

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sue Boldra at 3:30pm on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Joe Seiwert – Excused

Representative Sharon Schwartz – Excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department

Joanna Wochner, Legislative Research Department

Shirley Jepson, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Natalie Scott, Office of Revisor of Statutes

David Wiese, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

No conferees present

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Discussion & possible action on: HB2278 — Removing reference to the association of official analytical chemists in agricultural liming materials provisions.

Natalie Scott, Revisor, provided a brief explanation of **HB2278** noting that the bill amends provisions in the Kansas agricultural liming materials act.

There was no discussion.

*Representative Sloan moved to recommend **HB2278** favorable for passage. Motion seconded by Representative Thimesch. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

Discussion & possible action on: HB2329 — Creating a program to research the use of industrial hemp.

Natalie Scott, Revisor, provided a brief explanation of **HB2329**. Ms. Scott indicated that the legislation addresses alternative crop research of industrial hemp. The bill provides that the Department of Agriculture, either alone or in consultation with a state educational institution, may cultivate industrial hemp grown from certified seed or promote the research and development of the crop. Section 3 of the legislation addresses criminal penalties currently in statute.

There was no discussion.

*Representative Lusker moved to recommend **HB2329** favorable for passage. Motion seconded by Representative Ewy. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

Discussion & possible action on: HB2227 — Creating water conservation areas.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources at 3:30pm on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, 346-S of the Capitol.

Natalie Scott, Revisor, provided a brief explanation of **HB2227** noting that the legislation provides that a water right owner or group of water right owners may enter into a consent agreement to establish a water conservation area. The plan would be submitted to the chief engineer.

Representative Sloan moved to adopt **HB2227** for the purpose of offering an amendment to **HB2227**. The motion was seconded by Representative Carlin. Motion withdrawn.

The Committee asked that information about the amendment be heard before any action taken on the motion.

Representative Sloan explained that the amendment to **HB2227** adds language after line 12 for item (2) and after line 18 for item (5); renumbering the paragraphs accordingly; strike all language Page 2, Lines 16 thru 21 and insert language as presented; insert additional language on Page 2, Line 35 after water conservation area; and insert additional language "and the chief engineer" on Line 36 after "designated area" ([Attachment 1](#)).

The Chair noted that **HB2227** is not an exempt or blessed bill.

The Committee expressed concern as to how the terms of this legislation would affect Groundwater Management Districts (GMD's. It was noted that GMD's rules would trump rules of **HB2227**.

Responding to a question from the Committee concerning water rights, Representative Sloan noted that language on Page 1 to be inserted after line 12, clarifies that the conservation area must have the written consent of all water right owners within the geographic boundary.

Representative Sloan moved for the adoption of the amendment to **HB2227** as presented. Motion was seconded by Representative Francis. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Representative Ewy moved to amend the Sloan amendment to **HB2227** by retaining language of the original bill on Page 2, Line 16 thru 19 and adding language on Line 20 after "water conservation area" of "requirements of the GMD.

The Chair informed Representative Ewy that the motion cannot be entered as the language on Page 2 was stricken by the Sloan amendment previously adopted by the Committee.

Representative Lusker moved to amend **HB2227** by striking the large block of language from the Sloan amendment on page 2 inserted after Line 15. The motion was seconded by Representative Ewy. Motion failed.

The Committee voiced concern with moving forward on **HB2227** in lieu of the fact that the Committee had a number of concerns with the language in the bill. The Revisor noted that if the bill is tabled, it

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources at 3:30pm on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, 346-S of the Capitol.

will require a two-thirds vote of the Committee to remove from the table.

Representative Schroader moved to table **HB2227**. Motion was seconded by Representative Lusker. Motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for March 4, 2015.