

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

September 16-17, 2009
Hutchinson and Wichita

Members Present

Representative Jo Ann Pottorff, Chairperson
Senator Jay Emler
Senator Marci Francisco
Senator Laura Kelly
Representative Steve Brunk
Representative Bill Feuerborn
Representative Bob Grant

Members Absent

Senator Dwayne Umbarger, Vice-Chairperson
Senator Pat Apple
Representative Jason Watkins

Staff

Audrey Dunkel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jonathan Tang, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jarod Waltner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mike Corrigan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees

Michael Gaito, Director, Capital Improvements and Facilities Management, Kansas
Department of Corrections
Sam Kline, Warden, Hutchinson Correctional Facility
Denny Stoecklein, Fair Manager, Kansas State Fair
Tom Tunnel, President, Kansas State Fair Board
Brad Rayl, Member, Kansas State Fair Board
Dr. Ed Berger, President, Hutchinson Community College and Area Vocational School
Ed Pavey, Director, Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center

Andrew Schlapp, Executive Director of Government Relations, Wichita State University
John Tomblin, Executive Director, National Institute for Aviation Research
Alan Stoecklein, Kansas Highway Patrol
Peter Gustaf, President, National Center for Aviation Training
Diane Wright, Curriculum Coordinator, National Center for Aviation Training

Wednesday, September 16 Morning Session

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility.

Michael Gaito, Director, Capital Improvements and Facilities Management, Kansas Department of Corrections, reviewed the agency's five-year capital improvements plan (Attachment 1). He highlighted certain planned improvements and maintenance projects, noting the expansion of the visitation room at Hutchinson. He commented that, of the \$5 million received annually from the Correctional Institutions Building Fund, \$1.8 million is allocated to debt service, leaving only \$3.2 million available for capital improvements.

Mr. Gaito replied to a question that the fiber loop is a vast improvement over copper wire, since it is impervious to lightning strikes. He said variation in prices for generators at different facilities is attributed to ancillary equipment required for specific generators. Sam Kline, Warden, replied to a question that, although he knew of no specific statistics regarding recidivism for inmates working on the cabin-building project requested by Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, he knew the project prepared them well for a position in construction upon leaving prison. He commented that building cabins for sale would require paying inmates minimum wage, which would add to the cost for each cabin.

Mr. Kline served as tour guide for the Committee as they viewed single and multiple cell blocks, surveillance equipment, and on-site industry partnerships, which provide paying jobs for inmates. Members then traveled to the Kansas State Fair, where the Fair Board provided lunch.

Afternoon Session

Denny Stoecklein, Fair Manager, Kansas State Fair, welcomed members. He distributed a history of an agreement begun in 1989 whereby the State will match (up to \$300,000) whatever amount the State Fair contributes to a capital improvements fund (Attachment 2). He commented that four different years the State did not provide matching funds, which, over the course of ten years, has left the State Fair with a \$1.043 million deficit, a lack which the Legislature dealt with by authorizing \$29 million in bonds; however, now the Fair must deal with bond payments. Members suggested that if the Fair Board cannot make the bond payments (\$700,000 annually), the State, as guarantor, must make them. Mr. Stoecklein also reviewed the capital improvements fund, noting the deficits for FY 2010 even if the State makes its payment to the fund (Attachment 3).

Tom Tunnel, President, Kansas State Fair Board, commented on the high cost of electricity during fair week. Members discussed possible energy-saving measures. Mr. Stoecklein said that a Westar audit showed that the Fair has established best practices for energy savings, which

included using two 1,500-kilowatt generators to lower peak demand. Members discussed wind generators, diesel-powered generators, and geothermal power; Mr. Stoecklein replied that initial costs are a deterrent. Brad Rayl, Member, Kansas State Fair Board, said prison inmates have regular on-site duties throughout the year and especially during fair week.

Mr. Stoecklein and Mr. Tunnel served as tour guides as members visited the Bluestem Building, the Kansas Wine Gardens, and the Bison Building. Members commended the Board for the improved facilities.

