

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larry Powell at 8:30am on Thursday, January 21, 2016, 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:  
Senator Dennis Pyle – Excused

Committee staff present:  
Tamera Lawrence, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department  
Toni Beck, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant  
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department  
Mark Skoglund, KLRD

Conferees appearing before the Committee:  
Leslie Kaufman, KS Cooperative Council, KS Grain and Feed Association, KS Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Jackie McClaskey, Department of Agriculture

Others in attendance:  
[See Attached List](#)

There were no bill introductions introduced in committee.

Chairman Powell introduced the Kansas Livestock Association Leadership:  
Matt Perrier, KLA president  
Diltz and Jamie Lindamood, Greenwood County  
Aaron Lueger, Brown County  
Tyler Ottensmeier, Marion County  
Mark and BJ Schultz, Osborne County  
Russ and Mary Sue Walker, Wilson County  
Dakota Bourne, KLA Environmental Services  
Blake Jones, Osage County  
Max Irsik, Johnson County

**Hearing on: (opponents) SB330 — Establishing the Kansas conservation reserve enhancement program.**

Chairman Powell continued testimony in opposition to the bill from the January 20, meeting.

Leslie Kaufman presented opposition testimony stating a fundamental flaw in this bill is a concern regarding control of water usage that encompasses the land being idle for farming practices. Maintaining a level of agriculture production could result in greater economic activity in the State, than

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Natural Resources at 8:30am on Thursday, January 21, 2016 in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

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a receipt of a government contract payment.

[\(Attachment 1\)](#)

Discussion:

Concerns were expressed this bill is not in the language of a budget proviso and has had three attempts at passage as a stand alone bill. \$37 million of federal tax dollars have been paid out nationwide for agriculture producers not to produce.

Doug Smith, provided written testimony only from KS Legislative Policy Group president, Randy Braddock. Concerns are expressed that controls and limitations utilized by the program are not included in the bill.

[\(Attachment 2\)](#)

Chairman Powell closed the hearing on the bill.

### **Presentation on:**

Jackie McClaskey presented a *Zero Base Budget* for the Department of Agriculture, 2018. It is inclusive of input from all program directors with line item expenses.

[\(Attachment 3\)](#)

Discussion:

Some items in the report are not statutorily required, but necessary and have a high ranking to quality. The department has done Zero Base Budgeting since 2011. Should the State pursue this method, it could be cost effective for departments. The Department of Agriculture moving to Manhattan, apparently has had no effect on the budget; no dramatic impact on expenses. This did create a 40% turnover in 2015. 25-27 Kansas State student employees are filling positions. Any allocation of government cuts across the board would be a challenge for statutory requirements, as opposed to the allocated budget. But, statutorily required issues can be changed by the legislature.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 am.

The next scheduled meeting will be January 27.