

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Apple at 1:30 p.m. on January 26, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:  
Senator Jay Emler, excused

Committee staff present:  
Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department  
Ann McMorris, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:  
Jeff Wick, Nex-Tech, Hays

Others attending: See attached list.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Senator Petersen, seconded by Senator Lee, to approve the minutes of the meetings of the Senate Utilities Committee held on January 11, 2011, January 12, 2011, and January 13, 2011. Motion carried.

Presentation on Nex-Tech Broadband Expansion Activities

Jeff Wick, chief operating officer, Nex-Tech, made a power point presentation on "Connecting Rural Kansas". He provided background on this rural telephone company, discussed the broadband technologies being used to improve the communities they serve, reviewed the Nex-Tech wireless nationwide coverage and the Broadband stimulus project. He reviewed the economic development impact made in western Kansas and the broadband stimulus technologies being provided. Broadband coverage, after completion of this project, will affect 39,158 households and business covering 9,307 square miles and involving 60 towns and 17 counties. (Attachment 1)

An e-mail from Scott Jones of Kansas City Power and Light, responding to questions from the committee following his presentation on January 13, 2011, was distributed. (Attachment 2)

Chair Apple thanked Senator Lee for her years of service on the Senate Utilities Committee. This was her last committee meeting before moving to her newly appointed position as Chief Hearing Officer of the Kansas State Court of Tax Appeals.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann McMorris, Committee Assistant

Attachments - 2