

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara P. Allen at 1:30 p.m. on January 28, 2003 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Mike Heim, Legislative Research  
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research  
Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Gilstrap  
Rich Huhn, Fire Chief, Delaware Township  
Kenneth Bernard, Mayor of Lansing  
David Van Parys, County Counselor, Leavenworth

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Allen called for bill introductions. Senator Schodorf requested the introduction of a bill regarding open meetings. The bill would address newly elected officials that have been certified, the Governor, city, county, and school boards, would amend the open meeting laws during the transition period. Senator Gooch moved to introduce the legislation as a committee bill, seconded by Senator Schmidt, and the motion carried.

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, brought to the Committee requests introductions for four committee bills. The first which is a political party bill, would remove unconstitutional provisions from Kansas statutes restricting party names to two words, one of which must be the word "party". The second bill would improve the recall process. The third ballot bill would improve the distribution and tabulation of ballots. The fourth being the Presidential preference primary cancellation bill (Attachment 1). Senator Clark made a motion these four bills be introduced, seconded by Senator Jackson. The motion carried.

Senator Haley requested the introduction of two bills. The first bill, a candidate not intending to raise or spend over \$500 to file an affidavit within 10 days of the voting period, need not appoint a treasurer or campaign committee. Senator Gooch move to introduce the legislation, seconded by Senator Gilstrap and the motion carried. The second request, the candidate would be responsible for all the duties of treasurer until a person had been appointed. Senator Clark made a motion to introduce the legislation as a committee bill, seconded by Senator Huelskamp and the motion carried.

### Hearing on bills

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT at on January 28, 2003 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

### **SB 40 - fire districts; board of trustees**

Chairperson opened the hearing on **SB 40**. Senator Gilstrap introduced persons that came to the Capitol for today's hearing. Senator Gilstrap introduced Mayor of Lansing, Ken Bernard, Fire Chief from Delaware Township, Rich Huhn and his wife. He also introduced Mike Smith, City Administrator of Lansing and David Van Parys, City Counselor, Leavenworth County.

Rich Huhn gave a brief synopsis and history of the Delaware Township Fire Department. Rich presented testimony in support of **SB40** (Attachment 2).

Mayor of Lansing, Kenneth Bernard spoke in support of **SB 40**. The agreement covers the appointment of board members, the disposition of assets, and the organizational controls the three entities will place on the board of the Fire District. His testimony shows support from City of Lansing, High Prairie Township and Delaware Township with input from Leavenworth County, (Attachment 3).

David Van Parys presented testimony in support of **SB 40**. He stated it is the position of Leavenworth County, Kansas, that a joint board created by agreement between the constituent local governments comprising a Fire District is as competent to govern the Fire District as the Board of County Commissioners and, in a better position to determine the best interests of the Fire District (Attachment 4).

There being no others to testify on **SB 40**, Chairperson Allen closed the hearing.

Chairperson Allen informed the committee it would be hearing Senator Schodorf's bill on Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.