Members traveled to the Hutchinson Community College and Area Vocational School, where Dr. Ed Berger, President, commented briefly on college capital improvement projects. Members toured several buildings on campus, including the welding shop, the library, and the expanded science hall under construction. Dr. Berger noted that the school is the fourth-largest community college in the state, has excellent partnership agreements with the Kansas Department of Commerce, and is developing a partnership with the Siemens Corporation, which is building a manufacturing plant in Hutchinson.

Members then traveled south of Hutchinson to the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, where Ed Pavey, Director, welcomed the Committee and provided a brief history of the Center, saying that the Center was created by the Kansas Legislature in 1968, to date has graduated 12,200 students, and presently serves 431 state and local law-enforcement agencies as well as some out-of-state individuals. He stated that basic training for a student involves 560 hours over 14 weeks. He noted that the \$6 million cost of the Center is funded entirely from court docket fees.

Mr. Pavey conducted a tour of the facilities, where members saw training videos used to sharpen the judgment of students, experienced a simulated driving situation, and were informed about various other aspects of training. Mr. Pavey said that currently 70 percent of law enforcement officers in the state have been trained at the Hutchinson facility.

Thursday, September 17 Morning Session

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. at the National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR) Building on the Wichita State University campus. Andrew Schlapp, Executive Director of Government Relations, Wichita State University (WSU), welcomed the Committee and introduced John Gist, WSU Architect, who outlined the University's long-term infrastructure maintenance program ([Attachment 4](#)). Mr. Gist highlighted the completed projects (replacement or upgrade of elevators, replacement of heating/air conditioning/ventilation (HVAC) systems, upgrade of electrical service, and other infrastructure projects) and three ongoing HVAC projects; the current project costs are estimated to be \$9.5 million. Answering questions, Mr. Gist replied that the deferred maintenance program is not quite current; he responded that the first two upgrade phases at the Duerksen Building will utilize multiple funding sources; he anticipates that enough savings will accrue to cover the cost of Phase Three.

John Tomblin, Executive Director, NIAR, summarized the work of NIAR, stating that, with an operating budget of \$39 million, 369 employees, and six facility locations, the agency has conducted research for Lear Jet, unmanned aircraft, the B2 bomber, the F-18 fighter, and the KC135 tanker; further, he said that the National Center for Military Performance is granting the facility self-regulating authority in relation to advanced material research. He concluded by saying that the return-on-investment for the facility is 9:1 ([Attachment 5](#)). Mr. Schlapp distributed [Attachment 6](#) to document

how the NIAR funds have been spent from 2004-2009. Dr. Tomblin led the Committee on a tour of the facility, where members saw how new materials are developed and the manner in which aeronautics products and materials are tested.

The Committee traveled north to Kansas Highway Patrol Troop F Headquarters, where Alan Stoecklein showed members how the crowded conditions of the headquarters hampered Troop F staff from effectively carrying out their assigned work. He reiterated the need for a new 25,000-square-foot building to accommodate the troopers and staff.

The Committee completed the morning by visiting the 70-acre National Center for Aviation Training (NCAT), one division of the Wichita Area Technical College (WATC); the site is located at the Jabara Airport in northeast Wichita. Peter Gustaf, President of NCAT, pointed out the various buildings under construction and outlined the vision of NCAT as an aeronautics training facility, which will open in one year (Attachment 7). He commented on the high-quality curriculum, the industry-supplied faculty, and the uniquely flexible and adaptable program offerings. Following a tour of the main building, Mr. Gustaf provided a further overview of NCAT, its curriculum development, and facts regarding WATC (Attachment 8).

Diane Wright, Curriculum Coordinator, NCAT, elaborated on the unique qualities of the curriculum and the specialized training for avionics students through the partnership of industry, the city and county, and NCAT.

Responding to questions, Mr. Gustaf said the only sources of revenue for NCAT are state support and tuition. Industry partners contribute faculty expertise and equipment, but not operating funds. A member requested more detailed information regarding industry contributions. Mr. Gustaf replied to another question that the Center is working on articulation with WSU. Another member requested more detailed information to identify how the \$4.7 million in state funds were allocated and spent.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 21 in Topeka.

Prepared by Gary Deeter
Edited by Audrey Dunkel

Approved by Committee on:

October 21, 2009
(Date)