

M I N U T E S

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

July 21 and 22, 1977

Members Present

Senator Charles Angell, Chairman
Representative Anita Niles, Vice-Chairman
Senator Fred Kerr
Representative James Cubit
Representative Larry Erne
Representative Keith Farrar
Representative R.D. McCrum

Staff Present

Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Don Hayward, Revisor of Statutes Office

The Special Committee on Natural Resources met at 10:30 a.m. on July 21 at the Dodge City Community College prior to attending the two-day Water Conference sponsored by the Kansas Farm Bureau.

The Committee and staff reviewed the subject matter of Proposals 57 and 58 assigned to the Committee for interim study. Members of the Governor's Task Force on Water Resources, Senator Angell and Representative Farrar, reviewed the work which has been done by the Task Force through the July meeting. This review was followed by Committee discussion of coordinating the work of the Task Force and the Natural Resources Committee on Proposal No. 57.

It was decided that the staff would send copies of selected material prepared by state agencies for the Task Force to the Committee for review prior to the August meeting. The state agencies will be available to respond to questions on coordination of water-related functions rather than to repeat the presentations which they made to the Task Force. The Chairman asked that the Committee members read the material sent out by the staff prior to the August meeting.

Representative Niles reported on the hearing on proposed rules and regulations of the Chief Engineer, Division of Water Resources held on July 18 in Topeka. One issue which arose at the hearing was the definition of "domestic use."

The Committee's attention was called to material which was distributed relating to the operation of Groundwater Management Districts. The Committee will consider the present law, proposed district rules and regulations and hear representatives of the districts at a future meeting.

The following schedule of meetings was approved:

August 9 and 10
September 6 and 7
October 3
October 31
November 14

The next meeting of the Special Committee on Natural Resources will be August 9 and 10 in Topeka. The Committee will consider Proposal No. 58 on August 9 and Proposal No. 57 on August 10. The subcommittee on coordination of the Governor's Task Force on Water Resources will be invited to sit in on the August 10 meeting.

The Committee adjourned at 12:00 to attend the Water Conference at which the members heard papers on various aspects of water resources presented by personnel

from the Kansas Geological Survey, Washburn University School of Law, the Department of Health and Environment, the Division of Water Resources, Kansas State University, the City of Wichita, the University of Nebraska and the Kansas Energy Advisory Council.

Other conference speakers included the Governor, the Lt. Governor, and attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council and a Kansas member of the High Plains Study Commission.

Committee members and staff participated in conference work shops on legal issues, conservation and research, management and planning, environmental issues and energy.

Prepared by Emalene Correll

Approved by Committee on:

Aug. 9, 1977
Date