

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Huebert at 3:30 p.m. on January 28, 2009, in Room 446-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Steve Brunk- excused
Representative Bill Otto- excused
Representative Mike Peterson- excused

Committee staff present:

Ken Wilke, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Florence Deeter, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Bob Corkins, Content Editor for KansasVotes.org, Flint Hills Public Policy Center

Others attending:

See attached list.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and opened the floor for bill introductions. As point of privilege he introduced a bill to change the constitutional amendment regarding vacancies in statewide offices. There being no objection, it will be introduced as a committee bill.

The Chairman called for introduction of a bill to prohibit the use of tax payer money for lobbying purposes. There being no objection, it will be introduced as a committee bill.

Representative Schwab requested a bill stating that any individual or company seeking contracts with the state must register as a lobbyist. He further requested a bill requiring any monies of at least \$1,000 submitted in reports to the Ethics Commission be itemized with name, address and amount contributed to a campaign. There being no objections, both bills will be introduced as committee bills.

The Chairman introduced Bob Corkins, Content Editor for KansasVotes.org, Flint Hills Public Policy Center. Mr. Corkins provided background of the organization, stating it has been in existence for fifteen years and is non-partisan and non-profit ([Attachment 1](#)). He said KansasVotes.org is a free web page which was launched in December 2008 and is funded through private grants and donations. His demonstration included features of the site and the ease with which bill searches, voting summaries, blogs and forums can be utilized. Mr. Corkins said that privacy is non-issue since the only personal information needed to use the site is an email address.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2009.