

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joann Freeborn at 3:30 P.M. on January 25, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Emalene Correll, Legislative Research Department
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes Office
Pam Shaffer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

David Breen, Executive Director, Kansas Water Congress
Roderick Bremby, Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairperson Joann Freeborn called the meeting to order.

The Chairperson announced there will be a hearing on **HB2052 - Changes definition of uncontaminated soil in the solid waste statutes** on January 27.

The Chairperson asked if anyone had a bill request at this time. No one came forward.

Chairperson Freeborn welcomed David Brenn, Executive Director, Kansas Water Congress to provide an overview of the Kansas Water Congress. The KWC is a non-for-profit, fee funded entity separate and distinct from existing state agencies, associations, other organizations and direct political affiliation. The 2005 goals are: (1) The 2005 Legislative Session will be an opportunity to communicate the role and function of the KWC and provide a resource of objective information and facts on water issues facing the State. Provide an opportunity for forum on issues based on request of the membership, legislature or administration. (2) Continue to help facilitate each of the 29 statewide Divisions, in the process of establishing their governance. (3) Separate meeting/teleconferences of the Geographic, Groundwater Management, General Divisions and State Affairs Committee are being scheduled for 2005. (4) Continue to expand both sustaining and individual membership across the State by focusing on each of the 29 Divisions and the water issues relevant to them. (5) Continue to utilize periodic newsletter, e-mail and regular mail to update and inform membership on relevant water related issues and activities of the Congress. (6) The KWC will continue to work with the Community College system, Kansas State University and other regent institutions to provide educational and enlightenment opportunities on water issues relevant to the State of Kansas. (See attachment 1) Mr. Brenn had a handout for the members of the Committee which was passed out (See attachment 2) Committee questions and discussion followed.

Chairperson Freeborn thanked Mr. Brenn for his review.

Chairperson Freeborn welcomed Roderick Bremby, Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment to provide an overview of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The mission of the Division of Environment is protecting public health and environment for Kansas. To implement this mission, the Division of Environment had adopted the following goals: (1) Implement environmental programs in Kansas to achieve regulatory compliance and maintain an assurance that environmental programs are protective of public health and the environment. (2) Be responsive to the needs and inquiries of the citizens of Kansas and the regulated community with respect to environmental programs. (3) Provide citizens of the state with accurate assessments of the environmental conditions of the state. In order to fulfill this mission and meet these goals the Division of Environment has developed and implemented regulatory, compliance assistance, monitoring and educational programs within each of the bureaus and the division as a whole. (See attachment 3) Mr. Bremby passed out a pamphlet, Service Guide to the Division of Environment, which is not attached to these minutes.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Environment Committee at 3:30 P.M. on January 25, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Committee questions and discussion followed.

Chairperson Freeborn thanked Mr. Bremby for his review and ask that he introduce the staff which where with him, they were, Ron Hammerschmidt, Director of the Division of Environment, Dr. Duane Boline, Doctor over Division of Health and Environmental Laboratories and Susan Kang, Director of Policy of KDHE.

The meeting adjourned at 4:36. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 27.