

Approved February 8, 1988
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The meeting was called to order by Representative Dennis Spaniol at
Chairperson

3:30 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on January 20, 1988 in room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Ramon Powers, Research Department
Laura Howard, Research Department
Raney Gilliland, Research Department
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Betty Ellison, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Kenneth F. Kern, Executive Director, State Conservation Commission
David Pope, Chief Engineer-Director, Division of Water Resources
Leland E. Rolfs, Legal Counsel, Division of Water Resources
Joseph Harkins, Director, Kansas Water Office
Tom Stiles, Kansas Water Office
Kerry Wedel, Kansas Water Office
Dr. Darrel Eklund, Kansas Water Office

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Spaniol.

House Bill 2036--Purchase of water rights, on cost-sharing basis.

Tom Stiles represented the Kansas Water Office, speaking in support of this bill as a step toward implementing the Stream Recovery/Aquifer Restoration Sub-section of the State Water Plan. He noted that the amended bill passed out of this committee last year and creates a voluntary program to buy water rights from willing sellers in critical water areas of the state. He also noted that last year's fiscal note had been modified to indicate that this bill could be initially implemented with existing resources. (Attachment 1)

Ken Kern, representing the State Conservation Commission, testified in favor of House Bill 2036. His agency would be responsible for the implementation and administration of the cost-share program developed for the purchase of water rights. The Conservation Commission's responsibilities and a flow chart of the proposed water rights purchase program are listed in Attachment 2.

Leland Rolfs presented favorable testimony in representation of the Division of Water Resources. He commented that his agency felt that this bill would provide a valuable tool to enable the State of Kansas to take some positive actions to alleviate either aquifer or stream depletions in various areas of the state. (Attachment 3)

House Bill 2037--Floodplain regulation.

Staff gave a briefing on this bill.

Kerry Wedel, representing the Kansas Water Office, testified in support. He commented that the Water Office had supported the bill last year, noting that it would implement recommendations contained in the Urban Flood Management Sub-section of the State Water Plan. Mr. Wedel noted that last year's fiscal note would be modified to indicate that the bill now would be implemented with existing resources of the Division of Water Resources and the Kansas Water Office. (Attachment 4)

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,

room 526-S Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~xxx~~/p.m. on January 20, 1988.

During discussion, Mr. Wedel said that the intent of the bill was to look at communities that were being identified as having a possible flooding problem and this would be done through the National Flood Insurance Program. Those communities would have the obligation to manage their floodplain area within their jurisdiction to prevent undue flood damage potential--this would be done with floodplain regulations. He also noted that under current law, floodplain regulations are subject to approval by the Chief Engineer, Division of Water Resources.

Leland Rolfs, legal counsel for the Division of Water Resources, noted that the overlapping portion pertaining to the Hundred Year Flood Plan would have to come before the Division of Water Resources. He said that this bill does not require communities to have floodplain regulations. If they don't have regulations and the state is called in and incurs costs relating to a flooding problem, the state could require reimbursement for not having the regulations. There is no penalty to the community unless a flood occurs. Representative Patrick asked Mr. Wedel for documentation of instances where non-participating communities had floods and the state incurred costs which were not reimbursed.

Following further discussion, Chairman Spaniol requested that Mr. Wedel provide the committee with an estimate of the cost for a community of approximately 1,000 population with no qualified staff to hire a consulting engineer to develop floodplain regulations. Mr. Wedel agreed to provide this information, although he assumed that the existing staff could do this with some technical assistance from the Kansas Water Office. He did not anticipate an extreme financial burden on most of the communities that would be affected.

Further discussion followed. Representative Barr complimented the Water Office, David Pope, and Ken Kern for the cooperation from their agencies in assisting Rossville, a city with a very complicated flooding problem.

David Pope represented the Division of Water Resources. He stated that the key policy issue is the reimbursement of state costs. He felt that the notification of approximately 136 entities would not be a burden on that office and would not require additional staff. However, the phone calls, informational meetings, and review of floodplain ordinances and regulations would be time consuming. He commented that if a mutually satisfactory arrangement could be worked out for the Water Office to assume most of the technical assistance role, there would be no material fiscal impact from this bill. (Attachment 5)

During discussion, Mr. Pope said that his office has no dedicated staff on the program at this time. They do absorb some time which represents about one-fourth of one person's time, or approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000. Most pure technical work would be provided to communities by outside support through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) although there is a trend at the federal level now not to fund the additional studies.

Representative Holmes requested Mr. Pope to provide a list identifying the 136 cities and counties which would be impacted and Mr. Pope agreed to do this.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
room 526-SStatehouse, at 3:30 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on January 20, 1988.

In reply to a question of the Chairman, Mr. Pope said that if the responsibility were left to his office, one position would need to be restored. He endorsed the idea of the Water Office providing the coordination and the non-regulatory type of assistance. However, he felt that the regulatory portion should not be transferred to the Water Office. If this plan worked according to the agreement, there would be no fiscal note.

