

MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

The meeting was called to order by Chairman JoAnn Pottorff at 12:05 on February 16, 2009, in Room 143-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Aaron Klaassen, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jonathan Tang, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amy Deckard, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Estelle Montgomery, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Gary Deeter, Committee Assistant

Others attending:

See attached list.

Staff Amy Deckard reviewed the capital improvements budget for the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services ([Attachment 1](#)). She stated that for FY 2009 the Governor concurred with the agency request for \$10.9 million, \$10.7 million of which was to come from the State Institutions Building Fund. For FY 2010 the agency requested \$26.1 million, which included four enhancements:

- A 30-bed crisis stabilization unit at Larned State Hospital (\$8.8 million);
- A 90-bed expansion of the Sexual Predator Treatment Program (SPTP) at Larned (\$2.5 million);
- A 28-bed expansion of the SPTP at the Osawatomie State Hospital (\$581,552); and
- Rehabilitation and repair for the state hospital (\$5.6 million).

The Governor did not recommend these enhancements.

Ray Dalton, Deputy Secretary, SRS, responded to questions regarding the enhancements:

- Capacity will be reached at Larned by 2012.
- An average of 16 inmates is added each year.
- The mandatory sentencing laws are driving increases in the prison population.
- The Sexual Predator Treatment Program begins at Larned; if an inmate progresses through five levels, he is then transferred to Osawatomie, where, after achieving two more levels, he can be released. The SPTP at Osawatomie, presently at eight, has a capacity of twelve.
- A two-year construction window is necessary to address population increases.
- About 3.9% of inmates in the Department of Corrections are sexual predators.
- Maintaining an inmate costs the department about \$70,000 per year.

Members discussed the disjuncture between the desire to place sexual offenders near their home communities and the policy of sending them all to Osawatomie, where they are eventually employed prior to release. Mr. Dalton commented that statutes and community attitudes weigh against community placements.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Joint Committee on State Building Construction at Noon on February 16, 2009, in Room 143-N of the Capitol.

Staff Aaron Klaassen commented on the Kansas Department of Transportation's capital improvement budget requests. He stated that the Governor concurred with the FY 2009 agency request (\$7,025,987). The agency's request for FY 2010 (\$7,837,439) was reduced by the Governor to \$5,642,439.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, at noon in Room 143-N.