

**KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND PARKS
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR
Thursday, March 24, 2005
Beloit Municipal Building
119 N. Hersey, Beloit**

Subject to
Commission
Approval

Staff and Commissioners toured Glen Elder State Park and wildlife area at 8:30 and had lunch at 11:30.

I. CALL TO ORDER AT 1:30 p.m.

The March 24, 2005 meeting of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission was called to order by Chairman John Dykes at 1:30 p.m. at Beloit Municipal Building, Beloit. Chairman Dykes and Commissioners Jim Harrington, Kelly Johnston, Frank Meyer, Doug Sebelius, and Shari Wilson were present.

II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS

The Commissioners and Department staff introduced themselves (Attendance roster - Exhibit A).

III. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS

Keith Sexson will present the State Wildlife Conservation Comprehensive plan in place of Laurie Yasui.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE January 20, 2005 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Harrington moved to accept minutes, Commissioner Wilson second. **All approved.** (Minutes - Exhibit B).

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Secretary's Remarks

1. Parks Division Award - Jerry Hover, Parks Division Director, presented these awards (Exhibit C). Public Service Award 2005 was awarded to Dennis Nowlin, who could not attend. Melody Burkholder, Parks Division regional supervisor, accepted. Nowlin is a nine-year veteran seasonal ranger at Cedar Bluff State Park. He is dedicated and dependable. During the peak park season, Dennis completes his duties as an Ellis Police officer, changes uniforms, puts on his KDWP hat and continues to protect and serve the park users. Dennis is always willing to help however, whenever, and whoever he can. Dennis uses his knowledge of the Department rules and procedures to make conscientious decisions when making a determination if a citation or an explanation is the right tool in any given situation. We are proud to have Dennis on our team!

Director's Award 2005 was awarded to Manhattan Mountain Bike Patrol Leader, Nate Schotanus. Other volunteers present were Karen Loumaster and Dan Oldehoeft. The patrol is a volunteer group that adopted the Fancy Creek trails in 2003 and has since expanded the trails from 4 miles to 5.5 miles and is working on expanding them to 8 miles. Keep in mind this is not the get the tractor out and level a piece of ground job. The trail area has large boulders, many trees, and steep terrain. No job is too big for them! The group does everything by hand to maintain the environment and integrity of the land and resources. To raise funds for trail surfacing and signage, the patrol has scheduled a special event "Find Your Element" for April 22-24, 2005. They are offering a mountain bike race, trail building workshops, local bands, skateboarding, and organization booths. I am proud to honor the Manhattan Mountain Bike Patrol.

Merit Award 2005 was awarded to Cliff Ehrlich. Cliff is park manager at Webster State Park. During one hot and dry late afternoon last summer a fire broke out on private land across the road from Webster State Park. A camp supply store, a bait shop, a private residence, and several out buildings were fully engulfed and the winds pushing the fire across the road into the park. The park office and headquarters were directly in its path as Cliff responded. The headquarters area is surrounded by native cedar trees to lessen the visual intrusion of the viewscape. Several of the Cedar trees and many acres of the park went up in smoke, but Cliff single-handedly kept the fire from destroying the headquarters complex and causing thousands of dollars lost. The office needs replacement, but not that way. I am proud to honor Cliff Ehrlich with the 2005 Merit award.

Valor Award 2005 was awarded to Luke Nihart and Tony Reitz. Luke is a park ranger at Tuttle Creek State Park and Tony is a park ranger at Milford State Park. Luke and Tony risked their lives one night last May during a water rescue on Tuttle Creek Reservoir. The call came in around midnight from the Pottawatomie County Sheriff; there was a stranded boat with several passengers somewhere on the water during a severe storm weather event. The waves were 6 feet and more. Their patrol boat began to take on water and lost power several times. At one point they could hear someone screaming above the sound of the stormy wind and waves. They had found one of the passengers. Twenty minutes later they found the remaining passengers and after two trips to shore, all lives were saved. This act of courage is an excellent example of how training and personal determination can turn a potentially fatal situation into a successful rescue. We are proud to honor Luke and Tony with the 2005 Award for Valor.

2. 2005 Legislation - Chris Tymeson, chief legal counsel, presented this report to the Commission. The legislature is expected to finish up by April 1. Appropriations will come back by April 19 and the full legislature on April 22.

SB 59 which would allow Kansas to become a member of the Wildlife Violator's Compact was passed by the House Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Committee (currently 20 states in compact), passed Senate and is scheduled to go to the House today.

SB 87 which is the vehicle fee to be used for outdoor recreation, heard in Senate Ways and Means Committee, was amended to remove refund and decreased to \$4.00. There is a possibility it will go through, but they have asked for an Attorney General opinion, so this bill is stalled out. SB 98 which makes permanent the exemption CSAs have from Hunter Ed, is on General Orders in the House; we understand there are representatives trying to get amendments on this bill and because of that, yesterday the Senate Natural Resources Committee, at the request of Whitney Damron, who lobbies for the Kansas Sporthunting Association, amended 98 onto HB 2253, in order to get the provisions of SB98 through cleanly.

SB 194 which creates Commission permits passed out of the House Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Committee. There would be seven permits that the Commissioners could give to nonprofit organizations for further auction. This bill was brought forth by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Passed Senate and is on the House floor today.

SB 195 which would allow KDWP to receive seized guns from the Department of Revenue for use in Hunter Education passed out of Senate, in House Federal and State Affairs Committee. No movement, expect stalled for rest of this session.

SB 228 regarding the release of water from Cedar Bluff, several government entities opposed (similar bill - HB2393 is also in Committee). Expect no action this legislative session.

HB 2115 repealing archery units, passed Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Committee and the House, but did not pass out of Senate Natural Resources Committee.

It appears that SB 228 and HB 2115 will NOT make it out of the Senate Natural Resources Committee.

HB 2116 which protects certain KDWP federal aid funds from being spent for purposes other than what they are designated for, while the original bill was one of KDWP's initiatives, it was amended on the House floor to make landowner antelope permits transferable, and KDWP opposes that amendment and will ask the Senate Ways and Means Committee to remove that from the original bill. No action.

