

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Myers at 3:30 p.m. on January 26, 2004 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative C. Frank Miller- excused

Representative Tom Sawyer- excused

Committee staff present:

Dennis Hodgins Legislative Research Department

Ken Wilke, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Shirley Weideman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State

Others attending: See Attached List.

Chairman Myers introduced the new committee member Representative Oletha Faust-Goudeau from Wichita. She is replacing now-Senator Donald Betts.

The order of business was the request for bills. Committee Chairman Don Myers requested a bill on campaign finance. The bill would clarify the transfer of a candidate's campaign funds from one office to another.

Representative McLeland moved and Representative McCreary seconded the motion that such a bill be introduced. The motion carried.

Brad Bryant, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, appeared before the committee to request 2 bills. The first would be a bill regarding advanced voting. It would require the county election officer to check the signatures on the envelopes of advanced voting ballots returned by mail and challenge ballots if the signatures do not match the registration records. Also, it would require a person assisting a sick, physically disabled or illiterate voter to specify the reason the voter needs assistance and require that the person assisting the voter file an affidavit of assistance. The second bill would allow counties' election abstracts to be filed with the Secretary of State by secure electronic transmission. (Attachment 1)

Representative Huebert moved that these two bills be introduced. Representative Siegfried seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is January 26.