

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 12, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Bill Otto- excused
Representative Mike Peterson- 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:

Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer
Chuck Thomas
Randall Allen
Carol Williams

Others attending:

See attached list.

HB 2307 Sherman county board of commissioners; election at large

Chairman Burgess opened the hearing on **HB 2307**.

Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer testified in support of the bill (Attachment 1). He explained that the city of Goodland now has the option of electing commissioners at large.

Chuck Thomas, Chairman, Sherman County Commissioners, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 2). He explained that the cities used to only have City Commissioners by ward and that now they have the option to be at large.

Randall Allen, KAC, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 3). He requested clarification on one point and explained that even though the bill clearly authorizes at-large representation, there does not appear to be provision in the bill to direct the board of county commissioners or the Sherman County electors as to how to put such system of at-large representation into effect.

Chairman Burgess closed the hearing on **HB 2307**.

HB 2307 Sherman county board of commissioners; election at large

Rep. Brunk made a motion for the favorable passage of **HB 2307** and asked that it be placed on the Consent Calendar. Rep. Metsker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

HB 2409 Campaign finance; certain reporting requirements

Chairman Burgess opened the hearing on **HB 2409**.

Carol Williams, Ethics Commission, testified in support of the bill (Attachment 4). She said The Governmental Ethics Commission believes that contributions received in the last days before an election should be disclosed prior to an election.

Rep. Terri Huntington submitted written testimony in support of the bill (Attachment 5).

Chairman Burgess closed the hearing on **HB 2409**.

HB 2267 Unilateral annexation; county-owned lands excluded

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Elections and Governmental Organization Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 12, 2007 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Rep. Huebert made a motion to amend the bill to strike the retroactive language of the bill. Rep. McCray-Miller seconded the motion. Rep. Huebert modified his motion to include a request for clarification of the language concerning unilateral annexation. Rep. McCray-Miller concurred on Rep. Huebert's change in the original motion. The motion carried. Rep. Huebert made a motion for the favorable passage of **HB 2267** as amended. Rep. McCray Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried. Rep. Dahl asked that his vote be recorded as a "No" vote.

HB 2197 Campaign finance; corrupt political advertising shall include certain telephone communications; vendor records required

The Committee adopted amendments to require telephone calls be "preceded" (instead of "followed") by the sponsor information and to also make a clarifying change to the bill. The Committee further amended the bill to eliminate the requirement that a vendor of any political advertisement services maintain information regarding the requestor of the services and to eliminate the penalty for violation as well. Rep. Spalding made a motion for the favorable passage of HB 2197 as amended. Rep. Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rep. Lane made a motion for the favorable approval of the February 8, 2007 minutes. Rep. Huebert seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2007.