HB 2117 boating law revisions and penalties. Passed out of Committee, but did not make it to the floor and was stricken from the calendar.

HB 2222 illegal commercialization of wildlife raises the threshold of misdemeanor fines from \$500 to \$1,000. Values placed on wildlife determine whether a violation is a misdemeanor or a felony. Amounts were reduced, but were restored and have passed both sides of the legislature.

HB 2210 regarding hunter safety exemption for current and former armed forces, no hearing.

HB 2226 (substituted bill) payment in lieu of taxes, noxious weed control and 5-year land acquisition amendment. Could force general election vote on land acquisitions over 480 acres. Would apply to donations and leases, which could severely impact WIHA. Has been referred to Senate Ways and Means Committee.

HB 2253 which imposes minimum fines and jail sentences for repeat wildlife violators (step increases for additional offenses was struck, but new amendments were added) increased big game misdemeanor from C to B. Amended on Senate floor yesterday. Up for final action and expect it to go to a Conference Committee.

HB 2459 which was the transferable landowner antelope permit, died in committee, but was attached to HB 2116.

HB 2466 which repeals the professional guide permit requirement. This is a consumer protection rather than wildlife management bill. We felt all, or none should be regulated. Passed House and Senate and should be acted on today.

HB 2476 which would impose the transient guest tax on cabins in state parks, had a hearing, but do not expect further action this year.

HB 2517 which establishes the farm and land protection program, in Budget Committee.

Chairman Dykes thanked Commissioner Meyer for his commitment to the bills and all of the time he spent in Topeka. Tymeson added that Commissioner Wilson was also very active. Steve Sorensen, Kansas Wildlife Federation asked if the \$30 landowner tag the only transferable antelope tag. Tymeson said that it can be transferred to residents or nonresidents. Sorensen asked if the department would pursue increasing the landowner tag by \$200 like the deer nonresident transferable. Tymeson said the department opposed this, so at this time, no proposals would be made. Sorensen asked who proposed the bill. Tymeson said it was proposed on House side by Larry Powell.

3. FY 2006 Budget - Dick Koerth, assistant secretary for Administration presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit D). FY2005 Governor's Budget Recommendation (GBR) included a State General Fund (SGF) supplement for \$300,000. There is no additional SGF support for FY2006. The Governor did provide permission to pursue alternative funding including an additional fee on vehicle registrations. The FY2005 revised budget submitted on

September 14, 2004 estimated Park Fee Fund (PFF) revenue of \$5,832,321, a reduction of \$167,679. As of March 1, 2005, estimated revenue was \$5,522,919. This is an eight percent reduction. In addition, if the PFF is \$5.5 million, it will be less than the actual revenue for FY2004 of \$5,622,944. The significant reduction has created a cash flow problem in operations of state parks. In order to provide adequate funding for the March 25, 2005 payroll and assist in the April payrolls, the department will use \$485,000 of funds from the bridge maintenance account which are funds transferred from the State Highway Fund in accordance with a MOU between KDWP and KDOT. The state legislature has been informed of this situation and the need for additional funding. The state approved using the bridge fund as long as it is repaid from the PFF when funds are adequate, within one year, and is a one-time occurrence. The FY2005 budget also recommended \$14,175 for the Crawford County Sewage District due to the state park and fish hatchery; additional information on a new water line at Milford Fish Hatchery; an update on the Kansas Wetlands Education Center at Cheyenne Bottoms WA; and an update on the status of the PFF. Information on the last three items will be provided at the April 27, 2005 omnibus session of the state legislature. The FY2006 recommendations were discussed at the January 20, 2005 meeting and there have not been any Governor's amendments. Secretary Hayden has been informed by the Governor that she will consider alternative funding if Senate Bill 87 is not passed, the amount to be determined later. Amendments to the FY2006 budget, made during the 2005 legislative session, include: salary adjustments of 2.5 percent, the 27th paycheck, and KPERS adjustments; delete \$615,000 recommended for road improvements and river access at State Park 24, adding \$500,000 of those funds to the regular road maintenance and adding a proviso regarding weed certification (taken out by House, but not Senate). The House has approved for 3 months of a 2.5 percent salary increase for state employees and the Senate approved 12 months. The legislature is changing the way state employees are being paid beginning July 1, 2005 to a bi-weekly paycheck, which will start this year on Monday (all pay days on Mondays), next year it will be on Tuesdays. Both have deleted funding for the 27th paycheck pending review of alternative methods of financing this item. The department has been asked to provide, at the omnibus session, information on park financing for FY2006, alternative sources of funding for river access other than the State Water Plan Fund, operations of federal parks and campgrounds in the state, and funding for State Park 24 operations including capital improvements. The House Committee on Appropriations noted that the Governor's recommendations did not include any replacement trucks for state parks, asked KDWP to prepare a cost-benefit analysis to justify any purchases of equipment costing \$5,000 or more during the period from May, 2005 to December, 2005 and present a report at the beginning of the 2006 Legislative Session. They also requested copies of the new strategic plan when completed and commented about the purchase price for Circle K ranch acquisition. The Senate Committee report includes: a request that State Park 24 be self-paying rather than a free park, comments on Circle K ranch, comments that the Secretary should actively discuss with the Corps of Engineers the transfer of federal land and facilities to the state reservoirs on which both Corps and KDWP have facilities.

Chairman Dykes asked about Park 24 and making it a paying park. Koerth said that basically they want the department to put in an iron ranger, because it is not conducive to a booth. Secretary Hayden commented that Park 24 would be a day-use only area and there are several different trail entrances to the park so staff did not support this. Chairman Dykes asked how the decision was made on whether to follow the Senate or House when suggestions are made. Hayden said that staff have to decide what will be best. Options may be vehicles pay, but hikers do not. Chairman Dykes asked if it would be at the department's discretion. Hayden said that this was a suggestion, not binding. Commissioner Wilson asked if there was funding set aside for the

items that the Senate wanted reports on. Koerth said they wanted an update on what the department was doing only. On Cheyenne Bottoms, this year the Governor took the \$2 million out of the budget. Commissioner Wilson asked if any donations had been made. Hayden said none of significant value. The City of Great Bend is donating the water. Wildscape, Fort Hays State and the department are meeting with Bass Pro Shops to pursue some funding.

