

MINUTES
Legislative Post Audit Committee
April 08, 2026

Call to Order

Welcome – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Thompson at 10:31 a.m. in Room 546-S of the Statehouse. Committee members present:

Sen. Mike Thompson, Chair
Sen. Cindy Holscher*
Sen. Mike Petersen
Sen. Pat Pettey
Sen. Caryn Tyson

Rep. Sean Tarwater, Vice Chair
Rep. Shannon Francis
Rep. Tom Sawyer
Rep. Kristey Williams
Rep. Valdenia Winn

*Participated via Webex

Performance Audits & Evaluations

SNAP, Part 2 – Heidi Zimmerman, Principal Auditor, presented the findings from the audit and answered questions from the committee. Dr. Carla Whiteside-Hicks, Director of Economic and Employment Services at the Department for Children and Families, provided testimony and answered questions from the committee.

TANF, Part 1 – Heidi Zimmerman, Principal Auditor, presented the findings from the audit and answered questions from the committee. Dr. Carla Whiteside-Hicks, Director of Economic and Employment Services at the Department for Children and Families, provided testimony and answered questions from the committee.

KSU Vet Medicine/KU Medicine Admissions – Andy Brienzo, Principal Auditor, presented the findings from the audit and answered questions from the committee. Dr. Mark Meyer, Senior Associate Dean of Student Affairs at the University of Kansas School of Medicine, answered questions from the committee. Dr. Callie Rost, Associate Dean for Admissions at the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine, and Dr. Elizabeth Davis, Interim Dean at the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine, also answered questions from the committee.

The audits will be distributed to all legislators.

Consent Calendar

Kristen Rottinghaus, Deputy Post Auditor, reviewed the consent calendar. The consent calendar included approval of the February 4 meeting minutes and acceptance of the completed performance audits presented today. There were no objections, so the minutes and audits were approved.

Performance Audit Requests for the Upcoming Year

Kristen Rottinghaus, Deputy Post Auditor, reviewed for members the 24

performance audit requests submitted during the session. She told the committee they could select about 9-12 proposals depending on the size of the audits they choose. Chairman Thompson entertained motions to authorize audit projects for the coming year. The committee made the following selections:

- 4L – Evaluating the Department for Children and Families’ Processes for Tracking, Investigating, and Communicating Allegations of Abuse and Neglect by a Parent. Representative Francis made a motion to approve the audit. Representative Tarwater seconded. Motion carried.
- 22E – Reviewing Selected State Contracts for IT-Related Services. Senator Petersen made a motion to approve the audit. Representative Francis seconded. Motion carried.
- 7L – Evaluating Spending from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund. Senator Tyson made a motion to approve the audit. Representative Tarwater seconded. Motion carried.
- 16L – Reviewing Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics’ Funding and Outcomes. Representative Williams made a motion to approve the audit. Senator Tyson seconded. Motion carried.
- 8L – Reviewing Public Universities’ Arrangements with and Financial Support from Entities in Foreign Countries of Concern. Senator Tyson made a motion to approve the audit. Representative Tarwater seconded. Motion carried.
- 14L – Evaluating the Impacts of Medicaid Add-On Payments on Kansas Nursing Facilities. Senator Petersen made a motion to approve the audit with a conceptual amendment to include a list of the Medicaid add-on payments in surrounding states. Senator Pettey seconded. Motion carried.
- 10L – Reviewing Kansas’s Sports Wagering Revenue Structure and Problem Gambling Services. Representative Tarwater made a motion to approve the audit with a conceptual amendment to eliminate question 1 and request Kansas Legislative Research Department staff to complete that work instead. Representative Francis seconded. Motion carried. Committee members requested the information to be presented together.
- 6L – Evaluating the Business Enterprise Program’s Finances and Operations. Representative Tarwater made a motion to approve the audit. Representative Williams seconded. Motion carried.
- 12L – Reviewing University Policies on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Activities. Representative Williams made a motion to approve the audit with a conceptual amendment to re-write question 1 to determine whether select degree programs at select state universities require DEI-related courses to graduate. The motion also allowed LPA staff to work with Representative Schmoie to modify the proposal with the intent to keep the resource requirements similar to the original request. Representative Tarwater seconded. Motion carried. Kristen Rottinghaus, Deputy Post Auditor, will present the revised proposal to the committee for final approval at the next meeting.
- 3L – Evaluating the Distribution of Unified Government Funds to Certain Cities. Representative Tarwater made a motion to approve the audit with a conceptual amendment to eliminate question 2. Representative Williams seconded. Motion carried.

Committee members requested LPA staff prioritize the Sports Wagering and Community Behavioral Health Clinic audits when developing their schedule.

Additional Business

Date of Next Meeting – Chris Clarke, Post Auditor, provided an overview of the upcoming audit schedule. Chairman Thompson will work with Chris to schedule the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

 5/19/2026

Whitney Watson, Secretary date
Legislative Post Audit Committee

All handouts and other documents referred to in these minutes are on file with Legislative Post Audit. Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim and have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.