on the bill.

Janet Chubb, Assistant Secretary of State, testified in favor of **SB 499** (Attachment 7). Ms. Chubb explained that the purpose of the bill was to:

- fund administrative and support responsibilities under the uniform electronic transactions act and the state's contract for digital signature services, and
- maintenance of the technology systems necessary to accomplish electronic filing, including electronic signatures, in their business and government offices.

Committee questions and discussion followed. Senator Barone requested information regarding the Secretary of State's fee funds. Chairman Morris requested information regarding an appropriate cap and information for the technology communication fee fund.

The Chairman thank Ms. Chubb for her appearance before the Committee. There being no further conferees to come before the Committee, the public hearing on **SB 499** was closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2002.