Steve Sorensen, KWF, asked for an update on the Circle K Ranch. Secretary Hayden said that staff is asking both the House and Senate, in the omnibus bill, to use a Pooled Money Investment Board (PMBI) loan to purchase that. The Governor support that proposal. Hays paid \$4.2 million 10 years ago, and now the value is about \$3.4 million because the irrigation equipment has worn out over the years. Staff hope to get the authority to negotiate for this property. Federal aid will pay up to 75 percent of the appraised value of the land. One partner is the Ground Water Management District Number 5 and they will provide \$500,000 toward this purchase. The House will be the tough place to get this passed. Chairman Dykes asked if Secretary Hayden expected any problems negotiating with Hays. Hayden said he did not.

B. General Discussion

1. Wildscape Projects in the Beloit Area No report.

2. Electronic Licenses and Permits - System Update - Karen Beard, Licensing Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit E). The license automation project was awarded to Central Bank of Jefferson City, Missouri and Automated License System (ALS) of Nashville, Tennessee (most experienced in the industry, serving nine other states). Wal-Mart and some other vendors have opted to use their own PCs with a printer provided by KDWP, some small “mom and pop” vendors opted to use all of their own equipment, including printers. This will mean they can only sell licenses now available on the internet. Various equipment options will be available at the vendor level, ranging from a full set of Point-of-Sale (POS) equipment furnished by the department to a simple Internet software connection. The POS equipment has a small footprint with “store and forward” capabilities. Our timeline for the new system is as follows: August 2004 to April 2005 - Design of system; April and May 2005 - System integration testing; June and July 2005 - Pilot program and vendor equipment roll out; and August 2005 - Full implementation. Central Bank and Automated License Systems (ALS) will provide a complete turnkey product with training, support, and set-up. The new system will be financially secure with an Automated Clearing House (ACH) sweep of the vendor accounts on a weekly basis for collection on dollars owed to the department. Beard said she planned to bring a computer to next meeting with program up and running on it. Service fees are \$1.15 for full transaction, \$.50 for a money receipt.

Chairman Dykes asked how often will vendor accounts would be swept. Beard said they would be swept on a weekly basis, every Tuesday, to allow vendors to make deposits.

3. Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan – Keith Sexson, Assistant Secretary for Operations (filling in for Laurie Yasui), presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit F). At the last two meetings, the Commission was updated on the Department’s progress on the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan (CWCP) development, designed to meet the federal requirements for participation in the State Wildlife Grant Program. Kansas was recently allotted about \$900,000 for the current federal fiscal year. Since the last report to the Commission,

Fisheries and Wildlife Division staff have provided input, and the Summit of Experts, which allowed input from individuals from the scientific community, interested organizations and the general public, was held. The consultant is currently in the process of writing the first draft of the plan. Planning is on track to have a final product by July 1, 2005. All states have been asked to provide an education plan, even though not in the federal plan. We have contracted with Dynamic Solutions and have provided a monitoring log timeline of dates. Chairman Dykes asked how much the department was paying Dynamic Solutions. Sexson said approximately \$118,000. They were responsible for all meetings and coordination as well as writing the draft plan. Commissioner Wilson asked if Commissioners could be notified by email when the first plan is posted on internet. Sexson said yes, adding that there will be drafts before that and Commissioners would be able to review them. Chairman Dykes asked if the plan would have to be updated annually. Sexson said he wasn't sure, but thought that reviews might be expected every five years. Congress is watching this process very closely and how this comes together will dictate how this is funded in the future. Staff hope that it will become a line item and will not have to come back every year for appropriation. Chairman Dykes asked if the \$900,000 increased over time. Sexson said that the first plan was just over \$1 million, but since then it has been \$750,000 to \$900,000. Commissioner Sebelius asked if the plans were the same? Sexson said that plans all look similar, and that all include eight essential elements. The group doing our plan is also doing Oklahoma's, Florida's and some others. The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) is working closely with the states to ensure this goes through. Commissioner Wilson asked if there was an expected timeline when all the plans would be turned in by next October. Sexson said that how well it is addressed and given back to states, will dictate how that is budgeted. Commissioner Wilson asked if it would be in the FY2007 budget. Sexson - We are in the FY2006 budget now and already working on the FY2007 budget. It is Sexson said that it was possible, but it would probably be FY2008. Chairman Dykes asked if anyone in the audience, not with the agency, had attended any of the workshops. Several people held up their hands, but had no further comments.

4. KAR 115-25-1. Game birds; open seasons, bag limits, and possession limits - Upland Game Birds - Mike Mitchener, Wildlife Division Section chief presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit G). Currently the regulations for quail, pheasant, and prairie chicken are all contained in one regulation. The harvest management strategies are different in each species. It is recommended that the regulations for each of these species be separated into their own regulations to facilitate the setting of seasons and other harvest management strategies. Individual regulations for each species will focus on the opportunities that the individual species provides and addressing the particular needs of that species. This proposal will define regulation KAR 115-25-1 for prairie chickens, KAR 115-25-1a for quail, and KAR 115-25-1b for pheasants. Structure and bag limits will remain the same. The proposal will also change the age of the supervising adult during youth seasons from 21 to 18, to be consistent with the rest of the youth seasons. As an additional part of this proposal it is recommended that changes are made to the current structure of the prairie chicken season, while the structure and bag limits of the pheasant, quail, and youth upland bird seasons will remain the same. The unit boundaries and for the East unit and opening day would remain the same but closure from Oct.-Nov. would be eliminated, meaning the season would run continuously from Sept. 15, 2005-Jan. 31, 2006; the Northwest and Southwest unit boundary would be moved from K96 to I-70 making a smaller Northwest unit and a larger Southwest unit. The Northwest season dates would change from the 1st Saturday in November to November 1 and the Southwest season dates would change from December 1 to November 1.

