MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Senator Stan Clark at 3:00 p.m. on March 19, 2001 in Room 234-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Susan Wagle, excused

Senator Jim Barone, excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Tom Severn, Legislative Research Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes

Ann McMorris, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: None

Others attending:

Chair opened for discussion and action on:

HB 2200 - Payment for plugging of abandoned oil and gas wells

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes staff, recapped the changes made in the draft "bkpsecs". These changes were discussed in the March 16, 2001 Senate Utilities committee meeting.

Moved by Senator Lee, seconded by Senator Brownlee, the new draft language "bkpsecs" be amended into **HB 2200.** Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Lee, seconded by Senator Emler, to pass **HB 2200** out favorably as amended. Motion carried.

HB 2397- Intervention of cities in rate hearings before the corporation commission

Considerable discussion on the definition of municipality.

Moved by Senator Brownlee, seconded by Senator Emler, municipality means any county, township, city, school district or other political or taxing subdivision of the state for the definition in **HB 2397.** Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Brownlee, seconded by Senator Emler, to pass **HB 2397** out favorably as amended. Motion carried.

Next meeting of the Senate Utilities Committee will be held on March 20, 2001.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McMorris, Secretary