

## MINUTES

### JOINT COMMITTEE ON STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

November 15-16, 2004  
Room 123-S—Statehouse

#### Members Present

Senator Stephen Morris, Chairman  
Representative Jo Ann Pottorff, Vice Chairman  
Senator Jim Barone  
Senator Dave Jackson  
Representative Bob Grant  
Representative Joe Humerickhouse  
Representative Melvin Minor  
Representative Melvin Neufeld

#### Staff Present

Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Debra Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Becky Krahl, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Helen Abramson, Committee Secretary

#### Conferees

Joe Fritton, Department of Administration  
Clancy Norris, State Bank Commissioners Office  
Robert Maile, School for the Deaf  
William Daugherty, School for the Blind  
Rae Anne Davis, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services  
Gary LaShell, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services  
Eric King, Board of Regents  
Sandy Praeger, Insurance Department  
James AuBuchon, Pittsburg State University  
Todd Bunting, Adjutant General's Office  
Colonel William Vonderschmidt, Adjutant General's Office  
Michael Hayden, Department of Wildlife and Parks  
Dick Koerth, Department of Wildlife and Parks  
Denise Everhart, Juvenile Justice Authority

## Others Attending

See attached list.

## November 15 Morning session

Chairman Morris called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Staff distributed to Committee members copies of the November 3, 2004 report from the Secretary of the Department of Administration on the status of construction claims made on behalf of the State of Kansas.

Chairman Morris recognized Joe Fritton, Deputy Director, Division of Facilities Management, Department of Administration (DOA), who requested approval of a five-year lease for the Office of the State Banking Commission for 12,513 square feet of office space at 700 SW Jackson, Suite 1002, Topeka, Kansas, at a cost per square foot of \$11.95 (Attachment 1). This lease replaces the previous two leases at the same location and adds 1,000 square feet and eight parking spaces.

Commissioner Clancy Morris informed the Committee that additional space is needed because of the expansion of the Consumers Mortgage Lending side that required four new examiners and a new attorney.

*Representative Pottorff moved for the Committee's recommendation to approve the five-year lease for the Office of the State Banking Commission. Representative Grant seconded. Motion carried.*

Director Fritton gave an overview the State Building Advisory Commission's report on capital improvement requests for FY 2006 (Attachment 2). The Building Committee previously expressed concern about what happens to the rent base with the Kansas Department of Transportation moving out of the Docking State Office Building. Director Fritton explained that the rents are presently set so that the state will break even on operational expenses for the capitol complex for FY 2006. The FY 2007 rents have not been set. Therefore, a revenue shortfall is not anticipated in the short term. There are some agencies that are volunteering and asking to temporarily relocate into space in the Docking and Landon State Office Buildings. Some space is being allowed to ease the rent problem. The Department of Administration will solicit information from the Capitol Area Planning Authority (CAPA) as to the future look of the Capitol Complex area. A new maintenance model will be prepared by the Department of Administration to insure that rehabilitation and repair projects, in the future, are requested and justified to prevent the rest of the state buildings in the Capitol Complex area from falling into the same situation as the Docking and Landon Buildings.

Committee discussion followed concerning the present occupancy of the Docking State Office Building, the current amount of empty space in the Landon State Office Building, current empty space in the Eisenhower Building, and costs of building renovations in these buildings for agencies to occupy.

Also, Director Fritton noted that approximately one floor in the Docking Building could be used for legislators, after the 2005 legislative session adjourns, and during the renovation of the west wing of the Statehouse.

Chairman Morris recommended that the Legislature be proactive in deciding on a plan for the Docking and Landon buildings.

Senator Barone suggested that Secretary of Administration, Duane Goossen, appear before the next Building Committee meeting with an update of the Docking and Landon State Office buildings, as he has concerns about seeking a lot of input without knowing what the needs are.

Chairman Morris recognized Robert A. Maile, Superintendent, Kansas State School for the Deaf (KSSD), who reviewed the agency's five-year capital improvement budget plan (Attachment 3). Allocations requested for FY 2006 were \$180,000 for Roberts roof replacement, \$805,190 for completion of renovation of the three floors (east wing) of Roth Dormitory, and \$108,000 for emergency alert upgrade.

Superintendent Maile remarked that previously \$603,000 was allocated in FY 2004 to complete the one wing of Roth Dormitory project. An addendum was presented a month ago with a more final estimate showing an additional \$200,000 created by the removal expense of the undetected asbestos.

