MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Tyson at 8:39 a.m. on February 19, 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:

Christopher Tymeson, Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Others attending:

See Attached List.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tyson.

Review of Minutes

Senator Umbarger moved to approve the minutes of February 12. Senator Huelskamp seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Hearing on Senate Bill 496

SB 496 is concerning hunting; relating to the revocation or suspension of hunting licenses; amending K.S.A. 32-1013 and repealing the existing section.

Chairman Tyson asked Raney Gilliland, Staff, to explain **SB 496**. Mr. Gilliland stated the bill creates essentially a trespass violation system. It addresses individuals while hunting, for convictions or diversion agreements or trespass violations. You may recall one section of law that the legislature addressed in the last few years is a section being amended and this section basically makes it a violation for any person hunting, trapping and fishing on posted property without written permission from the property owners. Any landowner or person in lawful possession of any land may post such land by placing identifying purple paint marks on trees or posts around the area to be posted. Mr. Gilliland passed out additional information on criminal hunting. (Attachment 1) Mr. Gilliland also passed out additional information on criminal trespass. (Attachment 2)

Christopher Tymeson, Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks spoke as a proponent of **SB 496**. Mr. Tymeson stated he firmly supports the bill. He said **SB 496** would amend current statutory provisions dealing with hunting without written permission, criminal hunting and criminal trespass while hunting. (Attachment 3)

The Committee was asked by Chairman Tyson if they had any questions. Various questions were asked by Senators Lee, Taddiken, Tyson, Journey, Huelskamp, Downey and Schmidt regarding a judge having the ability to take away hunters licence, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation involvement, send abstracts to courts and KBI, narrow down to hunter violations and use the right statutes, diversion agreement and taking privilege away without charges being dismissed. Discussion comments were a drivers license is

CONTINUATION SHEET

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not a life time license and the courts can suspend a life time license, hunters need to know where property lines start, hunters hunting on private property because they are having trouble finding a place to hunt, we need a strong bill, county attorney can prosecute or file appeals.

Chairman Tyson asked Senators Journey, Schmidt and Taddiken to meet at 7:00 a.m., Friday, February 20, 2004 to work out some specifics in **SB 496.**

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting will be Friday, February 20, 2004.