Senate Bill 117--Water resources management information system.

Staff reviewed the bill for the committee.

Joseph Harkins introduced Dr. Darrel Eklund, Manager of the Research Information Section of the Kansas Water Office, who testified in support of this bill. He noted that the focus of the measure was to establish as a matter of state policy the development and operation of a multi-agency Water Resource Management Information System as described in his printed testimony. (Attachment 6)

In response to a question of the Chairman, Dr. Eklund said that there was no fiscal note for this bill. The \$234,000 figure would be a culmination of funds requested by the Department of Health and Environment, the Division of Water Resources of the State Board of Agriculture and perhaps the Kansas Geological Survey. This amount was not included in the Governor's budget.

Joseph Harkins testified in favor of Senate Bill 117. He believed that this bill was necessary because there are several agencies that share responsibilities which overlap. He said that this proposal is based on the State Water Plan and is working now. However, it needs to be institutionalized because agency managers change periodically.

Written testimony from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment was submitted to the committee relative to Senate Bill 117. (Attachment 7)

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 28, 1988.

Testimony to the
House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Re: H.B. 2036: Water Rights Purchase Cost-Share Program

by the
Kansas Water Office

January 20, 1988

H.B. 2036: Water Rights Purchase Cost-Share Program

Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Water Office once again supports passage of H.B. 2036 as a step toward implementing the Stream Recovery/Aquifer Restoration Sub-section of the State Water Plan. The amended bill passed out of the committee last year and creates a voluntary program to buy water rights from willing sellers in critical water areas of the state.

Last year's bill, as it was amended and approved by the committee, retains the concepts and policies of the State Water Plan. Our specific testimony on the bill is in last year's committee files. Additionally, you will find supporting testimony from the Division of Water Resources, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, Groundwater Management District No. 3, State Conservation Commission and Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. We offer no new amendments to the bill but note that last year's fiscal note is modified to indicate this bill can be initially implemented with existing resources. Since local initiative uses the program, if that interest is moderate, the program may be managed with existing staff. Specific purchases of water rights shall be a line item on the State Conservation Commission's budget which will be subject to appropriations by the legislature.

A specific use of this program may be in the memorandum of understanding regarding Cedar Bluff Reservoir. The irrigation district will be returning its water right to the state. The

state may use this program to protect Cedar Bluff releases for downstream municipal use or groundwater recharge.

In summary, the Kansas Water Office again supports this bill.



State Conservation Commission

109 S.W. 9TH STREET, ROOM 300

TELEPHONE (913) 296-3600

TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1299

HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES COMMITTEE
HOUSE BILL 2036
January 20, 1988

TESTIMONY BY
KENNETH F. KERN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The State Conservation Commission would be the implementing and administrating agency for the cost-share program developed for the purchase of water rights.

The Commission's responsibilities include:

