

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sharon Schwartz at 3:30pm on Wednesday, March 09, 2016, 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Joanna Dolan, Legislative Research Department
Natalie Scott, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Shirley Jepson, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Chris Beightel, Water Management Services Program Manager, Department of Agriculture
Kent Askren, Kansas Farm Bureau

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Hearing on: SB329 — Clarifying approval of a change application for place of use for multi-year flex accounts.

Chair Schwartz opened the hearing on **SB329**.

Natalie Scott, Revisor, explained that this bill would allow the chief engineer to approve a change in place of use for a term permit greater than 10 acres or 10 percent of the authorized place of use if the applicant also simultaneously is approved for a change in place of use permit under the base water right ([Attachment 1](#)). Ms. Scott noted that the Senate Natural Resources Committee amended the bill to add a section which provides that an approval of an application to change the place of use of the base water right will automatically result in a change to the place of use for the term permit.

Chris Beightel, Water management Services Program Manager, Department of Agriculture, appeared before the Committee in support of **SB329** ([Attachment 2](#)). Mr. Beightel explained that **SB329** is a simple cleanup that will allow someone enrolled in a multi-year flex account (MFYA) program for Kansas water right holders to modify the place of use of the MFYA term permit to coincide with the base water right. Mr. Beightel noted that the modifications will help individual water right holders who have needed this type of change and could encourage further enrollment in the MYFA program.

Kent Askren, Kansas Farm Bureau, appeared before the Committee in support of **SB329** ([Attachment 3](#)). Mr. Askren explained that Kansas Farm Bureau supports the concepts promoted in MYFA that provide greater flexibility in the use of groundwater while protecting against impairment of existing water rights by limiting water usage to the average historical use or less, thus avoiding any long-term

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negative impacts on the source of supply.

The proponents responded to questions from the Committee.

Written testimony from Greg Krissek, Kansas Corn Growers, was received in support of **SB329** ([Attachment 4](#)).

There were no neutrals or opponents to appear before the Committee.

The hearing on **SB329** was closed.

Discussion & possible action on: SB97 — Allowing contact with certain regulated animals.
Natalie Scott, Revisor, provided an explanation of **SB97**.

*Representative Seiwert moved to recommend **SB97** favorable for passage. Motion seconded by Representative Hibbard.*

*Representative Waymaster moved to amend **SB97** by removing and adding language on page 2 ([Attachment 5](#)). Motion seconded by Lusker. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

Representative Waymaster explained that his amendment to **SB97** added the clouded leopard into the bill and reduces the weight limit from 40 lbs to 25 lbs. Representative Waymaster explained that the 25 lbs would apply to all animals.

*Representative Sloan presented an amendment to make technical amendments to **SB97** ([Attachment 6](#)). Motion seconded by Representative Thimesch. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

*Representative Sloan presented an amendment to **SB97** to add language on page 2, line 4 "non-human primates or wolves" ([Attachment 6](#)). The motion was seconded by Representative Moxley. Motion failed on a 10-11 vote.*

*Representative Sloan moved to strike all language referring to "non-native" from **SB97**. The motion was seconded by Representative Waymaster. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

*Representative Sloan moved to amend **SB97** by restoring language on Page 3, lines 7-12. Motion seconded by Representative Francis. Motion failed on a voice of 9-12.*

*Representative Seiwert moved to recommend **SB97** as amended favorable for passage. Motion seconded by Representative Waymaster. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

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.

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Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on March 10, 2016.