

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Melvin Neufeld at 9:00 a.m. on April 30, 2004 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Bill McCreary- excused
Representative Dean Newton- excused
Representative Larry Campbell- excused
Representative Tom Klein- excused
Representative Vern Osborne- excused

Committee staff present:

Amy VanHouse, Legislative Research
Michele Alishahi, Legislative Research
Debra Hollon, Legislative Research
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Nikki Feuerborn, Administrative Analyst
Shirley Jepson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Joe Fritton, Executive Director, University Research and Development Corporation

Others attending:

See Attached List.

- Attachment 1 Testimony by Joe Fritton, University Research and Development Corporation

Chairman Neufeld recognized Joe Fritton, Executive Director, University Research and Development Corporation, who presented an update on the status of the construction of research facilities and Corporation projects (Attachment 1).

Responding to a question from the Committee, Mr. Fritton stated that savings have been realized by the use of "construction manager at risk" on the Kansas State project because the construction manager is able to analyze the construction after the design process and bids are let, which could result in better methods of construction of the project; thus realizing a cost savings. Mr. Fritton felt the construction manager is valuable to the Kansas State project because it is a bioterrorism facility and further assures that the facility will be accredited in order to receive research dollars. Responding to another question, Mr. Fritton indicated that if the State increases the bonding, Kansas State will be able to meet the cash flow. Mr. Fritton noted that Kansas State University is aggressively pursuing funds to reduce their debt to the State.

The Chair thanked Mr. Fritton for his testimony.

Chairman Neufeld recognized Reginald Robinson, Board of Regents. Mr. Robinson stated that the Board of Regents is keeping in contact and receiving updates on the three university research projects. In response to a question concerning the excessive funds from the University of Kansas project bid, Mr. Robinson indicated that he did not have up-to-date figures but stated that the Corporation Board will meet on May 20th to review the funds and equipment needs for the project. Mr. Robinson noted that the Board of Regents is aware of the Committee's action in proposing that \$6 million of the excess be used on the Wichita University project.

Chairman Neufeld thanked Mr. Robinson for responding to the Committee's questions.

The Chair indicated that the minutes of April 21, April 22, April 29 and April 30 will be available at Sine Die for Committee members to review. If no corrections are noted, the minutes will be considered approved and will be filed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE at 9:00 a.m. on April 30, 2004 in Room 514-S of the Capitol.

Chairman Neufeld thanked the Committee members for their dedication and hard work during the past two years. It was noted that Representatives Minor, Osborne, and Campbell will not be returning for the 2005 Legislative Session. Chairman Neufeld thanked the Staff for their hard work and contribution to the Committee. The Committee expressed their appreciation to Representatives Neufeld, Shultz and Feuerborn for their leadership of the Committee.

With no more business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.