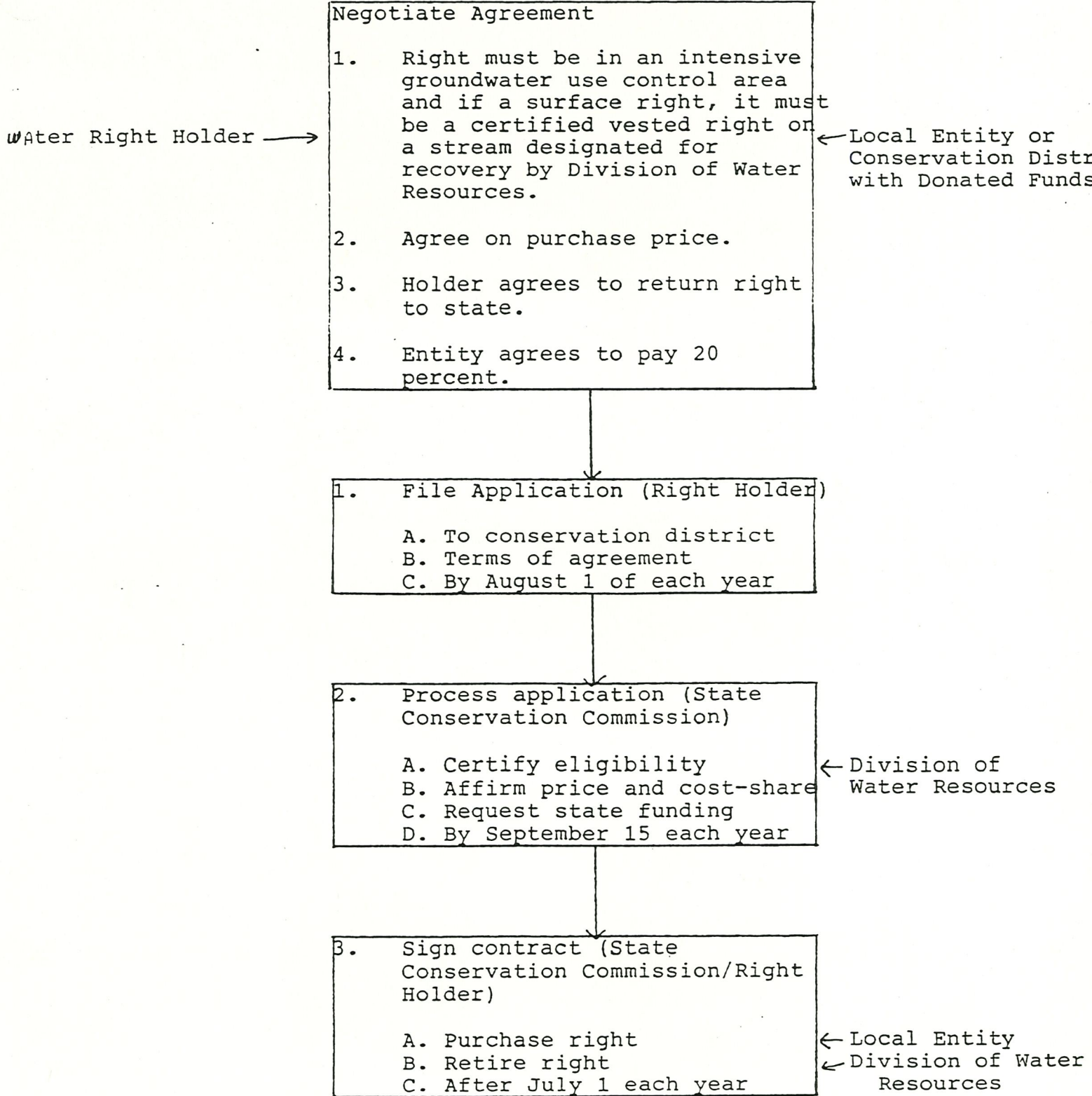
1. Coordination and development of administrative rules and regulations.
2. Establishing policy & guidelines for state program.
3. Education of those involved in the cost-share program.
 - a. Conservation Districts
 - b. Groundwater Management Districts
 - c. Holders of water rights
4. Processing applications.
5. Requesting certification from DWR for eligible applications.
6. Line item request for funding.
7. Payment of approved and funded applications.

Attached is a flow chart of the proposed water rights purchase program.

The State Conservation Commission supports the passage of House Bill 2036.

Water Rights Purchase Program

DRAFT



STATEMENT OF DAVID L. POPE
CHIEF ENGINEER-DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2036

January 20, 1988

Thank you Chairman Spaniol and Members of the Committee for this opportunity to appear.

House Bill No. 2036 would implement the Stream Recovery and Aquifer Restoration Subsection of the State Water Plan. It provides for the Division of Water Resources to evaluate opportunities to recover streamflow in streams which have undergone severe depletion and, where a high probability of success exists, develop strategies for recovery. It also allows the Division of Water Resources to evaluate groundwater aquifers and determine whether such aquifers are in need of recovery.

A State Conservation Commission administered cost-share program would then be used to purchase groundwater or surface water rights from willing sellers or donors to protect and enhance the streams or aquifers. House Bill No. 2036 provides for an 80/20 cost-share program with the state paying 80%. A local entity, such as a groundwater management district, would pay the other 20%.

House Bill No. 2036 limits cost-share purchase of rights to:

1. Active vested or certified water appropriation rights that have not been abandoned.
2. Groundwater rights in an area where the rate of withdrawal of groundwater equals or exceeds the rate of recharge and the Chief

Engineer has closed the area to further appropriation and designated the area as one in need of aquifer restoration.

3. Groundwater or surface water rights within a stream reach designated by the Chief Engineer as being in need of stream recovery that has been closed to further appropriations.
4. Holders of water rights who have agreed to return the water right to the custodial care of the state.
5. Situations where a local entity indicates its willingness to pay at least 20% of the negotiated purchase price of the water right.

I would note that the responsibility to designate certain areas as being in need of aquifer restoration and certain stream reaches as being in need of stream recovery is a complex one, due to the need for detailed understanding of the hydrology of each aquifer or stream system. No fiscal impact to the Division of Water Resources is anticipated in fiscal year 1989 because of the time lag in implementing the bill. Fiscal impact to the Division of Water Resources after fiscal year 1989 would depend on the number and complexity of aquifers and stream reaches to be designated for recovery.

The Division of Water Resources supports House Bill No. 2036 because we feel that this bill will provide a valuable tool to enable the State of Kansas to take some positive actions to alleviate either aquifer or stream depletions in various areas of the State of Kansas. Even if the legislature did not fund the cost-share provisions for fiscal year 1989, the bill would still provide the mechanism to allow the state to protect donated water rights.