Chairman Dykes asked if quail and pheasant seasons would remain the same. Mitchener said they would. Chairman Dykes asked why a change in the pheasant season was not being pursued. Mitchener said the change in prairie chicken units and season would have the most benefit. Commissioner Johnston commented that the length of the season in the Northwest unit would remain basically the same, but it would increase in the East unit. Mitchener clarified that the Northwest unit opening day is moving from November 1 to first Saturday in November only. The Eastern unit would open earlier with no split season. Commissioner Johnston asked if it was fair to say the increase is to benefit hunting opportunities, and not for biological reasons. Mitchener said that would be correct.

Robert Robel, Manhattan, commented that this was addressed in Johnson County a few months ago. In 1995, lesser prairie chickens were proposed for the Threatened list. In 1998, they were listed as warranted, but precluded. Same in 2000, warranted, but not listed because other issues were more important. He said that he could see no biological data to increase the season. The numbers are stable and the boundary change is logical. There have been two studies done; one in Nebraska and one in Gove County, showing no increase in population. He said he could see no reason to extend the season. He recommended protecting the harvest, limiting the harvest, not doubling the days the birds are hunted.

Steve Sorensen, Kansas Wildlife Federation asked if this was the same proposal made in Courtland last year. Mitchener said it was. Sorensen commented that it was very opposed at that time. He had no problem with boundary change, but did not want to see a 50 percent increase in number of days you can hunt the birds. Sorensen said the difference in dates was turned down once and he asked the Commissioners to turn it down again. Chairman Dykes what the status of the lesser prairie chicken was. Mitchener said it was still warranted, but precluded. Sorensen asked if there was not going to be a youth season for chickens. Mitchener said it had not been recommended because game bird seasons would already be open. Sorensen asked why have a youth season in October. Mitchener said that most of the Walk In Hunting Area lands would not be open until November 1. It has been discussed, but staff did not feel the need for youth seasons. Chairman Dykes asked that if what was driving this was more hunting opportunity, would the department be interested in changing quail and pheasants without changing the prairie chickens if the Commission did not approve these changes. Mitchener said that staff can do whatever the Commission wishes. Secretary Hayden said that several other states are doing this, Nebraska for one. Staff decided to do this one step at a time. He added that he didn't oppose what Dr. Robel or Steve Sorensen said. These populations are declining because of habitat and the birds are moving north. This proposal would reduce the bag from two to one and moved the boundaries north. He asked why the few hunters who will be out there should be precluded from having the opportunity to get a bird. Chairman Dykes said that the potential of these being listed complicates the decision. Hayden said that if these are listed, the season may have to be eliminated completely. Chairman Dykes said he felt that increasing the season would be giving someone more ammunition to list them. Hayden said the Feds have a huge list, but there is not much visibility and chances are remote that they will ever be listed or come up on the Service's list.

Dr. Robel said the non-hunting public needs to be addressed. To hunt a species that is warranted is not the best PR and to expand the season before having the proper recovery plan does not look good. Commissioner Johnston said he felt he could live with the uninterrupted season in the East unit, but not in the Northwest unit and would like staff to bring back that proposal. Chairman Dykes confirmed that this item would be brought up again in Pittsburg and voted in June. He

agreed with Commissioner Johnston. Commissioner Wilson also agreed. Chairman Dykes added that there were merits to changing the opening of quail season as discussed last year, particularly if the opening could be moved up and the closing backed up.

5. Early Migratory Bird Seasons - Marvin Kraft, waterfowl research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit H). Kraft said that there is no indication as to what the frameworks are going to be, but he speculated that there would be no changes except for teal season, which relies on numbers of teal on the breeding grounds. Secretary Hayden asked if the September Canada goose seasons were effective. Kraft said he didn't see them as being really effective. The harvest is so minor that some years it doesn't even show up on the harvest pressure. Last year hunting didn't move any birds out of Wichita and only a few out of Kansas City. If it should grow and should become a problem it will have to be addressed, probably with a round up of birds and removal. South Dakota has a program where they remove the birds. Hayden said the pressure is from the legislature, not from the farmers. Chairman Dykes asked how long the early season has been held. Kraft said five or six years. Wichita came on one year after Kansas City. This is not a significant event in goose hunting in Kansas.

6. KAR 115-25-19. Dove; management, hunting season, shooting hours, and bag and possession limits – Marvin Kraft, waterfowl biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit I). No changes in this regulation are proposed at this time. There has been a request for some information, but that information is not available yet. Chairman Dykes asked if the department was receiving much information from HIP (Harvest Information Program). Kraft said that the department did receive some information. Over the last 20 years, dove harvest has declined, but it has leveled off over the last couple of years. The population trends show some declines in Missouri and in eastern Kansas, but numbers are okay in western Kansas. Hayden asked if there was data on three new species that were included in the season (Eurasian collared dove, white-winged dove, and ringed turtle dove). Kraft said he didn't believe any have showed up on harvest surveys yet. Kraft said that the white-winged story is unique They moved up from the Rio Grande Valley and started popping up in urban areas. Dykes asked if there were discussions in the Service to change the seasons. Kraft said there always are, but he didn't think anything would happen. Hayden commented that it would require a change in the Migratory Bird Treaty and it has only been changed twice. In the Dakotas and Utah and other places, one cold front and there is no season. Hayden added that he didn't believe there would be a change in the Migratory Bird Treaty because the states cannot agree on a change.

