

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Burgess at 3:30 P.M. on February 7, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Mike Peterson- excused
Representative JoAnn Pottorff- excused
Representative Don Dahl- excused

Committee staff present:

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Matt Spurgin, Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Revisor of Statutes Office
Maureen Stinson, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Rep. Steve Huebert
Kim Winn
Rep. Mike Burgess
Rep. Tom Sawyer
Elizabeth Ensley
Brad Bryant

Others attending:

See attached list.

Rep. Don Dahl will be replacing Rep. Ted Powers as of today on the House Elections and Governmental Organization Committee.

HB 2331 Political and taxing subdivisions; budgets, filing electronically

Chairman Burgess opened the hearing on **HB 2331**.

Chairman Burgess testified in support of the bill ([Attachment 1](#)). He explained that he requested the bill after attending a Kansas Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations (KACIR) meeting. He stated that the KACIR, while attempting to study townships, ran into difficulty compiling the kind of data they would need. Chairman Burgess informed that while the township budgets are all filed with the Kansas Department of Revenue, most are filed in a paper form.

Kim Winn, League of Kansas Municipalities, testified in support of the bill ([Attachment 2](#)). She requested a change to the budget filing date from August 25th to September 25th. She explained that the current deadline for filing budgets creates a situation where budgets and mill levies are established with inadequate information.

Chairman Burgess closed the hearing on **HB 2331**.

HB 2280 Cities; benefit fees for certain services

Chairman Burgess opened the hearing on **HB 2280**.

Rep. Steve Huebert testified in support of the bill. He submitted written testimony from Michael McNown, Mayor of Valley Center, KS ([Attachment 3](#)). Rep. Huebert explained that he requested the bill. He informed that the bill would amend a portion of the Act, K.S.A. 12-6a19, to expand the types of infrastructure projects eligible for the imposition of benefit fees.

Kim Winn testified in support of the bill ([Attachment 4](#)). She explained that the bill adds the flexibility so that the city could add properties to the benefit district as they are developed.

Chairman Burgess closed the hearing on **HB 2280**.

HB 2332 Elections; tabulating provisional and advance ballots by precinct

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Elections and Governmental Organization Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 7, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Chairman Burgess opened the hearing on **HB 2332**.

Rep. Tom Sawyer testified in support of the bill. He explained that he requested the bill out of concern that there were still 70 counties not required to tabulate ballots by precinct.

Elizabeth Ensley, Shawnee County Election Commissioner, testified in opposition to the bill (Attachment 5). She identified the main concerns with tabulating ballots by precinct are of cost, efficiency, and privacy.

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, testified as neutral to the bill (Attachment 6). He suggested that the committee clarify the intent of the bill in Line 14, after the word "tabulate" insert "and report election results with" and in line 15, after the word "ballots" insert the word "allocated". The sentence would read as follows:

The secretary of state shall adopt rules and regulations requiring county election officers to tabulate and report election results with all provisional ballots and advance voting ballots allocated by precinct.

Chairman Burgess closed the hearing on **HB 2332**.

HB 2197 and **HB 2198** were discussed in committee. Proposed amendments to the bills were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2007.