

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sharon Schwartz at 3:30pm on Tuesday, March 15, 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:

No conferees present

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

**Kansas Agriculture Day**

In celebration of Kansas Agriculture Day, the Committee enjoyed refreshments and a video of the "Peterson brothers" first video recording on song and farming activities.

**Introduction of Guests**

Chair Schwartz recognized the State Board of Agriculture members who were attending the Committee meeting today and asked Jackie McClaskey, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, to introduce the guests.

Ms. McClaskey introduced the following Board members:

Jerry McReynolds, Chairman, Woodston  
Thad Geiger, Troy  
William (Bill) Pracht, Lawrence  
Ann Peuser, Garnett

**Discussion & possible action on: HB2554 — Amending the Kansas pet animal act.**

Chair Schwartz opened the discussion and possible action on **HB2554**, noting that **HB2554** was earlier passed out of Committee and recommended for passage on February 15, 2016. However, the bill had no action by the full House before the Turnaround Deadline and was requested to be referred to the House Appropriations Committee, at which time it became an "exempt" bill and consequently re-referred to the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee for possible further action.

Natalie Scott, Revisor, explained the various sections of **HB2554**.

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Representative Boldra moved to amend the contents of **HB2554** into **SB125** for **House Substitute for SB125**. Motion seconded by Representative Dierks. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Representative Sloan moved to recommend **H Sub for SB125** favorable for passage. Motion seconded by Representative Dierks. Motion carried on a voice vote.

### **Discussion & possible action on: HB2598 — Limiting powers of rural water districts.**

Chair Schwartz opened the discussion and possible action on **HB2598**.

Natalie Scott, Revisor, explained that **HB2598** pertains to limiting the powers of rural water districts. The bill had a hearing in this Committee on February 16, 2016.

Representative Sloan moved to place the contents of **HB2598** into **SB64** for **House Substitute for Senate Bill 64**. Motion seconded by Representative Dierks. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Representative Sloan offered an amendment to **H Sub for SB64** that would remove language on Page 1, lines 25 thru 36 and Page 2, lines 1 and 2 ([Attachment 1](#)). The amendment would direct the rural water district to reinstate any benefit unit forfeited for non-payment of fees and changes upon payment of the unpaid fees and changes or a new benefit unit fee. It also directs any seller or representative to provide the information to a prospective purchase of the property.

Representative Sloan moved to amend **H Sub for SB64** with the presented language. Motion seconded by Representative Schroeder.

During discussion, it was noted that realtors are required to do a title search of property being sold and during this search any delinquent charges, taxes or fees should be revealed.

Representative Moxley made a substitute motion to amend the Sloan amendment to **H Sub for SB64** by removing "delinquent taxes and" in Section "d". The motion was seconded by Representative Sloan. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Representative Francis moved to amend the Sloan amendment, Part (d) by deleting " utility bills" and replacing with " rural water district unpaid fees and charges". Motion seconded by Representative Sloan. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Representative Sloan moved to recommend **H Sub for SB64** as amended favorable for passage. Motion seconded by Representative Hibbard. Motion carried on a voice vote.

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### **Discussion & possible action on: HB2712 — Updating provisions relating to weights and**

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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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### **measures.**

Chair Schwartz opened the discussion and possible action on **HB2712**.

Natalie Scott, Revisor, explained **HB2712** and noted that the bill had a hearing before the Committee on March 14, 2016.

*Representative Boldra moved to move the contents of **HB2712** into **SB227** for **House Substitute for SB227**. Motion seconded by Representative Victors. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

*Representative Lusker moved to amend **H Sub for SB227**; on page 8, line 5, by striking "be" and insert "not to exceed"; page 8, line 7, strike "be" and insert "not to exceed" and on page 8, line 12, strike "be" and insert "not to exceed". Motion seconded by Representative Schroeder. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

*Representative Boldra made a conceptual motion to remove lines 5, 7, 9 on page 8, as the language is repetitive and not needed. The motion was seconded by Representative Schroeder. Motion withdraw after Committee discussion.*

Responding to Committee discussion, Chad Bontrager, Department of Agriculture, stated that the legislation is written to give the agency clarity set in statute and allow for the flexibility to possibly lower fees.

*Representative Lusker moved to recommend **H Sub for SB227** as amended favorable for passage. Motion seconded by Representative Carlin. Motion carried on a voice vote.*

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, 2016.