Superintendent Maile stated that the revised estimates of secondary student housing needs could be met by renovation of one additional floor on the west wing that would result in two floors each for girls and boys. Capital improvement costs for FY 2007 will be revised subject to FY 2006 appropriations to reflect the cost of renovating two additional floors, one as a standard dormitory and one with apartments for life skills/independent living training. The remaining floor would be modified by the DSD Alumni Association for use as a museum, archives, and parent lending library (at Alumni Association expense).

Superintendent Maile continued by explaining that the Division of Budget office (Budget Office) recommended funding to complete the one-way entrance to the building with the understanding that the population trends and the residential needs would be examined before decisions are made on the second wing renovation. However, the \$200,000 request for the asbestos issue arrived at the Budget Office after the process was underway. Therefore, this amount isn't reflected in the Budget Office's amount.

Discussion followed concerning the dormitory's current census, projected census, gender breakdown, and determination of number of students in a room. Superintendent Maile commented that the nation's dormitory population pattern has been declining, due to the fact that many parents are moving closer to the facilities.

Chairman Morris recognized William Daughtery, Superintendent, Kansas School for the Blind, who reviewed the agency's five-year capital improvement budget plan (Attachment 4). Three projects totaling \$188,064 were requested for FY 2006:

\$64,239 for major maintenance;  
\$123,825 for reroofing of Vogel Building; and  
\$20,000 for an underground drain.

For the current year, additional funding was requested for the Brighton roof repair and Americans with Disabilities Act life safety issues. In FY 2007, \$57,150 was requested for an underground drain installation. A daylight drain was constructed under the dormitory to save dollars, but it is not working. The drain receives a major amount of run-off from parking areas and driveways. It is causing serious erosion problems to the campus grounds, is washing a lot of mud into city streets, and is jeopardizing the main water line, water meter, and backflow

preventer that provides water for the campus. The project would provide an underground drain line from the daylight drain to connect to the existing storm water drainage system.

Superintendent Daugherty stated that the current population is 50 and the maximum is 70. The population trend for the next ten years should remain steady. Presently, training is being offered on the campus for an entirely different population of people (parents for career development). The School for the Blind does not recruit students away from the school districts, but tries to keep them in the local districts. Kansas, Iowa, and South Dakota have some of the highest incidents of blindness in the United States. Presently, the largest growth in the blindness area is with the corneal visual impairment. These are students who sustain damage to the brain, more than to the eyes. These types of students present different types of problems and, often have multiple handicaps. The education process is extremely complex.

Senator Jackson posed questions about the underground drain and stated that there are new technologies that would serve to clean the daylight drain water. Superintendent Daugherty responded by saying he would contact the Department of Facilities to ascertain if there could be a savings and if the site would lend itself to this type of proposal. Senator Jackson stated that there possibly could be money available from locality in order to help meet any EDS requirements. Superintendent Daugherty also stated that the School sits right above an eight-acre big eleven lake. The mud flow coming off the campus is a concern to that lake and could be of some interest to the city. He remarked that he would make an inquiry regarding the availability of local funds.

Senator Jackson asks if the tar and gravel would be removed and replaced on the reroofing projects and if other roofing besides the standing seam roof was considered. Superintendent Daugherty explained that the size of the buildings and the required pitch of the roofs would probably triple the cost of the project, therefore, removing and replacing of the tar and gravel was selected.

*Representative Pottorff moved for approval of the September 16 and 17 Committee minutes as corrected. Senator Jackson seconded. Motion carried.*

Chairman Morris welcomed Rae Anne Davis, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS), who reviewed the agency's FY 2006 capital improvement projects and lease savings from the Service Delivery Redesign Initiative (Attachment 5). Deputy Secretary Davis reminded the Committee that SRS revised their FY 2006 capital improvement request. SRS' FY 2006 request for rehabilitation and repair totaled \$1,706,506 (including \$1,406,560 from the State Institutions Building Fund). This represented a decrease of \$4,985,181 from the previous estimate of \$6,691,741. Major maintenance projects moved out to future years and from first priority were:

- Larned State Hospital - replacement installation of garbage disposal unit and condensation return lines from Lee Building;
- Osawatomie State Hospital - Replacement of hot water tank in Biddle basement, scanning equipment to detect problems on all campus buildings, asbestos abatement and reinsulation in Adair equipment room, and tuckpointing and waterproofing exterior masonry walls at Biddle;
- Rainbow Mental Health Facility - replacement of carpet in administration areas of "A" Building;
- Parsons State Hospital - connecting downspouts to storm drainage systems, sealing existing asphalt roads and parking lots, and replacing worn-out fixed seating in auditorium; and

- Kansas Neurological Institute - correcting the power factor for electrical systems campus-wide and installing capacitors.

