

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Apple at 1:30 p.m. on January 31, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Sen. 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:
Melissa Wangeman, Kansas Assn. Of Counties
Bob Lampke, Sedgwick County 911 Services
John Miller, Norton County, Pres. KLPG
Walter Way, Johnson County Emergency Services
Kim Winn, League of Ks. Municipalities

Written testimony for the following proponents was distributed but their appearances were rescheduled to the February 1 meeting of the Senate Utilities Committee.

Ron Gaches, Sprint
John Idoux, Centurylink
Doug Smith for Bob Boaldin, Morton County Commissioner
Dina Fisk, Verizon Wireless

Others attending: See attached list.

SB 50, concerning emergency communications service

Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research, provided information on 911 User Fees, Administrative Fees and Distribution of Funds and 911 Federal Grants. A second chart showed current law on wireline service, wireless and VoIP service and prepaid wireless service. A third memo provided a summary of the provisions of **SB 50**. (Attachment 1)

Matt Sterling, Assistant Revisor of Statutes, reported to the committee on January 27. He noted **Senate Bill 50** is an act concerning emergency telephone service and the implementation, collection and distribution of 911 fees. The current statutes concerning the 911 system and fees are to sunset on July 1, 2011. This act would create a new fee structure for the 911 fees, as well as creating a 911 coordinating council. The bill would be effective upon publication in the Kansas register, but many of the provisions of the bill would not go into effect until January 1, 2012. Two technical amendments were offered and appear as attachment to these minutes. (Attachment 2)

The fiscal Note for **SB 50** prepared by the Kansas Budget Division was distributed to the committee. (Attachment 3)

Chair Apple called on the following proponents to provide testimony.

Proponents

Melissa Wangemann, Kansas Association of Counties, discussed background information on funding mechanism as allowed by current statutes. The purpose of **SB 50** is to provide funding for 911 and includes a distribution formula to disperse the fees. **SB 50** creates equity between prepaid phones and other traditional phones. She provided a chart listing the PSAPs with three funding levels. (Attachment 4)

Bob Lampke, Sedgwick County, Kansas Division of Public Safety, reviewed some of the future needs of the 911 program and the desires of Sedgwick County. (Attachment 5)

John Miller, Norton County Commissioner and President of the Kansas Legislative Policy Group, voiced support for **SB 50** and set out the various needs for emergency assistance services and disaster preparedness responses. (Attachment 6)

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Utilities Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 31, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

Walter Way, Johnson County, Kansas Emergency Communications, reviewed the changes in funding that will take place when the law sunsets on July 1, 2011. He urged favorable consideration of **SB 50**. (Attachment 7)

Kim Winn, League of Kansas Municipalities, provided data from PSAPs regarding 911 revenues for calendar years 2008 and 2009. The data for 2010 is being collected and will be made available to the committee when it is completed. (Attachment 8)

Written only – Edward Elam, Ford County Administrator/Surveyor (Attachment 9)
Dale Goter, City of Wichita (Attachment 10)
Ed Klumpp, Ks. Assn. Of Chiefs of Police (Attachment 11)
Eric Sartorius, Overland Park Government (Attachment 12)
Norton County Board of Commissioners (Attachment 13)
Chris Carroll, AT&T (Attachment 14)
William Johnson, Jr., Butler County Administrator (Attachment 15)
Shawnee County Commissioners (Attachment 16)

Chair announced hearing on **SB 50** would remain open.

The remainder of the proponents for **SB 50** will present testimony on February 1. (State offices and legislative offices closed on February 1 and 2 due to a massive snow storm and hearings continued on February 3.)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann McMorris, Committee Assistant

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