

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joann Freeborn at 3:30 P.M. on March 3, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes Office
Dana Wurdeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairperson Freeborn called the meeting to order.

The agenda for next week is on call of the chair, no bills have been assigned to our Committee as of yet. Reminder for all visitors to sign the guest log.

Chairperson Freeborn welcomed Earl Lewis, Kansas Water Office to make a presentation on Kansas Water Marketing Program and Associated Unfunded Liability. In 1963, the Legislature and Governor enacted the State Water Resources Planning Act. That act gave the Kansas Water Resources Board the ability to contract with the federal government for storage in reservoirs. To date the state of Kansas has purchased water supply storage in 13 federal reservoirs. In five of the reservoirs, a contract provision allows the state to defer both capital and operation costs on storage no immediately needed until such time as the state calls the storage into service. Those five reservoirs are Milford, Perry, Clinton, Hillsdale and Big Hill. Information detailing reservoir storage, costs and contract term is attached as well as a historical time line for the Water Marketing Program. (See attachment 1)

Committee questions and discussion followed.

Chairperson Freeborn adjourned the meeting at 4:30PM. The next scheduled meeting is March 8.