In answering Representative Neufeld's question, Gary LaShell, Director of Administrative Services, SRS, stated that the delay to correct the power factor for electrical systems campus-wide at Kansas Neurological Institute may have an effect on the peak load change, and could possibly run up the rates on the contract, but the effect is not known at this time. Mr. LaShell said he would follow up on this matter.

Deputy Secretary Davis reviewed the lease savings from the Service Delivery Redesign Initiatives. SRS began local office closures in May, 2003. A total of 55 local offices have been closed. As the local offices closed, four expanded regional service centers, covering an expanded territory, were established (Colby, Phillipsburg, Liberal, and Winfield). When practical, existing office space was used for the service center. The net effect resulted in a reduction of 96,100 square feet of office space. Deputy Secretary Davis explained that in considering the savings from SRS' Service Redesign Initiative, several factors must be considered.

- The emphasis on partnering with other services was designed to leverage existing community resources to make SRS more accessible to the consumer. Leasing cost savings is a benefit, but not the sole purpose.
- Leases for closed offices were often negotiated years ago. New leases reflect costs due to locking in a rate several years forward. When inflation is considered, a straight-line comparison of lease cost will overstate forward costs relative to older costs.
- A larger scope of activities is available, due to larger offices.
- Total space used in older SRS offices was well below that set by current Division of Facilities Management space standard guidelines.

These factors have had an impact on the leasing savings resulting from the Service Delivery Redesign Initiative. The annualized savings from the closing of SRS field offices through FY 2005 is projected to be \$421,789. That represents \$612,662 from the closures, less the additional costs of \$190,873 from the expansions of regional service centers. Additional savings of \$25,000 will be realized when the remaining seven offices are closed and the savings are annualized.

Representative Neufeld inquired as to how many vehicles are assigned to the regional offices, how SRS is accounting for them, and if a number of employees are driving their personal vehicles. Deputy Secretary Davis replied that she did not know the quantity of vehicles, but the way they are accounted for is through the regional office, and SRS is attempting to minimize the employees driving personal vehicles.

Committee discussion followed concerning space standards and the additional cost associated with employees driving longer distances to the regional facilities.

Deputy Secretary Davis remarked that the Budget Committee recommended that the Legislative Division of Post Audit analyze the Service Delivery Redesign Initiative.

Senator Jackson stated that he believes SRS is an agency in total free-fall in terms of delivering services and efficiencies, and federal penalties can probably be expected for not maintaining programs in the manner that is required by federal regulations. He continued by

stating he believes that the reported savings are phantom savings, and also that the change to regional service centers moves services farther away from the consumer. Free space could have been done in partnership with local communities in order to maintain good services. He also suggested that the Committee carefully watch how services are provided in the future.

Deputy Secretary Davis remarked that the Budget Committee recommended that an audit be performed by the Legislative Division of Post Audit regarding the Service Delivery Redesign Initiative.

Eric King, Director of Facilities, Board of Regents, presented information regarding the bond issuance for University Research and Development Enhancement Projects (Attachment 6). In October 2004, the University Research and Development Enhancement Corporation (URDEC) passed a resolution to request that the Kansas Board of Regents (BOR) institute a second bond issue in the amount of \$55,850,000 plus insurance cost. The bond issue must be recommended for approval by the Joint Committee on State Building Construction. Total bonds issued amounted to \$72,670,000. Funds available for construction totaled \$67,891,691 those being:

KU Equipment Life Sciences Building	\$ 5,000,000
KUMC Biomedical Research Center	\$33,981,691
KSU Food Safety and Security Facility	\$20,000,000
WSU Engineering Complex Exp.	\$ 2,000,000
WSU NIAR Equipment	\$ 7,000,000

The original budgets for the projects totaled \$133,000,000 for:

KU Equipment Life Science Building	\$ 5,000,000
KUMC Biomedical Research Center	\$65,000,000
KSU Food Safety & Security Facility	\$40,000,000
WSU Engineering Complex Expansion	\$10,000,000
WSU NIAR Equipment	\$13,000,000

For the Committee's information, attached to the BOR request for Committee recommendation for approval of the bond issue was a copy of a letter to the BOR from the Legislative Research Department concerning the first bond issuance.

