

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Melvin Neufeld at 9:00 A.M. on February 16, 2005 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative J. Williams- excused
Representative Newton- excused
Representative Sawyer- excused

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department
J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department
Amy VanHouse, Legislative Research Department
Reagan Cussimano, Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Administrative Analyst
Shirley Jepson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

- Attachment 1 Budget Committee report on Department of Wildlife and Parks
- Attachment 2 Budget Committee report on Department of Agriculture, Animal Health Department, Kansas State Fair, State Conservation Commission, Kansas Water Office
- Attachment 3 Written testimony from Kansas Soybean Association

Chair Neufeld moved to introduce legislation pertaining to unclaimed property changes. The motion was seconded by Representative Bethell. Motion carried.

Representative Powell, member of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Department of Wildlife and Parks for FY 2005 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2005 (Attachment 1). The motion was seconded by Representative Schwartz.

The Budget Committee stated that they have been made aware of a cash flow problem in the Department of Wildlife and Parks which will not enable them to make the April payroll. Responding to a question from the Committee concerning fee funds, Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department, stated that there were no transfers of fee funds to the State General Fund (SGF) during FY 2004 from the Department of Wildlife and Parks. The Budget Committee stated that they understand the shortage is partially due to the decrease in the number of park visitors or entrance fees collected during FY 2005 and a possible problem with management of cash flow. Responding to another question, the Budget Committee noted that \$100,000 was expended for planning at State Park No. 24, stating that there has not been a transfer of land to the state at this time. The Committee indicated it's disapproval of the Department of Wildlife and Parks moving any funds from federal wildlife funds to cover the shortage because of the liability to the state and possible fine assessed by the federal government. The Committee suggested that the shortage be covered by a loan from the Pooled Money Investment Board (PMIB).

Representative Schwartz moved for a proviso to allow the Department of Wildlife and Parks to borrow funds, up to \$485,000, from the Pooled Money Investment Board (PMIB) to cover the cash flow shortage and replace the borrowed amount with park fee funds as they are available. The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Schwartz moved to adopt the Budget Committee report for the Department of Wildlife and Parks for FY 2005 as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

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Representative Powell, member of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Department of Wildlife and Parks for FY 2006 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2006 (Attachment 1). The motion was seconded by Representative Schwartz. Motion carried.

Representative Schwartz, Chair of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Department of Agriculture for FY 2005 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2005 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Schwartz, Chair of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Department of Agriculture for FY 2006 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2006 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Information from the Kansas Soybean Association regarding the Budget Committee report was distributed to the Committee (Attachment 3).

Representative Schwartz, Chair of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Animal Health Department for FY 2005 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2005 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Schwartz, Chair of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Animal Health Department for FY 2006 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2006 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Powell, member of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Kansas State Fair for FY 2005 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2005 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Schwartz. Motion carried.

Representative Powell, member of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Kansas State Fair for FY 2006 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2006 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Schwartz. Motion carried.

Responding to a question concerning capital improvements and renovations at the Kansas State Fair grounds, Amy VanHouse, Legislative Research Department, indicated that work is continuing to bring the Old Mill, 4-H exhibit buildings, the grandstand, as well as all facilities, into compliance with ADA regulations, with the work being completed by FY 2007. Regarding attendance at the State Fair, the Budget Committee noted that the attendance is holding steady at this time, attractions are being enhanced and the facilities are being used throughout the year by other organizations and events.

Representative Powell, member of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the State Conservation Commission for FY 2005 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2005 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Schwartz. Motion carried.

Representative Powell, member of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the State Conservation Commission for FY 2006 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2006 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Schwartz. Motion carried.

In reference to Item No. 5, the Budget Committee stated that because the Legislature has not passed legislation

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to create the state match for the Wind Energy Conservation Easements federal program, the Budget Committee chose to recommend the deletion of this funding from the Governor's budget recommendation.

Representative Schwartz, Chair of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Kansas Water Office for FY 2005 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2005 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

Representative Schwartz, Chair of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee report on the Kansas Water Office for FY 2006 and moved for the adoption of the Budget Committee recommendation for FY 2006 (Attachment 2). The motion was seconded by Representative Powell. Motion carried.

In reference to Item No. 2, Representative Gatewood expressed his support for the Governor's recommendation.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 17, 2005.

Melvin Neufeld, Chair