

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND TRADE

April 8, 1997 Hearing Room 343

8:15 AM Tapes 45 - 46

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Jim Hill, Chair

Rep. Ron Adams

Rep. Eldon Johnson

Rep. Tom Whelan

Rep. Cynthia Wooten

STAFF PRESENT:

Julie Neburka, Administrator

Coben Tistadt, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

HB 2060 - Public Hearing and Possible Work Session

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

Tape/#	Speaker	Comments
Tape 45, A		
002	Chair Hill	Calls meeting to order at 8:21 AM. Opens public hearing on HB 2060.
<u>HB 2060 - PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
010	Julie Neburka	Talks about the status report on HB 2060 (EXHIBIT A).
075	Wayne Morgan	Greenacres TV Cable. Submits written materials (EXHIBIT B). Explains why Greenacres was formed. Cites same costs as larger competitors with smaller profits. Notes that the bill would

		add a tax to the smaller, rural systems. States that his citizens can't receive local networks without cable.
125	Morgan	Questions whether revenues identified in the bill would subsidize fiberoptic cable in rural areas.
130	Rep. Johnson	Answers yes.
133	Chair Hill	Asks how many customers they have.
135	Morgan	Answers 135.
141	Rep. Johnson	Appreciates the witness' concerns. States that these are unresolved issues.
173	Morgan	Suggests exemptions for small businesses in rural areas.
175	Rep. Johnson	Mentions applying current law.
178	Morgan	Asks with whom he can remain in contact.
180	Rep. Johnson	Answers staff. Currently law prohibits counties from levying franchise fees.
188	Chair Hill	Asks of the effect of digital satellite systems on his business.
190	Morgan	Answers that there has been some affect but that they don't provide local programming.
200	Chair Hill	Closes public hearing on HB 2060. Opens work session on HB 2060.
<u>HB 2060 - WORK SESSION</u>		
205	Rep. Wooten	Asks about the status of her amendments.
210	Neburka	Answers that they couldn't be ready for today's meeting.
215	Rep. Wooten	Asks when they can schedule that for work session.
222	Eric Ruona	Legislative Counsel. Answers that Thursday would be fine.
231	Rep. Johnson	Mentions upcoming workgroups addressing major issues faced in the bill.
247	Rep. Wooten	Asks if there will be a work group with Rep. Whelan prior to Thursday.
252	Neburka	Answers that there will be at 1:00 on Wednesday.
255	Rep. Adams	Asks when the work group will meet and who will meet.
260	Rep. Wooten	States that Rep. Whelan and herself met on Monday with providers. States that they will meet also with representatives of cities and counties at 1:00 P.M. tomorrow.

275	Rep. Johnson	Cautions members not to violate open public meetings laws.
283	Rep. Adams	Notes that his work group wasn't ready to submit amendments. Poses the question of where the revenues will go.
325	Rep. Johnson	Mentions his intention that the work groups determine policy issues.
349	Rep. Adams	Notes some various issues confronting the committee. States that some services are better measured at the meter.
392	Rep. Wooten	Discusses her proposed amendments.
411	Rep. Johnson	States his reasons for combining the issues of cable, telecommunications, gas, and electric. Notes, however, that they all have their individual issues.
TAPE 46, A		
004	Rep. Adams	Discusses competition.
012	Rep. Johnson	States that competition is the purpose of the bill.
017	Rep. Adams	Mentions the ability to be a multiple provider as an issue.
026	Chair Hill	Closes work session on HB 2060. Adjourns meeting.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Coben Tistadt, Julie Neburka,

Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - HB 2060, written materials, Wayne Morgan, 5 pp.

B - HB 2060, status report, staff, 1 p.