

Approved Feb. 7, 1989
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND SMALL BUSINESS

The meeting was called to order by Representative Susan Roenbaugh at
Chairperson

9:07 a.m./~~pm~~ on January 26, 1989 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representatives Gross, Lacey, and Solbach;
also, Representatives Freeman, Heinemann, Rezac,
and Wells who were excused.

Committee staff present: Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes Office
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department
Marjorie Brownlee, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Barbara L. Moyer, Board of Directors, Kansas
Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom
Maureen Hall, Kansas Cooperative Council

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Susan Roenbaugh.

The Chairman acknowledged Barbara Moyer, a member of the Board of Directors of the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. She discussed in depth the program of the Foundation in presenting Ag in the Classroom. (Attachment 1)

Ms. Moyer included samples of some of the classroom suggestions which are furnished to teachers.

Maureen Hall presented testimony in lieu of Joe Lieber who was unable to be present due to a prior committment. (Attachment 2)

After a question and answer period between the conferees and Members of the Committee, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 9:57 a.m.

The next meeting of the Committee will be January 31, 1989, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 423-S.

STATEMENT

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND SMALL BUSINESS

Representative Susan Roenbaugh, Chairman

RE: Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom
January 26, 1989
Topeka, Kansas

BY: Barbara L. Moyer, Member
Board of Directors

Chairman Roenbaugh and members of the Committee:

We appreciate the opportunity to appear before you and review the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom program.

I am Barbara Moyer, a member of the Board of Directors and Past Chairman of the Foundation. I work for Kansas Farm Bureau. We regret that due to illness and another obligation our current Chairman, Mardelle Pringle who represents KLA and KS CattleWomen and Vice-Chairman Joe Lieber who represents KS Cooperative Council are unable to be here today.

It is a privilege to come before you to share the accomplishments of the Foundation and to inform those of you who are new to this committee what the Ag in the Classroom program is.

As a brief background, the United States Department of Agriculture introduced the Ag in the Classroom concept in 1982 and '83 at various regional meetings throughout the United States. The idea is to educate young people grades K-12 about agriculture, not by establishing a new, separate curriculum, but by offering supplemental materials that can be integrated into the existing disciplines of math, science, English, geography, economics, current events, social studies, art, music, etc.

The USDA intended for each state to establish a program, with the help of suggested guidelines, that would suit the individual state's needs. This effort would be coordinated through the USDA, but the program, specific goals and projects would be grassroot in nature and individualized according to the needs at the state and local levels.

A group of interested Kansans attended the first regional meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska in August 1982 and made a commitment to establish such an effort in Kansas. In December of 1982 a Kansas Task Force of 21 members was formed.

This initial group envisioned a plan for Kansas that would be solid, long range in nature, comprehensive and of high quality. It soon became apparent to the group that a task force would not be the best structure to accomplish these goals. After investigating several possibilities a not-for-profit foundation was chosen. On July 5, 1983, the Task Force became the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, registered with the Secretary of State. Kansas was the first state to have such a structure.

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ATTACHMENT 1

The two main purposes of the Foundation are:

1. to provide for Kansas students an understanding and appreciation of the food chain which is the foundation of human life and
2. to promote the well-being of agriculture as a necessary forerunner to the well-being of America.

The first three years the Foundation and Board of Directors met frequently to set goals and chart the course for the organization. The first major goal became reality when in June, 1984, eight teachers, a university professor and a journalist worked three weeks to write a curriculum guide for K-12 teachers. The same teachers pilot tested this guide during the 1984-85 school year and revised it in March of 1985. Integrating Agriculture into the Classroom, etc. (each teacher creates), was printed in May of 1985. A materials catalogue of resources was also printed to supplement the curriculum guide.

The major concepts included in the curriculum guide are:

- * Agriculture is the business that provides our food, clothing, and shelter.
- * Agriculture is interdependent with the well-being of society in Kansas, the United States and the world.
- * Agriculture is a vital, dynamic system shaped by research and development
- * Agriculture is influenced by government
- * Agriculture is interdependent with the environment and uses natural resources.
- * Agriculture is historically significant.

Other states have used our curriculum guide as a model and many states have used our articles of incorporation and bylaws to form foundations in their states.

The curriculum writing group and the members of the Foundation believed the guide should not be handed out without instruction, as it probably would be used very little that way. The first two weeks of June 1985 saw the second major goal of the Foundation come into being, a two-week summer course for graduate credit was held at Kansas State University to train teachers how to integrate agriculture into their classroom. Twenty teachers attended this first class and their excitement and enthusiasm were beyond our wildest dreams. Testimony from the teachers included such statements as, "This was by far the best in-service training I have ever attended in my tenure as a classroom teacher" and "You really made learning about agriculture fun".

Since that time we have added an additional class held in the Kansas City area. In the four years the classes have been offered, 88 teachers have completed the course.