Thank you Chairman Spaniol and Members of the Committee for this opportunity to appear. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Testimony to the
House Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Re: H.B. 2037

by the
Kansas Water Office

January 20, 1988

Re: H.B. 2037

Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Water Office again supports the passage of H.B. 2037 to implement recommendations contained in the Urban Flood Management Sub-section of the State Water Plan. The bill encourages flood prone communities to implement local floodplain regulations to reduce future flood damages. Failure of these communities to implement appropriate regulations would obligate them to reimburse the state for costs associated with state flood disaster assistance in the event of a flood. H.B. 2037 passed out of this committee favorably during the 1987 legislative session. The Kansas Water Office also provided testimony last year supporting this bill along with other agencies and organizations.

The Kansas Water Office notes that last year's fiscal note on H.B. 2037 will be modified to indicate that the bill will now be implemented with existing resources of the Division of Water Resources and the Kansas Water Office. The Kansas Water Office will utilize existing field staff to provide assistance to communities regarding floodplain management programs.

In summary, the Kansas Water Office supports this bill and urges favorable passage of H.B. 2037.

STATEMENT OF DAVID L. POPE
CHIEF ENGINEER-DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2037

January 20, 1988

Chairman Spaniol and Members of the Committee, I thank you for this opportunity to appear concerning House Bill No. 2037 relating to floodplain regulation.

Under Kansas law the Division of Water Resources is currently required to review and approve floodplain ordinances and regulations. The Division of Water Resources has also been designated by the Governor as the National Flood Insurance Coordinator for the State of Kansas.

In addition to the responsibilities for floodplain regulation and administration already assumed by the Division of Water Resources, House Bill No. 2037 would require the Division of Water Resources to notify flood prone cities or counties of their flood prone status, which would impact approximately 136 counties and cities. If the entity so notified failed to enact and enforce floodplain regulations within one year of notification by the Chief Engineer, then the entity would be required to reimburse the state for costs directly associated with flood disaster assistance provided by state agencies, as determined by the Adjutant General.

I believe House Bill No. 2037 would appear to provide a strong incentive for cities and counties to participate in the floodplain management program.

The notification of approximately 136 entities would not in itself be any

great burden on the Division of Water Resources staff, nor would it require any additional positions.

However, the phone calls from entities seeking assistance, informational meetings and review of floodplain ordinances and regulations proposed by the cities and counties would be extremely time consuming. Joe Harkins, Director of the Kansas Water Office, and I have discussed this matter and have come to the conclusion that the basin planners in the Kansas Water Office could assume most of this technical assistance role. If a mutually satisfactory arrangement can be worked out so that the basin planners in the Kansas Water Office can assume this assistance role, there will be no material fiscal impact if this bill is passed. Our office would assist with training for the Kansas Water Office staff and continue to perform the regulatory functions of the floodplain management program, such as the approval of locally adopted ordinances and regulations.

This is a significant change from our position last year when it was assumed that Division of Water Resources personnel would have to provide the technical assistance which would result from the provisions of House Bill No. 2037. The Division of Water Resources could not assume the extra burden of technical assistance for House Bill No. 2037 without additional staff. If Kansas Water Office personnel can assume the technical assistance required by House Bill No. 2037, the Division of Water Resources would foresee no material fiscal impact.

Thank you Chairman Spaniol for this opportunity to appear. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Testimony on
Senate Bill 117

by
Kansas Water Office

to the
House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

January 1988

Kansas Water Data Committee

-Formed in 1983

-Membership

- *Groundwater Management District Association
- *Kansas Biological Survey
- *Kansas Corporation Commission
- *Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- *Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
- *Kansas Geological Survey
- *Kansas Water Office
- *State Board of Agriculture
- *Soil Conservation Service
- *U.S. Geological Survey

-Purpose

- *Share data files
- *Coordinate data processing needs
- *Develop a Kansas Water Database that can be accessed by all water-related agencies/entities

-Progress

- *Several essential computer files of the Kansas Water Database have been developed and are utilized by water-related state and local entities.

-Current Emphasis

- *Development of a Water Resources Management Information System

Kansas Water Steering Committee

-Formed in 1987

-Membership (State Agency Heads)

- *Kansas Water Office
- *Division of Information Systems and Communication
- *Kansas Biological Survey
- *Kansas Corporation Commission
- *Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- *Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
- *Kansas Geological Survey
- *State Board of Agriculture
- *State Conservation Commission

-Purpose

- *Provide administrative and budgetary review of the Water Resources Management Information System
- *Provide administrative and budgetary review of comprehensive water research studies
- *Provide administrative oversight to major policy issues

-Progress

- *Approved the FY 1989 Kansas Water Database budget needs
- *Signed the Dakota Aquifer Study Memorandum of Understanding

