

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Faber at 3:30 P.M. on March 10, 2008, in Room 783 of the DSOB.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes

Kristen Kellems, Revisor of Statutes

Florence Deeter, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Chris Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

**Hearing on: SB 474 - Controlled shooting areas; field trials**

The Chair welcomed Chris Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, who spoke as a proponent of **SB 474 (Attachment 1)**. He said the Department supports the provisions of the bill with the amendments to **K.S.A. 32-919** and **K.S.A. 32-954**. Mr. Tymeson indicated the duplication of permits requires personnel to do additional paper work and seems redundant to require field trial participants to have either a regular hunting license or a controlled shooting area hunting license.

Mr. Tymeson said the Department has concerns regarding the implications of litigation surrounding the language of the prairie dog issue. He suggested striking the language or, as an alternative, requiring non-residents to have a hunting license. In answer to questions, Mr. Tymeson said no license is required for property owners to shoot prairie dogs. In a discussion of the possibility of poisoning prairie dogs he said permits must be acquired to use phostoxin; no permit is necessary for using rozol. He assured the committee that property owners are allowed to hunt and track on their own lands without a license.

The Chair closed the hearing on **SB 474**.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 3:30 p.m.