

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharon Schwartz at 9:00 A.M. on January 9, 2007 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Doug Gatewood- excused  
Representative Tom Sawyer- excused

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department  
J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department  
Becky Krahl, Legislative Research Department  
Matt Spurgin, Legislative Research Department  
Michele Alishahi, Legislative Research Department  
Reagan Cussimano, Legislative Research Department  
Amy Deckard, Legislative Research Department  
Audrey Dunkel, Legislative Research Department  
Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department  
Susan Kannarr, Legislative Research Department  
Aaron Klaassen, Legislative Research Department  
Ashley Holm, Legislative Research Department  
Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department  
Michael Steiner, Legislative Research Department  
Amy VanHouse, Legislative Research Department  
Jim Wilson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Scott Wells, Research Fellow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Nikki Feuerborn, Chief of Staff  
Shirley Jepson, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

- Attachment 1 Legislative Fiscal Analyst Assignments
- Attachment 2 Committee Rules
- Attachment 3 State General Fund (SGF) Overview
- Attachment 4 SGF Receipts for FY 2007 and FY 2008
- Attachment 5 SGF Receipts July through December, FY 2007
- Attachment 6 SGF Receipts, Expenditures, Balances as Projected
- Attachment 7 Indebtedness of the State of Kansas

Representative Tafanelli moved to introduce legislation pertaining to (1) funding of the Legislature's commitment to increase support for education and (2) address the regent institutions and their deferred maintenance needs. The motion was seconded by Representative Pottorff. Motion carried.

Chair Schwartz introduced the Committee leadership and requested the members of the Committee to introduce and tell something about themselves.

Jim Wilson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, noted that he will staff the Committee and introduced Scott Wells, who is a Revisor's Fellow in the Office of the Revisor's of Statutes. J. G. Scott, Legislative Research Department, introduced the Fiscal Analyst Staff and distributed a listing of assignments (Attachment 1). Chair Schwartz introduced her personal staff.

A copy of the Committee rules was distributed to the Committee (Attachment 2).

Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department, presented an overview of the following:

- Current status of the State General Fund (SGF) (Attachment 3);
- Consensus Estimating Group's memo to the Governor and Legislative Budget Committee (Attachment 4);

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Appropriations Committee at 9:00 A.M. on January 9, 2007 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

- Memo to Legislative Budget Committee on SGF receipts (Attachment 5);
- SGF Receipts, Expenditures and Balances as projected for FY2006 - FY2010 (Attachment 6)
- Indebtedness of the State of Kansas FY1997- FY2007 (Attachment 7).

Mr. Conroy noted that actual FY 2006 receipts were \$85.7 million above the estimate resulting in an improvement in the financial status of the State. There has been strong growth in individual income tax, corporation income tax and retail sales tax receipts.

Responding to Committee questions, Mr. Conroy stated that there are \$273 million in authorized bonds but unissued at this time, the majority of which are for funding of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). These are open-ended bonds and can be issued at any time. Mr. Conroy also stated that the largest single item of the State's indebtedness are bonds for funding of the CTP. The Standard and Poor's bond rating for the State is somewhat lower than in the past. With regard to fuel tax, Mr. Conroy indicated that information will be provided on a comparison of Kansas fuel tax charged in surrounding states.

Mr. Conroy stated that there are 20 fee-funded state agencies who have biennial budgets. These budgets will need to be worked by the Budget Committees with their budgets for FY 2008 and FY 2009 included in this year's Appropriations bill.

Chair Schwartz reminded the Committee that their main responsibility is the budget of the State, noting it is important to spend the state's revenues for useful programs and in an efficient manner.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be at 9:00 a.m. on January 10, 2007.

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Rep. Sharon Schwartz, Chair