

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:06 a.m. on January 11, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Melody Miller - Excused
Representative Don Myers - Excused

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See Attached List

Chairman Holmes welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that the committee members and staff introduce themselves. Chairman Holmes then discussed the distributed committee rules and conferee rules.

Chairman Holmes then called for introduction of bills. A listing of proposed committee-sponsored legislation was distributed (Attachment 1). Representative Krehbiel moved to introduce the proposed items as committee bills. Representative Sloan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Holmes shared items he had obtained that provided alternative methods of various telecommunications. One item was a box that provided a means to communicate by telephone over broadband connections. This process is called Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP). The switching box is connected to the phone lines and broadband access lines. The second item was a switch box that allows internet access over electrical power lines. The box is plugged into a standard outlet and the internet connection is plugged into the box.

Chairman Holmes told the committee that there were plans to meet jointly with the Senate Utilities Committee for briefings on topical issues.

As there are a number of new members to the committee, Chairman Holmes allowed the guests in attendance to introduce themselves.

Also distributed to the committee members were glossaries for both telecommunication and electrical and gas terminologies.

Representative Sloan stated he had another issue he would like the committee to address and requested that an additional bill be introduced. Representative Sloan moved that a committee bill be introduced that addressed franchise and easement agreements as they related to new services. Representative Kuether seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 12, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.