

MINUTES OF THE SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carolyn McGinn at 10:30a.m. on January 31, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

Senator Emler, excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Daniel Yoza, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
David Wiese, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Alan Conroy, Director, Legislative Research Department  
J. G. Scott, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department  
Aaron Klaassen, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department  
Dorothy Hughes, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department  
Brea Short, Intern, Senator McGinn's Office  
Jan Lunn, Committee Assistant  
Josh Lewis, Chief of Staff

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dennis Taylor, Acting Secretary, Department of Administration (DofA)

Others attending:

See attached list.

**Introduction of Senator Marci Francisco**

Senator McGinn welcomed Senator Marci Francisco to the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Senator Francisco is replacing Senator Janis Lee.

**Announcements**

Chairperson McGinn announced the Senate Ways and Means Committee would meet in Room 144-S on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 1 and 2.

Senator McGinn called attention to follow-up responses from the following individuals:

Dustin Moyer, Kansas Health Policy Authority, submitted a response related to the agency's Cost Recovery Audit Contract, which was discussed at the January 19, 2011, committee meeting (Attachment 1).

Suzanne Cleveland, Kansas Health Institute, submitted a response related to "Minimum Requirements for Health Insurance through Health Insurance Exchanges under the Affordable Care Act," which was discussed at the January 19 meeting (Attachment 2).

Robert Moser, MD, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), submitted the agency's 2011 Annual Report. This was referenced during his presentation on January 26, 2011. This report is available on the KDHE website at: [http://www.kdheks.gov/reports/2010\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](http://www.kdheks.gov/reports/2010_Annual_Report.pdf)

These attachments are considered to be part of this permanent record.

**Bill Introductions**

There were no bill introductions

**Confirmation Hearing – Dennis Taylor, Department of Administration (DOA)**

Acting Secretary Taylor reviewed his "Senate Confirmation Information Summary" with committee members (Attachment 3), highlighting his personal, educational, and professional background.

Senator Kelly questioned how Mr. Taylor would balance his responsibilities in the Department of Administration with his personal consulting business, Dennis Taylor and Associates. Mr. Taylor responded that business closed approximately five years ago. He indicated his full attention would be directed to his role as Secretary of the Department of Administration.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE on January 31, 2011, 10:30a.m. 548-S

Responding to Senator Schodorf's question regarding Acting Secretary Taylor's philosophy for the Department of Administration and the Office of the Repealer, Mr. Taylor responded his focus will be on the continuous improvement process for all state agencies, but specifically, those agencies with central responsibilities under the Department of Administration. In addition, a primary goal of the Office of the Repealer is to identify and eliminate conflicting legislation. Acting Secretary Taylor described his strategy to:

- meet with all stakeholders,
- develop a baseline related to current processes,
- obtain more data and assess current satisfaction levels, and
- establish performance expectations and develop a strategic performance plan.

Insofar as repealing legislation, Acting Secretary Taylor indicated that could be handled either by statutory change through the legislative process or through rules or regulations process. Mr. Taylor indicated legislators could contact him at [dennis.taylor@da.ks.gov](mailto:dennis.taylor@da.ks.gov) with constituents' suggestions of legislation to consider for repeal.

Chairperson McGinn inquired about the staffing composition in the Department of Administration. Mr. Taylor indicated there would not be a deputy secretary, A. J. Kotich has been hired as chief counsel, and Mark McGivern has been hired as the Director of Business Process Improvement. Mr. Taylor elaborated "business process improvement" means rules and regulations, statutes, and the internal method in which a business process is managed. Currently, the position of Director of the Division of Information Systems and Communication (DISC) is vacant. Assessment of staffing needs to improve efficiency and effectiveness will continue.

Responding to Senator Francisco's question regarding what complementary information that DOA would furnish during a statutory repeal process, Mr. Taylor reported that data and other information sources would be searched as well as researching other states' statutes for information.

Senator Schmidt shared her experience with the electronic mail system within the state government system, which would enable many constituents to contact legislators, department representatives, and state employees without knowledge of the department in which they work.

Senator McGinn moved that the Senate approve and consent to the appointment of Mr. Dennis Taylor, Secretary of Administration, serving at the pleasure of the Governor; the motion was seconded by Senator Kelly, which passed on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.