

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Representative Mike Burgess, Chair, at 3:30 p.m. on February 3, 2011, in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Iraida Orr, Legislative Research  
Katherine McBride, Revisor of Statutes  
Renaë Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes  
Linda Herrick, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Jerry Younger, Kansas Department of Transportation  
Cort Buffington, Executive Director, KanREN  
Kevin Halgren, Washburn University  
Jeremy Blanton, USD #111

Others attending:

(see attached list)

Chair Burgess asked if there was anyone who would like to request any bills to be introduced. At committee meeting several days ago, there was some discussion about an employee award program for suggesting efficiency or cost saving ideas. It was moved by Chair Burgess and seconded by Representative Pete DeGraaf to introduce such a bill designed to award state employees for cost savings and efficiency suggestions. The Chair asked for any discussion. There was a suggestion that this program be extended to all Kansas citizens, not just state employees. The Chair noted that language used from a bill proposed last year provided for awards for only state employees. However, this would be good discussion on the hearing for this bill. After this discussion, the committee unanimously voted to approve the motion.

Chair Burgess then introduced Jerry Younger, Deputy Secretary for Engineering and State Transportation Engineer, Kansas Department of Transportation. Mr. Younger briefed the committee on Kansas Department of Transportation excess property, particularly excess right of way property (Attachment 1).

Chair Burgess thanked Mr. Younger for his presentation to the committee.

The second presentation was a briefing on KanREN (Attachment 2). Chair Burgess introduced Cort Buffington, Executive Director, KanREN (Kansas Research and Education Network). After his presentation, Mr. Buffington introduced Kevin Halgren, Assistant Director, Information Systems and Services, Washburn University. Mr. Halgren gave a short presentation supporting KanREN. Mr. Buffington also introduced Jeremy Blanton, Information Technology Director, USD 111 Doniphan West. Mr. Blanton gave a short presentation in support of KanREN. Chair Burgess thanked Mr. Buffington, Mr. Halgren and Mr. Blanton for their presentations.

There was no other business to come before the committee.

The next meeting will be Monday, February 7, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.