

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lana Gordon at 3:30 P.M. on January 31, 2006 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Richard Carlson- excused
Annie Kuether- excused
Judy Loganbill- excused
Valdenia Winn- excused

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Renaë Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes
Helen Pedigo, Revisor of Statutes
Carlene Maag, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Sheila Frahm, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Community College Trustees
Richard Hoffman, Director, Kaw Area Technical School

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairperson Gordon welcomed Sheila Frahm to the committee who spoke about workforce training for the Community Colleges.

Educators at Community Colleges feel that every course a student takes is workforce training.

Kansas Association of Community College Trustees (KACCT) represent all 19 public community colleges in Kansas.

Community college students come under several categories. College graduates seeking job skills for a career change, and current workers being updated and re-skilled are two of these categories.

Community colleges are an integral piece of the new higher education system in Kansas. 23% of the funding comes from State of Kansas, while the remainder comes from student tuition and property taxes.

The community colleges have some unique programs at the various colleges. Cloud County Community College offers a program pertaining to Wind Power Technology. Coffeyville Community College has a electrical and welding program. These programs are needed in this part of the state. (Attachment 1)

Ms. Frahm provided the committee with a map that shows the location of the 19 community colleges. (Attachment 2)

Discussion followed the presentation.

A motion was made by Representative Krehbiel and seconded by Representative Burroughs to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 19, 2006. A vote was taken, motion passed.

In testimony presented by Richard Hoffman, Director of Kaw Area Technical College (KATS) it was stated Technical Education doesn't cost the state, it pays."

The Commercial Driving Program started at Fort Scott Community College is now offered at (KATS) It only takes 12 graduates from this program for the State of Kansas to receive 100% return on its investment. The current class has 21 students enrolled. (Attachment 3)

KATS is considering partnering with Washburn University. If this were to happen, students could take basic education classes at Washburn and then continue at KATS for their associate degree. Chairperson Gordon

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Economic Development Committee at 3:30 P.M. on January 31, 2006 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

complimented Mr. Hoffman for looking into this option.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2.