-Current Emphasis

- *Concept of coordinated water management

Kansas Water Plan

Management Section

Sub-section: Monitoring, Data, Information System

**Kansas Water Office
109 S.W. Ninth, Suite 200
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1215
An Equal Opportunity Employer**

Pages 1-4

Introduction	2
Concepts	2
Policy Issue, Options and Recommendations	2
Options	2
Summary of Policy Recommendations	3
Plan Implementation	3
Legislative Action	3
Administrative Action	3
Financial Requirements	4
Time Schedule	4

FY 1988

***Approved
by the
Kansas Water Authority***

September 1986

MONITORING, DATA, INFORMATION SYSTEM

INTRODUCTION

State water agencies have a broad mandate for the collection and analysis of water resources data. K.S.A. 82a-941 states, "It is hereby declared to be a policy of the state of Kansas that all agencies of the state having responsibilities affecting the water resources of the state shall, insofar as circumstances permit, carry on basic data collection, research, and analyses concerning climate, streamflow, water quality, groundwater levels, character and geographical extent of groundwater reservoirs and their relation to both surface and underground waters, interrelation of surface and groundwaters, methods and techniques for recharging groundwater reservoirs, probable yields from surface and groundwater reservoirs, seepage and evapotranspiration losses, and such other matters that relate to the water resources of the state, and those agencies shall direct their attention to the problems of water distribution, quality, pollution, supply variability, floods, and supply in relation to demand." NOTE: The law does not specify how this all gets done.

The Kansas Water Office has a specific mandate (K.S.A. 74-2608), which directs the Kansas Water Office to collect and compile information on water resources and to do so by first collecting and compiling information obtainable from other agencies. Also state statutes call for "the review and coordination of financial assistance for research that may be provided by federal or state agencies to public corporations concerned with management, conservation and development of water resources to prevent duplication of effort" (K.S.A. 82a-928(14)).

CONCEPTS

The development and operation of coordinated data collection and compilation activities, geographic information systems and the monitoring of water quality and quantity parameters are the foundation upon which sound planning and management decisions can be made. Currently and historically, this foundation is built and remodeled in sections; i.e., each water-related agency exercises considerable control over those data-related programs that reside within their respective agency, with little input from or into other agencies. Present efforts to coordinate these types of activities in a formal manner is largely coordinated through the efforts of the Kansas Water Data Committee and their efforts have been primarily concentrated on the development of a Kansas Water Resources Database. This computerized water database will be accessible to all water-related agencies. This database will facilitate the production of maps and technical reports required by water management, regulatory,

planning and research agencies; however, additional planning, coordination and funding are needed.

The coordinated development of a basin-oriented Water Resources Management Information System can be enhanced by the creation of a multi-agency steering committee. The committee will be responsible for making major policy decisions and budget recommendations relative to the Water Resources Management Information System. This action will allow the Kansas Water Data Committee to focus on the technical issues necessary for meeting each agency's needs for basin planning, management, regulatory and research activities (Figure 1). The Water Resources Management Information System will include a geographic information system to provide map products in a timely and efficient manner and a water resources database that will be available for immediate access by agencies throughout the state. This process would also be comprehensive enough to include the evaluation of data collection and quality control procedures to ensure that the data collection system is complete and producing accurate data; as well as to assess the availability and need for regularly scheduled data/technical reports.

POLICY ISSUE, OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the preceding concepts, the policy issue is: Shall a process be determined whereby water-related agencies may jointly oversee the development and operation of a Water Resources Management Information System which would encompass a data collection and quality control review, Kansas Water Resources Database, geographic information system and a water research and technical/data report review?

OPTIONS

Two courses of action could be considered at this time:

1. *Water Information System Approach.*

The first option is to develop a process to coordinate the planning, implementation, operation and evaluation of a basin-oriented Water Resources Management Information System. This system will allow the water-related agencies to efficiently access the data collected by other agencies and produce the necessary management information, including technical reports and maps needed in order to enhance their regulatory, management, planning, research and decision-making procedures.

Conceptual Diagram of Water Resources Management Information System (WRMIS)

