

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Garrett Love at 3:30pm on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

David Wiese, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Natalie Scott, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Fran Lusk, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Kyle Hamilton, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dr. John Floros, Dean of Agriculture, Kansas State University

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Presentation on:

"Building for the Future"

Joining the Senate Committee today are members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee and House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

Dr. John Floros, Dean of Agriculture, Kansas State University (KSU), appeared before the Committees to moderate a slide presentation of present and future activities at the university as it pertains to agricultural research and education. Dr. Floros stated, with agriculture as the leading industry in the State of Kansas, the university works to support the industry through involvement relating to food, feed, fiber and fuel.

Dr. Floros noted that the university operates a number of research and extension sites across the state in order to be available with assistance to the agricultural communities. The industry contributes to the economy of the state through the employment of vast numbers of citizens and the export of agricultural products as it supports the feeding of people throughout the world. KSU is very involved in research to assist in revitalizing the state and its economy.

Dr. Floros stated that the University is leading the way in doing research in advancing technology into the agricultural use of drones as it relates to measuring field size, checking on crop disease, irrigation of crops and other agricultural activities. Dr. Floros noted that it is quite possible that at some not too

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Agriculture at 3:30pm on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

distant time, every farmer will possess a drone to assist in their business.

The University is also involved in research into water sedimentation, stream bank stabilization, availability of water and experiments regarding types of irrigation.

Dr. Floros mentioned the support given by the University to community programs, such as master gardeners, support for 4-H Clubs, improving the health of communities and Kansas citizens. The universities' crop judging teams are a learning tool used by the university. A large number of students who graduate with an agricultural degree are employed by major companies and leaders in the industry.

Dr. Floros also noted that the University is planning to build a new agricultural and research facility at the University; working to secure funding at this time.

Dr. Floros responded to questions from the Committee. ([Attachment 1](#))

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.