

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON KANSAS SECURITY

June 23, 2006
Room 123-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Senator Jay Emler, Chairman
Senator Jim Barone
Senator Nick Jordan
Senator Carolyn McGinn
Senator Chris Steineger
Representative Lee Tafanelli
Representative Judith Loganbill

Members Absent

Representative Mario Goico (excused)
Representative Julie Menghini (excused)
Representative Carl Krehbiel (excused)

Staff

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes Office
Amy VanHouse, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ann McMorris, Committee Secretary

Conferees

Captain Mark Bruce, Kansas Highway Patrol
Chris Howe, Division of Purchases, Department of Administration
Bob Dool, Mid-Continent Safety

Report on Fisher Scientific Contract

SB 480, the appropriations bill, contained language that required the Kansas Highway Patrol to report to the Joint Committee on Kansas Security by June 30, 2006.

Chris Howe, Director of Purchasing of the Kansas Department of Administration, reported the initial concern was on third party items not specifically stocked by Fisher. Current practice was to charge a 12 percent fee on items with a purchase price under \$20,000 and a 5 percent fee on items over \$20,000. Renegotiation of fees has resulted in the charges being reduced to a 6 percent fee on items under \$20,000 and a 2 ½ percent fee for items over \$20,000. Freight charges and franchise items were not included in the new arrangement ([Attachment 1](#)).

Committee members questioned Mr. Howe regarding tracking of all purchases by Division of Administrative Management; setting up of a data base; how the initial third party contract was negotiated; whether counties are getting the best prices; and how waivers are determined.

Mr. Howe had prepared two notebooks with examples of price comparisons, purchase requests, and other information on third party purchases. These notebooks are available on request for the Committee to review and are housed in the Kansas Legislative Research Department.

Captain Mark Bruce of the Kansas Highway Patrol was available for questions.

Report on Office of Domestic Preparedness Funding

Captain Mark Bruce, Kansas Highway Patrol, reported on the Fiscal Year 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program. He reviewed the 13 investment justifications, the grant application and awardees, percentage of awards, a new stipulation that 10 percent must go to Emergency Medical Services, local and regional award process and the need for each region to choose a local unit of government to serve as the fiscal agent for the region. He explained the regional application for funding. In Answer to the question, "Must regions order equipment from Fisher Scientific?" - Captain Bruce stated "No". But he did note that counties do have to order from Fisher Scientific. Funding for 2006 has decreased by 24 percent from fiscal year 2005 which was cause for concern in maintaining the current programs. Captain Bruce provided a breakdown of the county and regional funding ([Attachment 2](#)).

The Committee questioned why the county allocations are so diverse; how the counties are advised of the contract requirements; criteria for allocations; and the 10 percent requirement for Emergency Medical Services.

Other Concerns

Bob Dool of Mid-Continent Safety noted his company payment terms are 30 days and payment from Fisher Scientific may be up to 90 days. He also noted the shutdown of the program had delayed payments. Mr. Howe explained the program was shutdown by his Department while the terms for the third party purchases were being negotiated so that counties in the process of purchasing could have the lower rate.

Suggestions for Issues to be Discussed at Future Meetings

Senator Barone was concerned with the low grade Kansas received in some press releases and asked how the study was done. The Committee directed Randy Mettner from the Adjutant General's Department to research this study and brief the Committee at a future meeting.

Senator Barone asked if Legislative Post Audit was reviewing the new Fisher Scientific contract. Barb Hinton, Legislative Post Audit, responded that this review was being conducted by the Legislative Post Audit Committee and that a copy of the findings would be forwarded to the Joint Committee on Kansas Security.

Senator McGinn requested information on how the state makes purchases. Mr. Howe responded, citing the procurement law in Kansas statute.

Representative Tafanelli suggested the Committee analyze the need for a Kansas Emergency Disaster Relief Fund. Representative Tafanelli also requested the study of future funding for state homeland security due to the reduction of federal funds.

Representative Loganbill requested more information on the Pandemic Flu. Senator Emler mentioned that Dr. Rodenberg, Director of the Division of Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, has been invited to appear before the Committee.

Senator Emler also noted that a review and tour of the new biosecurity facility at Kansas State University and the Statehouse security, including emergency procedures, would be reviewed by the Committee.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Senator Jordan, seconded by Senator Barone, minutes of the March 15, 2006 meeting of the Joint Committee on Kansas Security be approved. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned.

Prepared by Ann McMorris
Edited by Amy VanHouse

Approved by Committee on:

August 11, 2006
Date