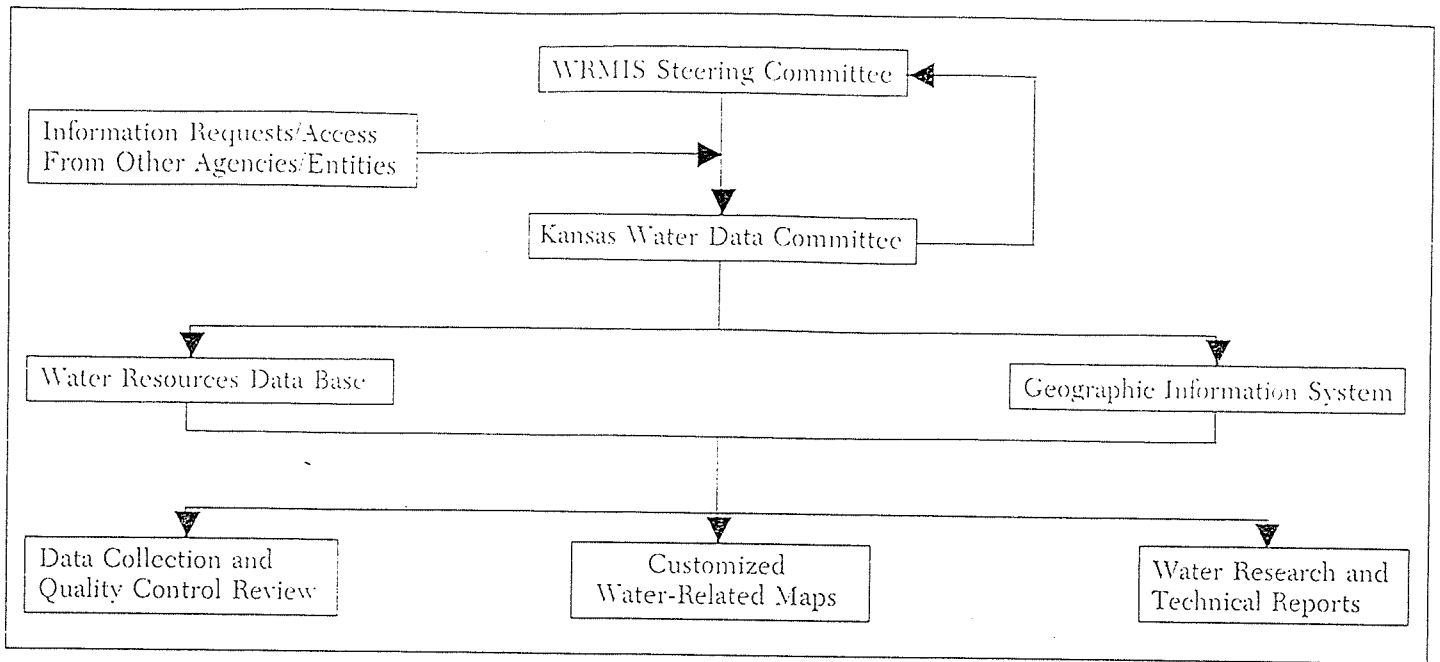


Figure 1

2. *Comprehensive Data/Information System Approach.*

The second option is to develop a process to coordinate the planning, implementation, operation and evaluation of a comprehensive data information system that would meet the data/information needs of all state agencies. This system will allow each state agency to efficiently access the data collected by other agencies and produce the necessary management information; including technical reports and maps needed in order to enhance their regulatory, management, planning, research and other decision-making procedures.

SUMMARY OF POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Option one is recommended. This option will allow water-related agencies to coordinate the timely development of a basin-oriented Water Resources Management Information System.

However, it is likely that the development and implementation of the Water Resources Management Information System could serve as a prototype for the development and implementation of a comprehensive data/information system. Hence the development of the Water Resources Management Information System should be done in such a manner as to facilitate the development of a comprehensive state data/information system.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The Legislature will need to revise K.S.A. 82a-941 and K.S.A. 74-2608 to specify the coordination needed to ensure that the collection, processing and analysis of water resources data will be done in a comprehensive, efficient and timely manner.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

A steering committee will be appointed by the Kansas Water Office consisting of agency directors from agencies such as: Division of Water Resources, State Board of Agriculture; Kansas Corporation Commission; Kansas Department of Health and Environment; Kansas Fish and Game Commission; Kansas Geological Survey; Kansas Applied Remote Sensing; State Conservation Commission and Kansas Water Office to direct the development, implementation and operation of the Water Resources Management Information System. The director of the Kansas Water Office will be designated as the chairperson of the steering committee. Any budget requests related to the information system will be brought to the committee for review and recommendation.

The Kansas Water Data Committee will serve as a technical support group for the steering committee and will be responsible for the coordination of technical issues and for bringing budgetary and policy matters to the steering committee's attention. The responsibilities and tasks assigned to the steering committee and to the Kansas Water Data Committee are outlined in Table 1.

Kansas Water Data Committee and Water Resources Management Information System
Steering Committee Functions

	Steering Committee Function	KWDC Function
A. Development and Implementation Tasks		
1. Identify each major component of a Water Resources Management Information System, such as: (a) data collection and quality control review, (b) water resources database, (c) geographic information system and (d) data/technical report review.	X	
2. Prepare a document detailing the tasks that need to be developed and/or implemented for each component of the Water Resources Management Information System.		X
3. Approve and/or suggest revisions in the above document.	X	
4. Prepare a document that provides recommendations and rationale for which specific agency or agencies will do each component of the Water Resources Management Information System.		X
5. Approve and/or revise the Kansas Water Data Committee document.	X	
6. Coordinate the preparation of agency budgets and timeframe for the development and implementation of the Water Resources Management Information System.		X
7. Approve and/or revise the proposed budgets and timeframes.	X	
B. Ongoing Tasks		
1. Monitor the Water Resources Management Information System to ensure that needed maintenance and enhancement activities are carried out.		X
2. Review all agency budgets that pertain to Water Resources Management Information System functions or potential functions and make recommendations to the appropriate legislative body.	X	

