

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:08 a.m. on March 11, 2003 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Jerry Williams

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Brian Moline, Kansas Corporation Commission

Others attending: See attached listing.

Chairman Holmes welcomed Brian Moline, Kansas Corporation Commission Commissioner, to the committee. Commissioner Moline briefed the committee on the basics of rate making as a legislative function (Attachment 1). Commissioner Moline stated that public utilities are natural monopolies that are granted exclusive service areas, allowed to charge fair and reasonable rates, and are allowed to impose reasonable conditions as to the terms under which their services will be rendered. Commissioner Moline told the committee that Kansas was one of the first state regulatory bodies in the nation and provided a brief history on the various stages. He then explained the various functions of the State Corporation Commission along with outlining the characteristics of the quasi-judicial process. Commissioner Moline shared with the committee his top ten lessons learned in his twenty years at the Corporation Commission. He did note that the top ten had turned into his top eleven. He concluded his remarks by stating that the Commission, like her sister state commissions, has been slowly, sometimes painfully, evolving into a modern regulatory entity.

Commissioner Moline responded to questions from the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

The next meeting will be Thursday, March 13, 2003 at 9:00 a.m.