

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 10:40 A.M. on February 12, 2007, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Jean Schodorf- excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Senior Assistant, Revisor of Statutes
Alan Conroy, Director, Kansas Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michele Alishahi, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Aaron Klaassen, Kansas Legislative Research
Amy VanHouse, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Melinda Gaul, Chief of Staff, Senate Ways & Means
Mary Shaw, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Howard Rodenberg, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Dr. Ron Hammerschmidt, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Umbarger referred the following bill to the Higher Education Subcommittee:

SB 287--Colleges and universities; resident fees for children of alums of state educational institutions

The Chairman referred the following bills to the KPERS Issues Subcommittee:

SB 263--Postretirement benefit adjustment of 3% for certain retirants of KPERS

SB 335--Investment and divestment standards and procedures for the board of trustees of the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System with regard to the KPERS fund related to direct or indirect holdings of companies with certain operations in Sudan

SB 339--KPERS, affiliation by counties for county detention officers; normal retirement and associated costs

Copies of the Kansas Legislative Research Department Budget Analysis report for FY 2007 and FY 2008 were available to the committee.

Subcommittee reports on:

School for the Blind
School for the Deaf
Kansas State Historical Society
Kansas Arts Commission
Kansas State Library (Attachment 1)

Subcommittee Chairman David Wysong reported that the subcommittee on the School for the Blind concurs with the Governor's recommendation in FY 2007 and concurs with the Governor's FY 2008 recommendation with adjustment and notation.

Senator Wysong moved, with a second by Senator Kelly, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the on

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the School for the Blind in FY 2007 and FY 2008. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Subcommittee Chairman David Wysong reported that the subcommittee on the School for the Deaf concurs with the Governor's recommendation in FY 2007 with adjustment and concurs with the Governor's FY 2008 recommendation with adjustments and notations.

Senator Wysong moved, with a second by Senator Kelly, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the on the School for the Deaf in FY 2007 and FY 2008. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Subcommittee Chairman David Wysong reported that the subcommittee on the Kansas State Historical Society concurs with the Governor's recommendation in FY 2007 and concurs with the Governor's FY 2008 recommendation with adjustment.

Senator Kelly moved, with a second by Senator Wysong, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the on the Kansas State Historical Society in FY 2007 and FY 2008. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Subcommittee Chairman David Wysong reported that the subcommittee on the Kansas Arts Commission concurs with the Governor's recommendation in FY 2007 and concurs with the Governor's FY 2008 recommendation with adjustment.

Senator Kelly moved, with a second by Senator Wysong, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the on the Kansas Arts Commission in FY 2007 and FY 2008. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Subcommittee Chairman David Wysong reported that the subcommittee on the Kansas State Library concurs with the Governor's recommendation in FY 2007 and concurs with the Governor's FY 2008 recommendation with adjustments.

Senator Wysong moved, with a second by Senator McGinn, to adopt the subcommittee budget report on the on the Kansas State Library in FY 2007 and FY 2008. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Kansas Water Office

Chairman Umbarger recognized Senator McGinn, Kansas Water Office Subcommittee Chair, who explained that there was an amendment to the subcommittee budget report requested by the Kansas Water Office.

Senator Taddiken moved, with a second by Senator Emler, that the Committee reconsider action taken on February 9, 2007, on the Kansas Water Office Subcommittee budget report. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator McGinn moved, with a second by Senator Emler, to amend the subcommittee budget report for the Kansas Water Office in FY 2008, second sentence of subcommittee recommendation No. 3, with the following language (Attachment 2):

The agency currently receives \$120,000 for weather modification and the additional \$120,000 will assist the Western Kansas Weather Modification Program in the repair and upkeep for the planes and related equipment necessary to continue this program to reduce damages resulting from hail storms in the targeted area. These additional resources reinforce the commitment of the State of Kansas in reducing hail damage and augmenting beneficial rainfall. The Subcommittee notes that the agency and Groundwater Management District No. 1 have engaged in conversations with members of the Kansas crop insurance industry to discuss partnership opportunities in weather modification. This discussion includes an evaluation of the Alberta Severe Weather Management Society Program, an insurance industry-funded effort to reduce hail damages and claims in the Edmonton, Alberta, Canada area.

Motion carried on a voice vote.

Senator Kelly moved, with a second by Senator Emler, to adopt the amended subcommittee budget report for the Kansas Water Office in FY 2008. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The Chairman welcomed Dr. Howard Rodenberg and Dr. Ron Hammerschmidt, Kansas Department of Health

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and Environment, who continued the overview of the Agency regarding the Divisions of Health and Environment (Attachment 3). Dr. Rodenberg addressed the Division of Health responsibilities, Healthy Kansas 2010, Office of Local and Rural Health, Office of Oral Health, Bureau of Child Care and Health Facilities, Bureau for Children, Youth and Families, Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology and the Bureau of Consumer Health. Dr. Hammerschmidt presented information regarding the Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, Center for Public Health Preparedness, Center for Health Disparity, Division of Environment, Division of Environment Organizational Structure, Bureau of Air and Radiation, Bureau of Waste Management, Bureau of Water, Bureau of Environmental Remediation, Bureau of Environmental Field Services and Division of Health and Environmental Laboratories.

Additional information was distributed from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment:

- Advanced Education in General Dentistry: Program Update (Attachment 4).
- Subsidence-related bills (Attachment 5).

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2007.