Break – Reconvene at 3:25

C. Workshop Session

1. KAR 115-5-4. Nonresident bobcat hunting permit; tagging, disposal, legal equipment, shooting hours, and general provisions - Revenue Task Force Recommendation - Kevin Jones, Law Enforcement Division Director, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit J). This item concerns the creation of a new furharvesting regulation, a sub-category of the current furharvesting regulation, which will regulate the hunting of bobcats during the established season by nonresident hunters holding a limited bobcat hunting permit. This action is in response to a recommendation made by the 2004 Revenue Task Force, which identified this type of permit as a potential revenue source that would provide additional hunting opportunity. Any bobcat harvested under this permit would be required to be tagged with a carcass coupon prior to

leaving the site of kill. The carcass tag would remain attached to the bobcat carcass or pelt until such time as it is presented to the Department for tagging with a CITES export tag. The bobcat must be tagged by the Department within seven days of harvest, as required by the existing furharvesting regulations. The proposed regulation would create a nonresident bobcat hunting permit which would allow the harvest of one bobcat per permit by hunting methods, which generally include firearms and archery equipment, calls, lures, baits and decoys. The use of trapping equipment or dogs would not be allowed under this permit. The season for the taking of bobcat would be the same as the regular furharvesting season, starting at noon on first Wednesday after the second Saturday of November and ending at the close of legal hours on February 15. The legal hours for taking bobcat under this permit will be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. The cost of the permit will be \$100 plus appropriate issuance and service charges. There would be no limit to the number of permits that an individual may purchase. Any bobcat carcass or pelt could be given to another person by a written notice of donation. However, a raw pelt could only be sold in the State of Kansas to a licensed fur dealer.

Commissioner Wilson asked if there was currently a resident bobcat permit. Jones said there wasn't but that a resident could take a bobcat in the season with a furharvester license. This would allow a nonresident to take only a bobcat. Commissioner Wilson asked if there was a market for this permit. Jones said there was interest from guide and outfitting business, but no survey had been done.

Chairman Dykes asked if this permit would not be valid until the day after purchased. Jones said that was correct.

Commissioner Johnston asked about the revenue projections which were included in the Commission Briefing Booklet from the January meeting. Tymeson said those figures were based on an estimate of 10 percent of nonresident deer purchasing one.

Chairman Dykes asked if other states provided a similar permit. Jones said he wasn't aware of any, but other states cover this under their furharvester license.

Commissioner Wilson asked if there was any downside to this other than putting a regulation on the books that we didn't need. Jones said the only negative was that it was possible that the permit would be purchased after the bobcat was killed. The only input Jones had received was positive from the guides and outfitters.

Paul Babcock asked if had been determined that there were nuisance or excess bobcats that required this harvest. Jones said he wasn't a furbearer biologist, but he was under the impression that there were healthy numbers of bobcats. Babcock asked if that was true from east to west.

Jones said it was as far as he knew. Babcock asked to see that studied before this was passed. Chairman Dykes asked if interest in furharvesting was declining. Jones said it was, overall.

2. KAR 115-11-1. Controlled shooting areas; license application, issuance priority, and reporting - Kevin Jones, Law Enforcement Division director, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit K). This item recommends the revision of the reporting requirements for Controlled Shooting Areas (CSA). CSAs have been operating for many years in this state and it is felt that the recording of daily bird releases by CSA operators could be changed to allow the reporting of bird releases over a less specific timeframe. The regulation concerning CSAs requires operators to release a number of birds that is equal to or exceeding the total number of birds harvested during the operations' season. The current regulation prescribing the reporting requirements mandates that bird releases must be recorded on a daily basis. If enacted, the

proposed change would allow the release report to cover a longer period of time. CSA operators expressed concerns that the current requirement is excessive and burdensome to their overall operation. By allowing reporting over a longer time period (monthly or even seasonally), the objective of the regulatory requirement could be met by simplify the reporting process.

Commissioner Harrington asked if the exact number of birds released as calculated daily. Jones said it was, but this proposal would allow them to report over a broader term rather than daily.

Commissioner Harrington asked what length of time was being considered. Jones said monthly or middle of season, but the report is due at the end of the year. It would be easier for the department to keep track of the records as well. Commissioner Harrington said he agreed with monthly reporting. Commissioner Wilson asked how operators would keep track on a monthly basis. Commissioner Harrington said they know by what they bring in, but on a daily basis it is harder to be exact. Commissioner Wilson asked if he felt it would be more accurate.

Commissioner Harrington said he did.

Keith Houghton, Kansas Sporthunting Association said the KSA represented 220 organizations, including CSAs and organizations that supply to them. He thanked Jones for his efforts. Each operation is run a little differently. Operations that purchase birds know in the long run how many birds are released. CSAs that raise their own birds might have a harder time counting.

3. KAR 115-9-9. Electronic licenses permits, stamps, tags, and other issues of the department - Mark Rankin, Law Enforcement Division assistant director, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit L). Currently all regulations were set up for paper licenses, this regulation would cover all of the reasons that need to be covered to purchase a license electronically, which are laid out in the briefing book.

4. KAR 115-18-10. Importation and possession of certain wildlife; prohibition, permit requirement and restrictions - Adding New Zealand Mud Snail to prohibited species list - Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit M). New Zealand Snails were found at Boulder Creek in Colorado. It's possible that these could be brought into the state. It only takes one because they are asexual. Not a lot is known about this species but it could cause a big problem.

5. KAR 115-25-9. Deer; open season, bag limit and permits - Lloyd Fox, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit N). Fort Riley has requested a change in the archery deer season. Currently the archery season is closed during the firearms season, however, the firearms deer season on military installations are not the same as elsewhere in the state. Some archery hunters have requested to hunt with archery equipment and their archery permit during the regular firearm season. The extended season for antlerless white-tailed deer has ranged from 2 days to 14 days. Last year the extended season was only two days in length and legislators requested an additional seven days for the extended season in the northern portion of Deer Management Units (DMU) 7 and 8. To allow a full weekend of hunting after December 31, 2005 would require a delay until January 7 and 8, 2006. By increasing the length of the extended season to eight days the special extended season could be eliminated. Input from department personnel indicates that consideration should be made to restrict game tags to people who possess a deer permit. Season dates for 2005-2006 are recommended as follows: Early Muzzleloader - September 10, 2005 to September 23, 2005; Youth and Disability - September 24, 2005 to September 25, 2005; Archery - October 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005; Early Firearms (DMU 19) - October 15, 2005 to October 23, 2005; Regular Firearms - November 30, 2005 to December 11, 2005; Extended WAO - January 1, 2006 to January 8, 2006; and Extended

