

Approved: 2/9/05 Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE WILDLIFE, PARKS AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Myers at 3:30 P.M. on February 7, 2005 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Broderick Henderson- excused
Patricia Kilpatrick- excused
Margaret Long- excused

Committee staff present:

Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes Office
Betty Caruthers, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Chris Tymeson, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks

Others attending:

See attached list.

Moved by Representative Beamer, seconded by Representative Grange for approval of Minutes of the House Committee on Wildlife, Parks, & Tourism held on January 31, 2005 and February 2, 2005 be approved.

Motion carried.

Chairman Myers recognized Chris Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks who presented a briefing on the potential for reconstruction and simplification of existing deer management statutes. (Attachment 1) The Department will take a comprehensive look at all statutes regarding deer and will present a plan next session (2006) that best fits the needs of the resource, the State of Kansas and the Department of Wildlife & Parks.

Chairman Myers called for Final Action on **HB 2115**. Representative Ruff moved that **HB 2115** be moved out favorably to the House floor for possible discussion and final action. Seconded by Representative Mah.

Motion carried.

Hearings on **HB 2117 - Boating; requirements; penalties**, were opened.

Chairman Myers recognized Chris Tymeson for an overview on **HB 2117**. A comprehensive list of changes to present boating laws was presented. (Attachment 2) Dan Heskett, Boating Law Administrator, answered a number of questions regarding this bill.

Hearings for proponents to **HB 2117** were closed.

Chairman Myers announced that the Committee would hear from opponents of **HB 2117** on February 9. If there are no opponents the Committee will work the bill that day.

Chairman Myers announced that the Committee would be hearing from proponents of **HB 2253 - Imposes minimum fines and jail times for certain wildlife violations** on February 9.

Chairman Myers adjourned the Committee at 4:20.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 9.