

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carolyn McGinn at 8:30 A.M. on February 4, 2005 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Mark Taddiken- excused

Committee staff present:
Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes Office
Gina Poertner, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Ronald F. Hammerschmidt, Ph.D., Director, Division of Environment
Whitney Damron, Kansas Sport Hunting Association and Flint Oak, LLC

Others attending:
See attached list.

Senator McGinn introduced Ron Hammerschmidt, Ph.D., Director of the Division of Environment, who gave a presentation on uses and classification of streams in Kansas (Attachment 1).

Senator McGinn asked for clarification of the maps, which was given by Dr. Hammerschmidt.

Senator Huelskamp asked about federal review of UAAs, whether it is a desk-top review or if they go into the fields. Mr. Hammerschmidt replied that they do go into the fields.

Senator Lee commented about the good progress of obtaining data. Dr. Hammerschmidt relayed that Kansas is a leader in the United States when it comes to getting the work done.

The Chair distributed the minutes of the January 21st and 22nd Committee meetings. On a motion by Senator Teichman that was seconded by Senator Ostmeyer, the minutes were approved by voice vote.

Senator McGinn then recognized Whitney Damron of the Kansas Sport Hunting Association and Flint Oak, LLC (Attachment 2). Mr. Damron presented testimony in support of SB 98 which would repeal the sunset provision for exemption from hunter safety education requirement to hunt in controlled shooting areas.

Senator Lee asked if an online test was available. Mr. Damron stated that the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks is working on providing that. Senator Lee further asked how that would mesh with the controlled shooting areas. Mr. Damron stated that there would be opportunities for implementing online tests for controlled shooting areas due to the tourism trade. Hunters would also receive hands-on training once they arrived at the site.

Chris Tymeson of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks stated that the Department is not opposed to the bill.

The Chair asked if there were further questions on SB 98. Seeing none, Senator McGinn asked for a motion to favorably pass SB 98 out of committee. The motion was made by Senator Ostmeyer and seconded by Senator Bruce. The motion was approved by voice vote.