

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE VISION 2020 COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Vern Swanson at 3:30 p.m. on January 19, 2011, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Tom Sloan, Chairman- excused  
Representative Broderick Henderson- excused  
Representative Mike Peterson- excused

Committee staff present:

Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jay Hall, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Doug Taylor, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Mary Koles, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Audrey Dunkel, Legislative Research Department  
Stan Ahlerich, Kansas, Inc  
Courtney Buffington, KanREN (Kansas Research and Education Network)

Others attending:

See attached list.

In the absence of Chairman Sloan, Vice-Chairman Vern Swanson presided. Chairman Swanson greeted the committee, welcomed the conferees and introduced them as they spoke.

Audrey Dunkel, Principal Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Research Department, reviewed the Governor's budget recommendation for the postsecondary education system. ([Attachment 1](#)) Comments were made and questions asked by Representatives Don Hineman, Gail Finney, and Barbara Bollier.

Stan Ahlerich, President, Kansas, Inc., discussed the structural changes in the world and national economies and Kansas' place in those economies vis a vis the needs of Kansas businesses and industries and education/training both today and in the future. In closing, he noted today's business climate provides a great opportunity for technical schools and junior colleges. ([Attachment 2](#)) Comments and questions were asked by Representatives Barbara Bollier, Gail Finney, and Don Hineman.

Courtney Buffington, Executive Director, KanREN (Kansas Research and Education Network), was among our guests. Representative Hineman requested permission for him to describe what KanREN does and how it works for Kansans. The Vice-Chairman and Committee agreed. Mr. Buffington addressed the history, governance, and ecosystem of this private-public partnership. ([Attachment 3](#)) General discussion followed his comments.

Chairman Swanson thanked the conferees for participating in the committee meeting.

He announced:

1. Dr. Andy Tompkins, Kansas Board of Regents, will meet with Vision 2020 Monday and Wednesday next week, January 24 and 26, 2011.
2. He requested that Committee members review the March 16, 2010, letter from the Committee to the Board of Regents prior to these meetings and be prepared to ask questions. ([Attachment 4](#))
3. Committee members are encouraged to continue thinking about and suggest topics for future discussion.
4. **HB 2024: An Act creating the constitutional education suitability commission**, by Committee on Vision 2020, has been introduced.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.