Next, Director King updated the Committee concerning the various projects as follows:

- KU Equip Life Sciences Building - the KU Endowment constructed a new building on the west campus to house the new equipment purchased through this initiative. The project was recently completed.
- KUMC Biomedical Research Center - construction is well underway, with all foundation work completed, and the building's superstructure is well along.
- KSU Food Safety and Security Facility - earth work and site utility work are well underway.
- WSU Engineering Complex Expansion - plans are nearing completion, and the project should bid about the first of the year.
- WSU NIAR Equipment - several major pieces of equipment have been purchased.

Committee discussion followed concerning the \$9 million savings thus far and the reason for the large decrease of the cost of the KSU Food Safety and Security Facility project.

Director King told the Committee he would attempt to discover if any of the savings resulted from more favorable bond interest rates.

*Representative Pottorff moved for Committee recommendation for approval of the Board of Regents for issuance of \$55,850,000 of bonds for the University Research and Development Enhancement projects. Representative Humerickhouse seconded. Motion carried.*

Chairman Morris recessed the Committee at 11:50 a.m. and reminded the members of the tour of the Insurance Building during the noon hour.

Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of the Kansas Insurance Department, greeted the Committee and conducted a tour of the building constructed in 1924, the former home of the Topeka Woman's Club. This beautiful facility originally housed an 800-seat auditorium, a dining room, and a spring-loaded dance floor. Many of the light fixtures are believed to be from the Tiffany Company. The facility became the home of the Kansas Insurance Department in 1982.

### **Afternoon Session**

Chairman Morris called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

James AuBuchon, Vice President for University Advancement, Pittsburg State University (PSU), presented an update on the Kansas Army National Guard Readiness Center/PSU Classroom Building/Student Recreation Center (Attachment 7). This project was first conceived eight years ago. A plateau has been reached, as it is awaiting the funding from two different sources, those being \$5,917,305 from the Military Construction Budget of the Federal Department of Defense because of the National Guard Readiness Center component of the project, and \$5,886,474 from the State of Kansas because of its portion of the project. There is also a smaller portion, \$2,600,768, that is represented by private gifts or student fee-backed bonds. Total project cost is \$14,404,547.

Mr. AuBuchon continued by reviewing the project status. The project has been at 35 percent design for the past two and one-half years because of the \$410,000 appropriated by the State of Kansas for preliminary planning and design. This means that the former planning and design have progressed to the point that this project is now eligible for accelerated funding by the Department of Defense. The Pittsburg State University Foundation, Inc. purchased a 13-acre site, which was then deeded to the State of Kansas. The City of Pittsburg appropriated \$500,000 for site preparation and infrastructure. A portion of the 13-acre development has been completed with the recent opening of the Veterans Memorial Amphitheater. PSU presented this project to the Building Committee in September. It is in the University's current FY 06 budget request under capital improvements. The status as of today is that PSU is awaiting federal funding, which will come in one lump sum.

PSU, in coordination with the Kansas Adjutant General, requested from the federal government the following:

- The Federal portion (MILCON) be moved to FY 2006 as a part of the DOD Military Construction Budget;

- That consideration be given to an additional \$2,000,000 in other federal funds to be earmarked for this project;
- A move to FY 2006 from FY 2008 is requested and PSU also requests special language in the FY 2006 bill, such as: "Readiness Center, Pittsburg, Kansas—of the \$30,854,000 provided for planning and design within the Army National Guard account, the Committee directs that not less than \$570,000 be made available for the design of the Readiness Center at Pittsburg, Kansas."

A meeting is planned next month with the staff members of Senator Brownback, Senator Roberts, and Congressman Ryan, the Adjutant General, and others to fully coordinate the legislative request to make this happen in FY 06.

Adjutant General Bunting remarked that this project has also been in their federal priorities. It is currently in the FY 08 budget, so the federal money will be received no later than that date. The state funds absolutely have to be in place before the federal money can be released.

General Bunting continued by explaining that possibly the state money could be less if an additional \$2,000,000 in other federal funds are earmarked for this project, but at this point it is questionable.