Table 1

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

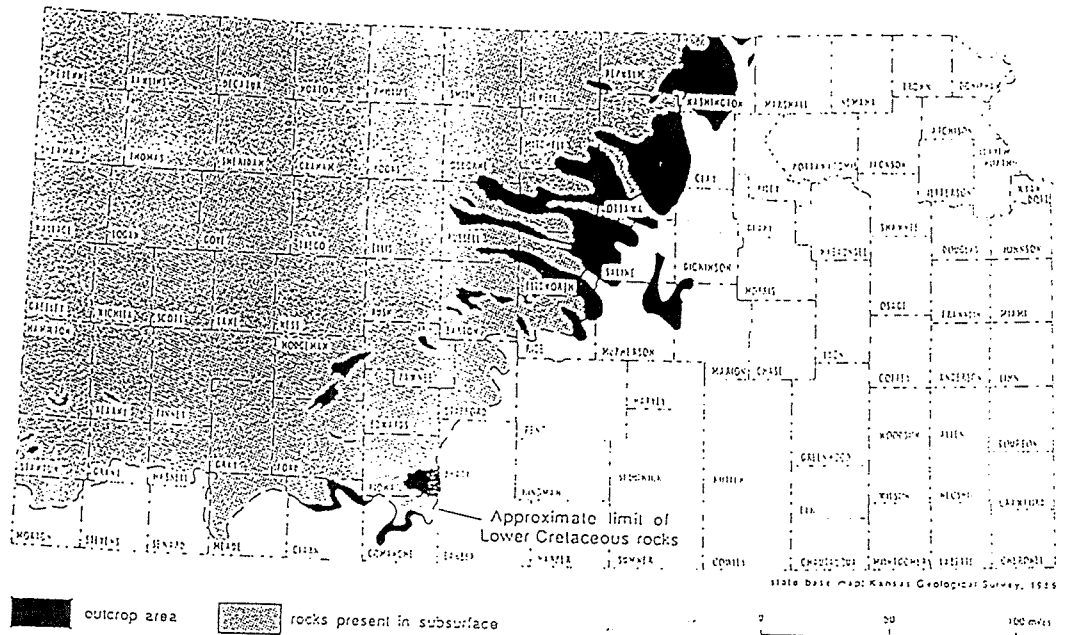
The Kansas Water Resources Database represents a major component of the Water Resources Management Information System. Based on FY 1988 budgetary estimates provided by the Department of Health and Environment, Division of Water Resources and the Kansas Geological Survey, \$234,448 is needed to develop and implement most of the computer files that are needed for the Kansas Water Resources Database and to enhance graphics capabilities that will be needed for the geographic information system. The additional financial requirements needed for implementing the Water Resources Management Information System will depend upon the major components

that are designated by the steering committee and the level of sophistication and type of access that are needed.

TIME SCHEDULE

Implementation of the Water Resources Management Information System will begin in FY 1987 upon the Kansas Water Office's appointment of the steering committee. Legislative action will be effective in FY 1988.

A schedule for implementing the Water Resources Management Information System will be prepared by the Kansas Water Data Committee and approved and/or modified by the steering committee.



The Water Resources Potential of the Dakota Aquifer

In the near future, depletion of the Ogallala Aquifer will cause a water shortage in western Kansas. The Dakota Aquifer, outlined on the map above, will be the next available source of water for this region; however insufficient information exists on the quantity and quality of Dakota water.

It is crucial to assess the potential effects of development in order to avoid depletions similar to those being experienced in the Ogallala. For this reason the Kansas Water Authority Annual Research Report identified the Dakota Aquifer as a highest priority research need.

A long term multi-agency plan of study to obtain this information on the Dakota Aquifer has been developed by the Kansas Geological Survey and incorporated in a Memorandum Of Understanding that has been signed by the nine agency heads on the Water Steering Committee and by the Groundwater Management District Association and the U.S. Geological Survey.

The multi-year study will require new appropriations of approximately \$3,000,000. A first year appropriation of \$165,428 is needed for the Kansas Geological Survey.

