

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 8:30 a.m. on February 6, 2009, in Room 136-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Mike Corrigan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jill Shelley, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Shepard, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Daniel Goddard, CEO, Great Plains Development Authority
Brian Kinzie, Commissioner, Labette County
Carolyn Kennett, Director, Economic Development, City of Parsons
Deb Miller, Secretary of Transportation, State of Kansas

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Umbarger opened the hearing on **SB 60 - Redevelopment districts within a federal enclave; sale of real property.**

Brian Kinzie, Commissioner for Labette County, testified in support of **SB 60**. In May of 2005, Labette County Commissioners were notified that the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) was pulling all Army Missions and abandoning the nearly 14,000 acre Kansas Army Ammunition Plant (KSAAP). The Great Plains Development Authority (GPDA) was organized to develop an industrial park, create new jobs, and help build a tax base. According to Mr. Kinzie, this legislation change facilitates the local authorities the flexibility needed to negotiate swiftly with companies who are willing to invest money in Southeast Kansas ([Attachment 1](#)).

Daniel Goddard, CEO of the Great Plains Development Authority (GPDA), appeared as a proponent of the bill. He indicated that the GPDA is governed by County operational procedures prescribing the process for sale of property. Eliminating the competitive bid process, as proposed in **SB 60**, will give Southeast Kansas the help it needs at economic recovery ([Attachment 2](#)).

Carolyn Kennett, Director of Economic Development for the City of Parsons, provided testimony in favor of **SB 60**. The GPDA is about growing the economy and offsetting the loss of 1,300 jobs. To do so, it has to have rules and regulations that puts GPDA on an even playing field with other industrial parks. Ms. Kennett stated passage of **SB 60** will accomplish that ([Attachment 3](#)).

There being no further conferees, the hearing on **SB 60** was closed.

Presentation on the Transportation Leveraging Investments in Kansas (T-LINK) Report by Secretary Miller Continued from February 4, and 5, 2009

Secretary Miller continued her overview of the *New Approaches for Transportation Final Recommendations of the T-LINK Task Force* January 2009 ([See Attachments 1, 2, & 3 in February 4, 2009 minutes](#)).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2009.