Chairman Morris questioned whether, if the Legislature would approve multi-year funding, this would be attractive enough for the federal government to release the federal funds. General Bunting did not know if this would be satisfactory because the federal government does not send its federal portion down in various amounts at various times, but in a lump sum.

Colonel William Vonderschmidt, with the Adjutant General's Office, noted that it could be split over two state yearly appropriations, because of the fact that the state fiscal year ends June 30. If the state approved multi-year funding, this matter would need to be taken back to the federal government to see if this would show enough good faith for the federal government to release all of their funds. Colonel Vonderschmidt remarked that he would make that inquiry.

Committee discussion followed regarding the chance of the federal government moving this project from FY 08 to FY 06. General Bunting explained that if a project is moved forward and it is not executed, then all future requests would go to the bottom of the credibility barrel. Representative Grant expressed concern about making a commitment at this point in time. Senator Barone wanted to know why on this project that the state money must be in place before the federal government would release their share. General Bunting said his experience in the past has been that any federal funding would not be expended until after state funds have been expended.

Colonel Vonderschmidt explained that when the National Guard gets ready to put a project into the budget, the federal government sends a letter to the state asking if the state-matching share is available. The Adjutant General then has to send the federal government a letter stating that those funds are available should a contract be awarded.

In answering Senator Barone's queries, General Bunting said that the 75/25 split is for the portion of the building that is National Guard related. The state amount was estimated at \$1.79 million and the federal at \$5.23 million. The other portion is relating to the two academic departments of PSU—the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, and the Department of Military Science—and is solely the responsibility of the state, via PSU.



General Bunting continued by explaining that until this project was actually placed in the federal program, the National Guard and PSU did not want to bring it before the Committee because either the federal government or the state has to be in sync before the project can go forward.

Chairman Morris commented that it is hard to know how to respond to PSU and the Adjutant General's Office's request, not knowing the state's budget situation, and suggested that this matter wait until after the 2005 Legislative Session.

General Bunting stated that he probably would not press the federal government to move this project to FY 06 because of the state's fiscal condition.

Next, Chairman Morris recognized J. Michael Hayden, Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP), who presented the agency's FY 2006 capital improvement request totaling \$5,452,238 (Attachment 8). In addition, an amount of \$40,000 was requested as an enhancement project. These requests would be financed with \$203,141 from the State General Fund, with the balance financed from special revenue or federal funds. The KDWP also requested \$500,000 for land acquisition and \$350,000 for wetland acquisition and development. Included were requests to continue the following:

Public lands major maintenance	\$ 150,000
Parks major maintenance	\$ 641,165
Motorboat access	\$ 875,370
Road and bridge maintenance	\$1,200,000
Coast Guard grant projects	\$ 105,000

Secretary Hayden continued by noting that for FY 2006, the KDWP is requesting capital improvements to begin the development of State Park 24. The request includes \$115,000 from the State Water Plan Fund to build an access to the Kansas River, and \$500,000 from the Roads Fund to construct an improved road to the park. The enhancement project is to be financed by the Wildlife Fee Fund and is for a \$40,000 restroom facility on the Circle K Ranch, if acquired by the state. The remaining project on the FY 2006 request was for \$1,015,703 of which \$203,141 would be from the State General Fund, to construct the third and final stage of the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail. The third stage would provide for a 50-mile trail from Ottawa to Iola.

Secretary Hayden also explained that since the submission of the FY 2006 capital improvement request, KDWP informed Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) that state funds to match the approved federal grant were requested for FY 2006. KDOT informed KDWP that matching funds were available from KDOT to be used with the approved federal grant to construct the third stage of the Trail during the current fiscal year (2005) if the KDWP desired to do so. Therefore, KDWP contacted the Governor, and there was no objection from the Governor's office to constructing the third stage during FY 2005. The Department has adequate appropriation authority already authorized in the FY 2005 appropriation bill. If the Committee has no objection, the Department would rescind its request for funding in FY 2006 and proceed with construction of the third stage of the Trail in FY 2005.

The 2004 Legislative Session authorized the PMIB to provide a loan of \$1,500,000 to construct a new campground at Tuttle Creek State Park. This project is mitigation for dam repair by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps will reimburse the state for expenditures made on this project. As of this date, the KDWP has spent \$147,941 of the funds made available and received federal reimbursement of \$71,095. In addition, the Department has a contract for \$99,869 for further construction on the project.