Date: November 30, 1987

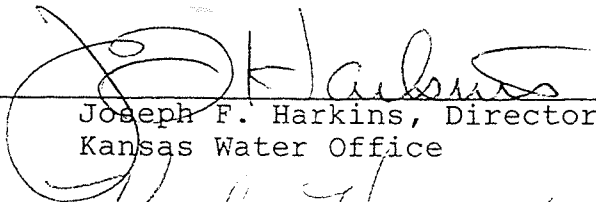
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
**THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, KANSAS WATER OFFICE,
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT,
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND PARKS,
KANSAS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS, KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
KANSAS BIOLOGICAL SURVEY, STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AND THE DIVISION OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND COMMUNICATIONS**
RELATED TO
DAKOTA AQUIFER STUDY

The intent of this agreement is to establish a basis for mutual understanding and cooperation between the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Kansas Water Office, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Kansas Geological Survey, U.S. Geological Survey, groundwater management districts, Kansas Corporation Commission, Kansas Biological Survey, State Conservation Commission and the Division of Information Systems and Communications for the purpose of conducting and coordinating a Dakota Aquifer Study to begin in FY 1989, and extend, depending upon a continued source of funding, through FY 2001. This study will utilize current knowledge from all relevant Dakota-related studies conducted prior to the enactment of this memorandum of understanding.

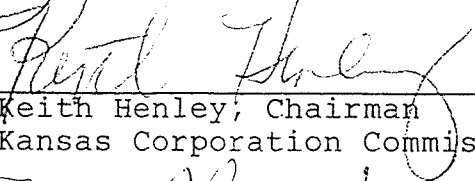
I. INTRODUCTION

More than 80 percent of the water used in Kansas comes from groundwater sources. However, some of the presently known and well defined major sources of groundwater (particularly the Ogallala Aquifer) are being depleted. In order to maintain and enhance the continued growth of the Kansas economy, it is essential that the state try to identify and develop additional sources of groundwater supply.

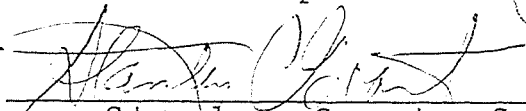
1 Dec 87
Date


Joseph F. Harkins, Director
Kansas Water Office

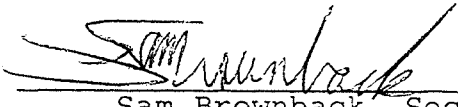
December 1, 1987
Date


Keith Henley, Chairman
Kansas Corporation Commission

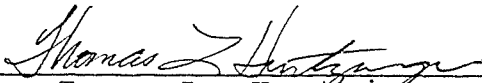
Dec. 1, 1987
Date


Stanley Grant, Secretary
Kansas Department of Health
and Environment

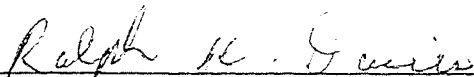
Dec. 2, 1987
Date


Sam Brownback, Secretary
Kansas State Board of
Agriculture

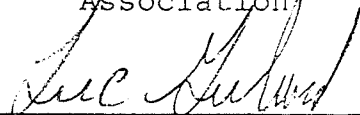
Dec 1, 1987
Date


Tom L. Huntzinger, Acting
District Chief, U.S. Geological
Survey

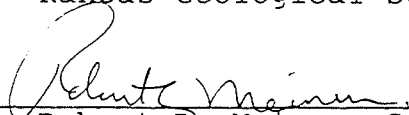
Dec 4, 1987
Date


Ralph K. Davis
Groundwater Management District
Association

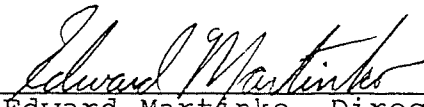
December 1, 1987
Date


Lee C. Gerhard, Director
Kansas Geological Survey

Dec 2/1987
Date


Robert E. Meinen, Secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife
and Parks

December 1, 1987
Date


Edward Martinko, Director
Kansas Biological Survey

12/2/87
Date

Kenneth F. Kern
Kenneth F. Kern, Exec. Director
State Conservation Commission

12-01-87
Date

Russell Getter
Russell Getter
Division of Information Systems
and Communication

Written
Testimony Presented to
House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
by
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Senate Bill 117

The Department of Health and Environment supports Senate Bill 117. The bill will put in place an official policy that is currently being carried out on an informal basis by the designated agencies.

It should be noted the development and operation of a multiagency Kansas water resources management information system will require additional resources if it is to be completed in a timely manner and with relatively complete, useful data.

The Department of Health and Environment has twenty data systems that are to be included in the Kansas Water Database; five were completed as of the end of SFY 87; two of these are no longer the responsibility of KDHE. At the current level of programmer staffing, it will take at least three years (and probably longer) to complete work on the remaining data systems.

Also, the department has data that should be made part of the water database but cannot be included because there is no environmental data specialist who could do the appropriate research and coding. Some of these data are historical and currently maintained in paper files; some are electronically stored but lack the proper identifiers so that they can be accessed through the database. Without additional staffing (an Environmental Technician II), these data will likely never be available in the Water Database. The consequence is that it will be difficult to do trend analysis for many sites and difficult to determine if there have been substantial changes in water quality over time.