Archery (DMU 19) - January 9, 2006 to January 31, 2006. The recommendation for the deadline for limited applications is: Nonresident - May 31, 2005; Resident - July 15, 2005; and Unlimited Availability - January 7, 2006. Section (a)(1)(B) will be changed from statewide to two archery unit(s) designated by the hunter plus DMU 19. Extended firearm seasons for antlerless-only white-tailed deer during 2004-05 included: 1) a 2-day season in DMU's 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19; 2) a 9-day season in northern DMU's 7, 8 and 3) a 29-day season in central DMU 12. A preliminary review of deer population indices has revealed that extended firearms season in January for antlerless-only white-tailed deer do not need to be restricted to fewer units and that the three seasons could be made into one season. Current numbers for 2004 deer/vehicle accidents is 9,900. Staff recommends that any unfilled firearm, muzzleloader, or archery permit or antlerless-only white-tailed deer game tag valid in unit 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, or 19, shall be valid during the extended firearm season beginning January 1, 2006 and extending through January 8, 2006 in those units. It is the staff recommendation that deer hunters should be required to have a deer permit that allows them to take an antlered deer before they may acquire an antlerless-only permit or a deer game tag. However, the recommendation for the number of deer game tags that may be used by a hunter remains the same as last year. A deer hunter with an antlered deer permit may obtain no more than four deer game tags. No deer game tag may be used in units 1, 2, 17, or 18. Only one deer game tag shall be valid within the area of units 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, and 14. As many as four deer game tags may be used within the area of units 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16, & 19. Last year was the first for deer check stations in a couple of decades, and weren't too many problems. Staff would like to keep check stations but expand units where hunters would be required to take their deer to a check station to include units 1, 2, 3, 16, 17, & 18. The check stations would be operated only during the regular firearm deer seasons. Deer taken outside of these units and outside the regular firearms deer season would not need to be taken to a deer check station. It is recommended to discontinue the practice of converting unsubscribed any-deer permits, and muzzleloader any-deer permits to leftover antlerless-only permits that are then reauthorized in a second drawing. This recommendation is being made to both simplify the permitting process and to reduce harvest pressure on female mule deer. Permit to take antlered deer before getting a game tag or white-tailed antlerless permit.

Commissioner Johnston asked about hunters who didn't draw an antlered permit. Fox said they could not hunt. Chairman Dykes asked if that proposal was made to cut down on the number of antlered deer being taken on antlerless permits? Fox said that was one reason. Chairman Dykes asked if a decrease in antlerless deer being taken was expected. Fox said that some decrease was expected but not a significant one. Deer indices are starting back up. Staff are working on distance sampling to check densities. Chairman Dykes asked if the four units where deer game tags are not recommended are not problem areas. Fox said these units the lowest deer densities. Unit 17 had a conflict this year when someone complained about hitting a deer. Commissioner Harrington asked about CWD. Fox said that studies had been completed on some deer and elk and all of those tested negative. There are still about 25 that were suspect cases that have not been tested yet. Commissioner Johnston asked about deer/vehicle accidents in Unit 19, and if they were going down or staying the same. Fox said they were trending up at a slight increase. Unit 17 and 18 had a sharp incline. It is very hard to rely on hunters only to decrease a population. Commissioner Johnston if the special urban season has been effective in reducing accidents. Fox said harvest had increased, but it had not impacted the deer/ vehicle accidents. It is not an effective tool at this level. Hope to get more communities involved in access, but it is a long-term and difficult process. Commissioner Johnston commented that with a drop in the

harvest of deer from 2002, and populations already appearing to rebound it seems reducing the number of days is not the way to go. Fox commented that the extended season had gone from 14 days to 2 days in that season and were getting ready to phase even that out. However, seeing the population rebound staff is suggesting 8 days to keep seasons consistent simple. Chairman Dykes said it seemed to him that the archery season recommendation was a change. Fox said the proposal would be a 12-day increase in archery hunting, but it would simplify things and make it a more clear. Currently, a firearms hunter can archery hunt during the archery season, but archery hunters could not hunt in the firearms season. Chairman Dykes asked if archery hunters would be required to wear blaze orange. Fox said that archery hunters hunting during the firearms season would be required to wear orange.

Mike Pearce, Wichita Eagle, asked if pressure to increase harvest was coming from a legislative level. Hayden commented that Lloyd works closely with KDOT to work the numbers out, but with numbers going up legislative pressure could come. Pearce asked what deer/vehicles were in 2003. Fox said they were about 9,900 in 2003. The peak was more than 10,000 in 2001. Pearce asked if the number of antlerless tags would change. Fox said it wouldn't. Chairman Dykes commented that we have been down this road before with an unacceptable number of deer/vehicle accidents, so we increased pressure. Deer really came back in 1996.

Ben Jedlika, Riley, expressed concern about applying for antlered tag before getting an antlerless tag would inhibit new or young hunters. Fox said residents can still get landowner tags and permits, but in order to get game tags or white-tailed antlerless-only permits they would have to purchase that other one first. Jedlika asked about allowing those 16 and under to purchase game tags. Fox said the legislature has asked the department to simplify the system and continuing to add items to the system will add confusion.

Steve Sorenson, Kansas Wildlife Federation, said their concern is that \$30 is a lot of money to bring a kid in to shoot a doe and it would seem to be to a benefit to allow the kids to purchase the \$10 permits. He mentioned the department's youth deer hunt at Anthony, where during the first year, kids had to go through a draw and the next year it was simplified so that the kids could get a permit much easier. In 1965 when we opened the deer season, it was simple, just go out and shoot a deer, but now you can't run all 19 units the same way. If it takes five extra minutes to explain the system, then so be it. It seems that it "runs to the quality of the legislators".

