

Approved: 3-2-2012

Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ostmeyer at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 27, 2012, in Room 156-S of the Capitol.

All members were present, except:

Senator Steve Morris-excused
Senator Garret Love-excused
Senator Ruth Teichman-excused

Committee staff present:

Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research
Abigail Boudewyns, Kansas Legislative Research
Tamera Lawrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Stephanie Gray, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Robin Jennison, Secretary, Ks. Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, (KDWPT)
Tom Palace, Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of KS, (PMCA)
Erick Nordling, Executive Secretary, Southwest Ks. Royalty Owners Assn. of KS,
(SWKROA)

A presentation by Robin Jennison, Secretary, KDWPT was delivered. He discussed the addition of the tourism area to Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks. The Governor has added \$300,000 to the budget for 2013 for administrative costs.

His office will present a legislative package of proposals. The House Appropriations wanted the park's side to be self-funded. He was hopeful that a different park pass would generate enough money.

KDWPT has gotten complaints about the senior 65+ issues with hunting/fishing. The proposal favors charging this large group. Also, the Kansas boat tax is highest in the area, and we need to bring it down to be more competitive with other states.

Questions were taken from the Committee.

Senator Ostmeyer asked for a summary from Chris Tymeson, KDWPT, to help reply to constituents on these issues.

Tom Palace, PMCA, asked for introduction of the bill to extend underground water storage tanks.

Senator McGinn moved to introduce the bill; Senator Francisco seconded. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes for Natural Resources Committee at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 27, 2012, in room 159-S of the Capitol.

The hearing was opened on **SB271-ownership of pore space**. An explanation of the bill was given by Tamera Lawrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes.

Erick Nordling, Executive Secretary, SWKROA, gave testimony in support of **SB 271**. This bill recognizes and is consistent with the common law practices in the state on the ownership of pore spaces. **SB 271** declares that the ownership of all pore space below the surface lands and water of this state are vested in the surface owners. It includes provisions that the ownership of pore space can be severed or transferred, as long as such transfer is very specific. SWKROA supports the ability of the surface owner to freely sell, transfer, or lease the sub-surface pore spaces, in the manner provided by law for the transfer of mineral interest in real property. SWKROA supports **SB 271**'s codification of the dominance of the mineral estate. (Attachment 1)

Erick Nordling answered questions from the Committee.

Ron Gaches, Gaches, Braden & Associates, was absent to provide neutral testimony. Written testimony was submitted for Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline Inc. (Attachment 2) Matt Casey from his office was a substitute to take questions from the Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.