

MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON KANSAS SECURITY

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Representative Mario Goico at 8:30 A.M. on March 11, 2005 in Room 527-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Jay Emler- excused
Senator Jim Barone- excused
Senator Nick Jordan- excused
Senator Carolyn McGinn- excused
Representative Judy Showalter- excused

Committee staff present: Robert Waller, Kansas Legislative Research
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office
Dana Wurdeman, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Col. William Seck
Col. Vonderschmidt
Butch Hasket

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Goico called upon Col. William Seck, Superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) who discussed his responsibilities as Chairman of the Governor's Council on Homeland Security. Col. Seck explained that the Council was formed to review Homeland Security initiatives that had already been implemented across the state, and the corresponding federal funds that had been appropriated to state agencies or for use of local units of government. Col. Seck provided a copy of the Governor's Council on Homeland Security membership. (**Attachment 1**). Col. Seck stated that Chairman Goico, Rep. Longanbill, Sen. Emler, and Sen. Barone are non voting members of the Council. He continued by informing the Committee that Federal Homeland Security funds had been provided to the State over the last five years, with the Kansas Highway Patrol designated as administrator of those funds by the Governor. The funds administered by KHP are as follows:

- State Homeland Security Program
- Citizen Core Program
- Law Enforcement Carriers Program
- Prevention Program
- Emergency Management Performance Grant Program.

Col. Seck explained that KHP distributes 80% of the funds to local units of government, and the remaining twenty percent is utilized at the State level. He noted that the Council has focused on establishing interoperability and regionalization. Regionalization would allow for the most efficient use of Homeland Security funding while preparing local units of government for a all-hazards event. Additionally, regionalization would allow the Council to focus funding in particular areas for specific threats that may not necessarily apply statewide. However, he warned that there was a significant reduction in Homeland Security funding from FFY 2005 to FFY 2006, and that would effect future efforts in securing Kansas from an "all hazards" response.

Chairman Goico inquired as to how the plan was developed. Col. Seck responded that the regions would be formed in correspondence with the Adjutant General's Homeland Security coordinators.

Next, Chairman Goico recognized Col. Bill Vonderschmidt, Chief of the Joint Staff, (Adjutant General's Office) to discuss Kansas Army National Guard responsibilities in regard to Homeland Defense issues. (**Attachment 2**). Col. Vonderschmidt stated that Homeland Security day to day operations require interagency cooperation and coordination through the Governor's Council on Homeland Security, Commission on Emergency Planning and Response (CEPR) and Joint Committee on Kansas Security Committee-KS Legislature.

He commented that information sharing, interoperability, urban area security and critical infrastructure

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protection are key issues being addressed by the Department of Homeland Security.

Additionally, Col. Vonderschmidt noted that Kansas would need to be National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant by 2006 as a condition to receive federal funds in the future. **(Attachment 3)** He continued by discussing the “phases” of Homeland Security, with those being:

- Prevention
- Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery
- Mitigation

He also discussed the various internal “teams” created (i.e. the Kansas Critical Infrastructure Protection Team) and the Kansas Vulnerability Assessment Team) to address vulnerabilities assessed by the Adjutant General’s Office.

Col. Vonderschmidt also provided additional information on the seven regional Homeland Security coordinators stationed throughout the State of Kansas and the Homeland Security exercises conducted by those individuals.

Discussion by Committee followed.

Col. Vonderschmidt distributed a copy of the Federal Fiscal Year 2002 Annual Report. He commented that currently a vulnerability assessment is being conducted statewide with the cooperation and participation of various agencies, and that should be completed by May of 2005. **(Attachment 4).**

Discussion followed by the Committee.

Director Chris Howe, Department of Administration Division of Purchases provided testimony on the purchase contract between the State of Kansas and Fischer Scientific. Director Howe explained the provisions of contract entered into by Department of Administration, and the changes negotiated over time by the State and Fischer Scientific. **(Attachment 5).**

Next, the Chairman called upon Butch Haskins, Director of Business Involvement on the Government Team of Fischer Scientific. Mr. Haskins discussed the management and coordination of the Quarter Master Program that is currently being utilized by the Highway Patrol to distribute Homeland Security funding. George Himmes, Regional Sales Manager, and Pat Cockrill, Local Sales Representative for Fischer Scientific were also in attendance. **(Attachment 6).**

Chairman Goico announced that a tour of Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant would be held on April 26, 2005, for the Committee Members.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m., with the next meeting to be held on March 19, 2005 at 8:39 a.m.

Prepared by Dana Wurdeman
Edited by Robert Waller

Approved by Committee on:

April 1, 2005

(date)

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