Ron Nicholson, Kansas City area, said the DMU 19 problem is going to be taken care of this year. Sunflower has been sold and if hunters can get on that area we can take care of that problem. Some bowhunters went over to Cedar Creek, but they weren't able to get in there. He asked if there was any way the department could talk to the people who bought that and get hunters in there. Chairman Dykes asked if permit holders in units adjacent to 19 could continue to hunt in Unit 19. Fox said yes. Chairman Dykes said he was also concerned about having them buy an antlered permit before purchasing the antlerless-only permit. Fox said it was a double-edged sword. By trying to take care of the group hunting issue, it will make it more difficult for the hunter who wants to come in and get a doe only. It is hard to find a way to make it fair for everyone. Chairman Dykes asked Jones if there was any objective information regarding people carrying antlerless tags and getting bucks. Jones said he had some data, but it was not compiled. There have been several instances were that is happening, including a federal case being worked right now. It does provide an opportunity and an easy means for people to commit an illegal act. He said he could get some figures together and provide them at a later time. Chairman Dykes said if law enforcement was following the number of cases, that information would provide some data. Jones added that several years ago there was the problem with a prosecutor saying that he wasn't not going to prosecute people who got those deer and people may feel they are not going

to be punished. Chairman Dykes asked if Jones could come back in April with some numbers? Jones said he would do that.

Steve Sorensen asked about the comment that the legislature wanted recommendations on how to simplify deer permits. Fox said they wanted input on how to simplify our statutes. Sorensen asked what they were after. Hayden said he felt the Chairman of the legislative committee truly wants to find a simpler system. It is very complex. Hayden said he viewed this as an opportunity. Sorensen asked if this was the House Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Committee? Hayden said it was.

VII. RECESS AT 5:00 p.m.

Supper at Guaranty State Bank Community Room - basement, 201 S. Mill, \$5.00 each.

VIII. RECONVENE AT 7:00 p.m.

IX. RE-INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS

Chairman Dykes introduced Mayor Koster and thanked her for inviting us to Beloit. She thanked everyone for coming to Beloit.

X. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Chris Tymeson - Earlier today legislative bills were discussed. SB59, which is the wildlife violator compact, passed the House without amendment and will go for the Governor's signature. SB194, Commissioner permits, also passed.

Chairman Dykes said there was a clarification on game bird discussions held in the afternoon. Secretary Hayden said the East and Northwest prairie chicken units could be kept as they are, but the Southwest unit dates could be changed to end December 31, for a 61-day season (current season is 62 days). The season would be open during youth season and open on the same day as other seasons. The other option is to have a special permit for that Southwest unit. It would not cost, except for the issuance fee and would provide survey data. Those are the two alternatives that the Commission could be comfortable with. Chairman Dykes asked the Commissioners if they were comfortable, the item could come back for workshop at the April meeting. If we have any quail changes that will be taken up for the 2006 opener. Secretary Hayden said that quail or pheasant season changes would affect motels and would need to be done a year in advance. Chairman Dykes said that prairie chicken issues will come forward in April. Commissioner Johnston asked about the length of the Southwest unit season be, if a special permit was established. Secretary Hayden said that the length of the season is not as critical a special permit is required and the season bag is three birds. Commissioner Johnston said he agreed with that logic and would be inclined to go with the special permit to get the extra data. Secretary Hayden said that proposal would be brought to the next meeting. Tymeson asked for clarification – that the proposal would be for a 90-day season with special permits. Chairman Dykes said that was correct. Tymeson said the Commission would also need to pass the pheasant and quail regulations as they are and change them next year, because they will be three separate regulations.

XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

D. Public Hearing

Kansas Legislative Research Department and Attorney General's office comments (Exhibit O).

1. KAR 115-4-2. Big game; general provisions - Lloyd Fox, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit P). This regulation has been discussed a couple of times in workshop sessions. It will now say wild turkeys as well as big game species (Senate Bill 363). It is recommended that changes be made to this regulation to refer to "big game species and wild turkey" wherever the phrase "big game species" currently is used. Changes will need to be made to address automated changes; and the beard is to remain attached. Deer heads do not need to be checked. Also, on page 3 changed KSA to KAR.

Mike Pearce, asked if the requirement of transporting a turkey with beard attached would mean until processed. Fox said that it be required until the bird was processed. Pearce also asked if the lesser prairie chicken item would be discussed in the next meeting's workshop session or public hearing. Chairman Dykes said it would be a workshop item.

Commissioner Harrington moved to approve KAR 115-4-2 as presented. Commissioner Wilson seconded.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-4-2 was as follows (Exhibit Q):

Commissioner Fields	Absent
Commissioner Harrington	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Dykes	Yes

The motion to approve KAR 115-4-2 passed 6-0.

2. KAR 115-4-4. Big game; legal equipment and taking methods - Lloyd Fox, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit R). Remove all references to turkey which are now covered under 115-4-8. They will be added to a new regulation dealing with equipment for hunting turkey. It is recommended that section (d)(1) be changed from KAR 115-4-12 to KAR 115-4-2, to correct a printing error.

Commissioner Harrington moved to approve KAR 115-4-4 as presented. Commissioner Johnston seconded.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-4-4 was as follows (Exhibit S):

Commissioner Fields	Absent
Commissioner Harrington	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes

Commissioner Wilson Yes
Commissioner Dykes Yes

The motion to approve KAR 115-4-4 passed 6-0.

3. KAR 115-4-13. Deer permits; descriptions and restrictions - Lloyd Fox, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit T). The regulation contains the following items: 1) creates permit types that include: a white-tailed deer, either sex permit valid during muzzleloader and firearms seasons; a white-tailed deer antlerless only permit valid during any season with the appropriate equipment; an antlerless white-tailed deer game tag; firearm any-deer permit; archery any-deer permit; muzzleloader any-deer permit; leftover any-deer permits; hunt-own-land permits, including resident HOL, nonresident HOL, and special HOL transferable permits; 2) nonresident deer permits shall be valid for the same season and same management unit as those for which the equivalent resident permits are valid; each deer permit or game tag shall be valid only for the species and antler category specified on the permit or game tag; and 3) antlerless deer are defined as a deer without a visible antler plainly protruding from the skull.