Secretary Hayden also suggested that the system of requiring three appraisers when land is being purchased should be examined in the future. When the KDWP acquires property, the agency is required to have three appraisals, no matter how small the project is. The appraisers are appointed by the Supreme Court and the process sometimes takes months; then, there is another length of time for them to get together to actually appraise the property. When a large amount of money is involved this makes sense, but when the Department wants to purchase two acres that is worth \$400-\$500 an acre from a willing seller, the appraisal costs would exceed that amount, plus the long waiting period. By this time, the seller would be impatient. One proposal could be the use of in-house appraisers, such as KDOT.

Secretary Hayden further discussed the Circle K Ranch. During the upcoming legislative session, KDWP will have a proposal on the Circle K Ranch. The community has been insisting that it wants investments in the infrastructure right of way. It is concerned that the state might purchase the property, but then take years before appropriating funds to actually begin to develop the infrastructure. Therefore, some infrastructure money is being requested. Questions have arisen as to why money should be approved for capital improvement without having a deed. If this is a concern, Secretary Hayden suggested a proviso be made stating that if the state does not have the deed, then the KDWP is not authorized to spend the money for capital improvements.

Dick Koerth, Assistant Secretary-Administration, KDWP, stated the split is 80 federal/20 state regarding the federal grant for the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail. The federal money is for the tunnels. Legislative Research staff will obtain a full explanation from KDOT regarding the grant.

Committee discussion followed concerning the controversy of the Prairie Spirit Trail program when it was first proposed.

*Representative Pottorff moved for the Committee's recommendation to move the third phase of the construction of the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail to FY 2005 and to rescind the KDWP's request for funding in FY 2006, subject to receiving information regarding the federal grant and KDOT participation from the Legislative Research staff. Representative Minor seconded. Motion carried.*

Next, the Committee met with Dick Koerth, who conducted a tour of the state's newest park, Free State Park No. 24, Topeka.

## **November 16 Morning session**

At 9:00 a.m., Committee members met at the Statehouse garage for departure on the tour of the Kansas Juvenile Correction Complex (KJCC) and the Topeka Correctional Facility.

Commissioner Denise Everhart, Director James Frazier, and Superintendent Mike Dempsey welcomed the Committee to the Juvenile Correction Complex and conducted a tour of the facilities.

Commissioner Everhart advised the Committee that she is announcing today the Juvenile Justice Authority's (JJA's) plan to merge Topeka Juvenile Correctional Facility and the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex operations. This operational merger will give the JJA the flexibility it needs to move forward with its mission, and address budget and efficiency concerns. The merger means the JJA will be able to begin moving more staff and offenders into the KJCC in the near future. This will permit offenders to be housed in a more secure setting and take into

account population trends—including the need for more medium- and maximum-security beds—thus, permitting more efficient management of offenders and allowing full advantage of the modern facilities at the KJCC. The transition process will be completed on or before June 30, 2005. In the near future, additional detailed information will be announced concerning the consolidation plan and the transition process.

During the tour it was learned: that nearly all of the new facility will be used; bed capacity is 210, including the infirmary; the intake and assessment RUD beds may not be utilized for such, but may be used for regular beds; there should not be a fiscal impact because of the merger; the use of the older facility is unknown at this time; the average stay of offenders is 12.1 months; and the medium and maximum spaces will be tight. Patricia Beggs of the Kansas Sentencing Commission will be looking at the population projections.

Next, the Committee was greeted by Warden Dick Koerner; Secretary of the Department of Corrections (DOC) Roger Werholtz; and Assistant Secretary of the Department of Corrections Charles Simmons, who conducted the tour of the Topeka Correctional Facility, a facility for females. The Committee toured the laundry room, where 32,000 pounds of clothing are washed weekly, and the clothing room, where inmates sew pre-cut pieces of material. The cafeteria, library, admission/discharge offices, greenhouses, and cellhouses I and J were also toured.

Chairman Morris thanked Representative Minor and Senator Jackson for their service on the Committee. He also informed the members that at this time no December meeting is being planned, and the next meeting will probably be scheduled for the first day of the 2005 Legislative Session.

Prepared by Helen Abramson  
Edited by Robert Waller and Amy Deckard

Approved by Committee on:

January 13, 2005

(date)