

INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE

Budget Review Subcommittee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Protection

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the 2019 Interim

September 10, 2019

Call to Order and Roll Call

The third meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Protection of the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue was held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 8:30 AM, in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Lynn Bechler, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Representative Lynn Bechler, Co-Chair; Senator Max Wise; Representatives Terri Branham Clark, Savannah Maddox, and Les Yates.

Guests: Steve Milby, Commissioner, Department of Housing, Buildings, and Construction (HBC), Public Protection Cabinet (PPC); Duane Curry, Deputy Commissioner, HBC, PPC; and, David Startzman, General Counsel, HBC, PPC.

LRC Staff: Sara Rome, Kevin Newton, and Amie Elam.

Public Protection Cabinet

Department of Housing, Buildings, and Construction

Steve Milby, Duane Curry, and David Startzman provided a brief overview of the HBC and the budgetary requirements of that agency.

In response to a question from Chair Bechler, Mr. Curry said Kentucky Industrialized Building Systems (KIBS) are producers of panelized modular construction systems that are built at their plant and delivered to the building site already constructed.

In response to questions from Representative Branham Clark, Mr. Startzman said cities are required by statute to have a building inspector, as outlined in KRS 198B.060(1). The HBC steps in to help when a city has lost an inspector and until they are able to hire a replacement, for which no time limit is stipulated. He said the HBC only checks licenses due to safety issues. Mr. Milby added that there are nine inspectors that hold multiple

licenses, and cross-training within the Master Inspector Branch is being done in order to increase efficiency within the department. He said the current turnaround time for approval of plans is approximately thirty days, but with the new SmartGov software program in place that amount of time should begin to decrease.

In response to a question from Representative Yates, Mr. Milby said there is not currently a separate designation for residential-only inspectors.

In response to a question from Chair Bechler, Mr. Curry said when the HBC steps in to help, it depends on the stage of the project as to whether or not permit fees can be collected. Mr. Milby agreed to provide a chart outlining the differences in jurisdiction for HBC inspectors versus city or county inspectors. He added that Kentucky's plumbing code is simple and easy to follow.

In response to a question from Representative Branham Clark, Mr. Milby said the Fire Marshal's Office is the only division within the HBC that receives general fund dollars, and they need to add ten inspectors as well as three staff members.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 AM.