

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:00 a.m. on March 17, 2009, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Josh Svaty-excused

Committee staff present:

Melissa Doebelin, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Mary Torrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Rena Hansen, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Thomas V. Thornton, Bio-Science Authority

Bret Healy, Bio-Science Authority

Others attending:

Twenty including the attached list.

BIO-Science Authority

Thomas V. Thornton, Bio-Science Authority, spoke to the committee on the general workings of the Authority, and how funds are disbursed. He noted that they will work with Kansas companies to the extent that they express interest in pursuing research. Concerning bio-energy they have a very focused approach where Kansas has an existing strength in educational research in their state educational institutions and where Kansas industries focus on quality research.

Bret Healy, Bio-Science Authority, (Attachment 1), spoke to the committee about the Bio-Science Authority overview, scope of work, and industry leadership. Mr. Healy noted that the purpose of this authority is to create ideas that will be functional and benefit the state of Kansas economically.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Vern Swanson, Forrest Knox, Tom Moxley, Joe Seiwert, Don Myers, and Carl Holmes.

Representative Tom Sloan recommended the committee read the March issue of the National Geographic as the issue focuses on energy.

Action on:

HR 6011 - Requesting the State Corporation Commission to convene a group of stakeholders to study certain aspects of energy storage and to address cost recovery for and earnings on investments relating to energy storage.

Representative Tom Sloan moved to recommend HB6011 for passage and it be placed on the house consent calendar. Seconded by Representative Rob Olson.

Discussion ensued by Representatives Annie Kuether, and Tom Sloan.

The motion was withdrawn by Representatives Tom Sloan and Rob Olson.

Representative Tom Sloan move to amend HR 6011 by striking on line 25 from after the year 2010 to the “;”. Seconded by Representative Annie Kuether.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Energy and Utilities Committee at 9:00 a.m. on March 17, 2009, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

Comments were made by Representatives: Mike Burgess, and Annie Kuether.

The Motion to amend **HR 6011** passed.

Representative Tom Sloan moved to recommend **HR 6011** favorable for passage as amended. Representative Annie Kuether seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Carl Holmes expressed to committee what the committee would be doing for the rest of this week and next week for the tour to Jeffrey energy center.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.