

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Tyson at 8:36 a.m. on March 4, 2004 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

Members present:

Senator Christine Downey
Senator David Corbin
Senator Derek Schmidt
Senator Dwayne Umbarger
Senator Janis Lee
Senator Mark Taddiken
Senator Phil Journey
Senator Robert Tyson
Senator Tim Huelskamp

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Lisa Montgomery, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Linda Bradley, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Roy W. Menninger M.D., Psychiatrist and Chairman Emeritus of Menninger
Mike Hayden, Secretary of Wildlife and Parks
Christopher Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Chairman Tyson called the meeting to order.

**Hearing on House Bill 2557
HB 2557 is concerning state parks.**

The Chairman asked Raney Gilliland, Staff, to explain the bill. Mr. Gilliland stated **HB 2557** amends a section of the statute that provides for state parks and it would add the Free State State Park in Shawnee County to the list of parks designated as part of the state park system. The park would be open to the public except the hours for prescheduled events.

Dr. Menninger spoke as a proponent for the bill. Dr. Menninger stated he was in support of **HB 2557**, setting forth a plan to create a state park from land recently purchased from Menninger. He would like the park to retain the Menninger name. (Attachment 1)

The Committee was asked by Chairman Tyson if they had any questions. Various questions were asked by Senators Lee, Tyson, Downey and Huelskamp regarding naming the park, Menninger Memorial State Park, would there be legal problems and copyright problems? Dr. Menninger will get an answer to the Committee on those questions. Also, questions were asked on who owned the property for the park and who purchased the land surrounding the park.

Secretary Mike Hayden spoke as a proponent for the bill. Secretary Hayden stated he would be most appreciative to have the state park retain the name Menninger. He would like to have the bill restored to show the land would be called Menninger Memorial State Park. (Attachment 2)

The Committee were asked by the Chairman if they had questions for Secretary Hayden. Senators Huelskamp, Taddiken, Downey, Lee and Tyson ask a range of question including is this going to be a high end development around park, land owners of development, will the park be in the city someday, property taxes, was the 81 acres for the park given away for free, is there access to the river and is hunting allowed.

The hearing on **HB 2557** was not closed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE at 8:36 a.m. on March 4, 2004
in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

Hearing on House Bill 2621

HB 2621 is concerning inflicting harm, disability or death to certain dogs.

Christopher Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, a proponent for **HB 2621** stated the bill would amend current statutory protections for inflicting, harm, disability or death to certain dogs to include game warden dogs. (Attachment 3)

There was no discussion on the bill.

The hearing on **HB 2621** was closed.

Chairman Tyson announced to the Committee that they were invited to Ravenwood on the evening of March 18, 2004. Details will be presented to the Committee later.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting will be Friday, March 5, 2004.