

Approved: February 13, 2012

(Date)

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marc Rhoades at 9:07 AM on Thursday, February 2, 2012 in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Director, Legislative Research Department
J.G. Scott, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department
Dylan Dear, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department
Michael Wales, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department
Jim Wilson, First Assistant, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Jill Wolters, Senior Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Nobuko Folmsbee, Senior Assistant Revisor, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Cindy O'Neal, Administrative Assistant
Kathy Holscher, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Bob Grant
Rick Cleveland, Retiree, State of Kansas

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

Representative Lane made a motion to introduce legislation regarding the Kansas Public Employee Retirement System. The motion was seconded by Representative Feuerborn. Motion carried.

Representative Schwartz, Chair, Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the FY 2012 Board of Accountancy Budget Committee Report (Attachment 1). The Budget Committee concurred with the Governor's recommendation with the following adjustments: add \$5,000 from special revenue funds to retain contract disciplinary counsel; and recommended legislation to replace the transfer of \$15,000 to the Special Litigation Reserve Fund.

Representative Schwartz made a motion to approve the Board of Accountancy FY 2012 Budget Committee recommendation. The motion was seconded by Representative Lane. The motion carried.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS Committee at 9:07 AM on Thursday, February 2, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

Representative Schwartz, Chair, Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the FY 2013 Board of Accountancy Budget Committee Report (Attachment 1). The Budget Committee concurred with the Governor's recommendation with the following adjustments: add \$5,000 from special revenue funds to retain contract disciplinary counsel.

Representative Schwartz made a motion to approve the Board of Accountancy FY 2013 Budget Committee recommendation. The motion was seconded by Representative Carlin.

Representative Schwartz responded to questions from committee members. She stated the additional special revenue funds would support tracking issues relating to fraud. It was noted that 53 fraudulent hearings were held last year.

Representative Schwartz renewed the motion to approve the Budget Committee Report. Motion carried.

Representative Schwartz, Chair, Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Board of Veterinary Examiners FY 2012 Budget Committee Report (Attachment 1). The Budget Committee concurred with the Governor's recommendation with the following adjustments: add \$175 from the fee fund, maintain the number of days paid to board members from within existing resources.

Representative Schwartz made a motion to approve the Board of Veterinary Examiners FY 2012 Budget Committee recommendation. The motion was seconded by Representative Carlin. The motion carried.

Representative Schwartz, Chair, Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Board of Veterinary Examiners FY 2013 Budget Committee Report (Attachment 1). The Budget Committee concurred with the Governor's recommendation with the following adjustments: add \$175 from the fee fund, maintain the number of days paid to board members from within existing resources.

Representative Schwartz made a motion to approve the Board of Veterinary Examiners FY 2013 Budget Committee recommendation. The motion was seconded by Representative Carlin.

Discussion followed by committee members regarding meeting reimbursements for board members.

Representative Schwartz renewed the motion to approve the Budget Committee Report. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS Committee at 9:07 AM on Thursday, February 2, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

HB-2466 - Providing state employees who retired on and after January 10, 2011 and before August 2, 2011 an election to either receive continued health insurance benefits or receive a one-time lump sum payment.

David Wiese, Office of Revisor of Statutes, provided an overview of **HB 2466**.

Representative Grant presented testimony as a proponent of the bill (Attachment 2). He noted that written testimony from retired state employees has been attached to his testimony.

Representative Grant responded to questions from committee members. He reviewed the payment scale for retirement benefits, and discussed the notification timeframe regarding voluntary retirement incentives. A 90 day notification period was suggested, which would change the eligibility date to May, 2012.

Discussion followed by committee members regarding the impact of a 90 day notification period.

Rick Cleveland, provided testimony as a proponent of the bill (Attachment 3).

Rick Cleveland responded to questions from committee members. He discussed issues involved with his decision to retire early, and the financial impact as a retiree 30 days prior to being eligible for the voluntary retirement incentives.

Chairman Rhoades closed the hearing on **HB 2466**.

Barry Greis, Statehouse Architect, provided an overview of his job responsibilities, and an update on the Capitol Renovation Project (Attachment 4). He stated that renovations to the North Wing, Floors 1 – 5 is on schedule to be completed the fall of 2012.

Discussion followed by committee members and Barry Greis responded to questions regarding the quality of materials and craftsmanship which was done over the years and the impact presented during the renovation project. He stated that the bonding authority, approved by the legislature, was \$320 million. \$11.5 million in bonds have been sold, and \$4.5 million was acquired from the School of Pharmacy. The \$320 million will cover costs of renovation for floors 1 – 5, deferred maintenance of the dome, roof, chillers, etc. The Visitors Center and site work are not included for an estimated cost of \$20 million. As requested, all expenses incurred with the renovation will be provided to committee members.

Representative Gregory, presented information regarding the Capitol Restoration Landscaping Project Proposal and a progress update (Attachment 5).

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Representative Gregory responded to questions from committee members. She shared the excitement of the Master Gardeners and Kansas service clubs regarding opportunity to restore the north Capitol lawn by adding native landscaping. It was noted that concrete work that will need to be let that is not included in the grading work by the contractors.

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.