Commissioner Johnston moved to approve KAR 115-4-13 as presented. Commissioner Harrington seconded.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-4-13 was as follows (Exhibit U):

Commissioner Fields	Absent
Commissioner Harrington	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Dykes	Yes

The motion to approve KAR 115-4-13 passed 6-0.

4. KAR 115-4-4a. Wild turkey; legal equipment and taking methods - Roger Applegate, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit V, W). These turkey regulations are provided as a result of KSA 32-701 as amended by the legislature to remove wild turkey from the designation of big game. Provisions for wild turkey have been taken from KAR 115-4-4 to establish this regulation specifically for wild turkey. A detailed regulation will be provided later.

Commissioner Johnston moved to approve KAR 115-4-4a as presented. Commissioner Harrington seconded.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-4-4a was as follows (Exhibit X):

Commissioner Fields	Absent
Commissioner Harrington	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes

Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Dykes	Yes

The motion to approve KAR 115-4-4a passed 6-0.

5. KAR 115-25-5. Turkey; fall season, bag limit and permits - Roger Applegate, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit Y). This proposed change would continue the fall turkey season through the end of January except during firearms deer seasons. The fall firearms turkey season was opened to conform to firearms deer season. Any equipment that is legal during an archery or firearm turkey season shall be permitted during this season. Work is under way to develop the necessary regulation(s) to implement the provisions of this statute which is effective January 1, 2005. The season will open October 1 and be closed during the firearms deer season, then it would reopen after the regular firearms deer season, close on the December 31 and re-open from January 9 - January 31.

Commissioner Johnston moved to approve KAR 115-25-5 as presented. Commissioner Harrington seconded.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-25-5 was as follows (Exhibit Z):

Commissioner Fields	Absent
Commissioner Harrington	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Dykes	Yes

The motion to approve KAR 115-25-5 passed 6-0.

6. KAR 115-25-6. Turkey; spring season, bag limit, permits and game tags - Roger Applegate, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit AA). No changes are requested from last year. Need to change adult age of mentors from 21 to 18 to conform to other regulations.

Commissioner Meyer moved to approve KAR 115-25-6 as presented. Commissioner Wilson seconded.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-25-6 was as follows (Exhibit BB):

Commissioner Fields	Absent
Commissioner Harrington	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Dykes	Yes

The motion to approve KAR 115-25-6 passed 6-0.

7. KAR 115-25-7. Antelope; open season, bag limit and permits - Matt Peek, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit CC). The aerial pronghorn survey was completed since the last meeting and the extended season discussed at last meeting has been added to this proposal. There is a possibility of reopening archery season after closing the firearms season. There has been a nine-day archery season since 1985, unlimited permits since 1990. Success rates are low, less than 15 percent and limited impact the population is expected. Staff would like some guidance from the Commission on this. Chairman Dykes clarified that the proposed archery dates would be September 24 to October 2. Peek said that would be what it is with no change. This proposal would reopen the season on October 15 and run it through the end of the month. The structure would be the same as in the past. Firearms: 90 in Unit 2, 28 in Unit 17; muzzleloader: 20 in Unit 2, 10 in Unit 17, 8 in Unit 18.

Commissioner Johnston moved to approve KAR 115-25-7 as presented. Commissioner Harrington seconded.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-25-7 was as follows (Exhibit DD):

Commissioner Fields	Absent
Commissioner Harrington	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Dykes	Yes

The motion to approve KAR 115-25-7 passed 6-0.

8. KAR 115-25-8. Elk; open season, bag limit and permits - Matt Peek, wildlife research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit EE). No permit recommendations at this time, those will be proposed at the next meeting. The proposed season dates outside the boundaries of Fort Riley are: September 1, 2005 through September 30, 2005 for the muzzleloader season; October 1, 2005 through November 29, 2005, and December 12-31, 2005, for the archery season; and November 30, 2005 through December 11, 2005, and January 1, 2006 through March 15, 2006 for the firearms seasons. The proposed season dates on Fort Riley are: a) October 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 for the firearms seasons with one-third of the antlerless-only permits valid during each of the following segments - First segment: October 1, 2005 through October 31, 2005; Second segment: November 1, 2005 through November 30, 2005; and Third segment: December 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. b) October 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 for a firearms season for all holders of any-elk permits. Limited-draw permit allocations will be determined closer to the completion of the ongoing 2004-2005 season. Elk permits will be available only to Kansas residents. Permit applications will be separated into military and nonmilitary applicants, as has been done in the past. An unlimited number of hunt-own-land antlerless-only elk permits are proposed. The bag limit shall be one elk as specified on the permit. It is recommended that the application deadline for elk permits be similar to the 2003 period. The corresponding date would be July 15, 2005. Applications for

hunt-own-land permits would be available through the next to last day of the season. There will be 15 antlerless elk permits and 10 any elk permits. Season structure will be the same as in the past, six month season off the Fort, three month on the Fort.

Commissioner Meyer moved to approve KAR 115-25-8 as presented. Commissioner Johnston seconded.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-25-8 was as follows (Exhibit FF):

Commissioner Fields	Absent
Commissioner Harrington	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Dykes	Yes

The motion to approve KAR 115-25-8 passed 6-0.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates

April 21, 2005, Holiday Inn Express, 4020 Parkview Drive, Pittsburg.

Discussed McPherson and Wichita as possible future locations, McPherson for October and Wichita for August.

June 23, 2005, Hays (Possible tour of Cedar Bluff and have Fort Hays State University discuss Cheyenne Bottoms Visitors Center.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Harrington moved, Commissioner Johnston seconded to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

(Exhibits and/or Transcript available upon request)

Exhibit GG - Kansas State Parks 2004 Parks Division Annual Report