Other accomplishments of the Foundation include:

- * Purchase of a professional display that has been used dozens of times to tell the Ag in the Classroom story at exhibits, meetings, trade shows, conferences and at Ag Day here in the Capitol.
- * The development of a State logo by modifying the National Ag in the Classroom to enclose it within the outline of the State of Kansas.
- * Over 130 Farm and Food Byte software computer ag programs for grade schools have been distributed in Kansas. The Foundation reviewed this software developed by an Iowa educational firm and had it revised and tailored made for Kansas.
- * A research project to assess the agricultural knowledge among Kansas 6th, 9th, and 12th grade students was completed. This was the first such study done and the results have been shared with other states at the National Ag in the Classroom meeting in Washington D.C. sponsored by the USDA.
- * Conducting three Ag-Citing Experiences at the Kansas State Fair reaching an estimated 5000 students.
- * Developing County Ag-Citing Experience Kits. About 35 have been distributed in Kansas.
- * Printing and distributing two newsletters twice yearly, one to teachers and one to interested volunteers.
- * Beginning an Adopt a Classroom program that now has 42 farm families corresponding with classrooms about their farm.
- * Being represented by at least one Foundation member at the National AIC meeting in Washington every year.
- * Several Foundation members have been on the program for the National meeting.
- * Assisting the Belles of the American Royal develop programming for students attending the American Royal.
- * A "Day on the Farm" how to kit is available

I would like to point out that these achievements have been made as a result of a very dedicated and hard working group of Foundation members and Board of Directors, including such distinguished members as your colleagues: Senator Don Montgomery, Senator Sheila Frahm, Senator Janis Lee, Representative Jo Ann Pottorff, and former Representative Jack Beauchamp.

Agriculture in the Classroom in Kansas is genuinely a team effort. The Foundation brings together representatives of agriculture, organizations and educational groups, legislators and educators and individuals who support the effort. The Foundation's members work together, putting aside their other differences, to strive toward a common goal--Educating children about agriculture.

And, let's not forget the many, many volunteers across the state who are not members of the Foundation, but participate in the programs and support it financially. Ag in the Classroom in Kansas truly is a grassroots effort.

In the beginning years all of the work of the Foundation was done by volunteers, but as more and more projects were added it became apparent if we wanted to maintain the standard of quality we would need some regular staff support. The College of Education at Kansas State University needed a halftime staff person to work with the Center for Rural Education and Small Schools. We were fortunate they agreed to share a staff person with us, allowing us to pay the part-time salary, but furnish us office space. Our staff person would also have access to computers, typewriters, the graphic arts services and other things the College of Education could provide to us at reasonable costs.

This has been a good arrangement and we recently hired our second "Administrator" after Fran Parmley resigned to move to Colorado. It is my pleasure to introduce our new Administrator, Becky Koch. Becky is not new to the Foundation. As a graduate student she conducted the study I mentioned earlier to assess students knowledge about agriculture. She also served as a member of the Foundation when she worked for the Kansas Wheat Commission. She is going to tell you about our accomplishments this past year and our plans for this year and the future.

1988 Financial Report

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

January 1, 1988 - December 31, 1988

Income

Donations	\$16,671.86
Sales of Materials (software, teaching units and curriculum guides)	433.00
Interest	640.60
Reimbursements	731.12
State Matching Grant	<u>28,107.25</u>
Total Income	<u>\$46,583.83</u>

Expenses

Summer Course (scholarships and expenses)	\$6,235.17
State Fair (supplies, travel and hired help)	1,613.53
Curriculum Development and Programs (newsletters, intern, travel and software)	2,718.33
Communications and Office Supplies (computer, phone and postage)	4,185.01
Salaries (administrator, office assistant, student help)	32,814.93
Bank Charges	80.80
Miscellaneous (meeting and chairman's expenses and reimbursements)	<u>2,461.89</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$50,109.66</u>

Ending Balance \$3,889.96

1988 Donations

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

\$1,000 or more	Kansas Beef Council Kansas Livestock Association Kansas Farm-City Council Dane Hansen Foundation Kansas Farm Bureau
\$500 - \$999	Kansas Agricultural Aviation Association
\$250 - \$499	Lane County Conservation District Jackson County Conservation District Wyandotte County Farm Bureau Finney County Conservation District Nemaha County Conservation District Cowley County Farm Bureau Kansas Agri-Women Stanton County Farm Bureau Reno County Farm Bureau Riley County Farm Bureau Sedgwick County Farm Bureau Shawnee County Conservation District Wyandotte County Conservation District Kansas WheatHearts Kansas CattleWomen Leavenworth County Farm Bureau Dillons Leavenworth County Farm Bureau Kansas Wheat Growers Research Foundation
\$100 - \$249	Jefferson County Farm Bureau Pottawatomie County Farm Bureau Dickinson County Conservation District Franklin County Farm Bureau Dickinson County Farm Bureau
\$10 - \$99	County Weed Directors Assn. of Kansas Miami County Farm Bureau James and Helen Cubit Richard and Nancy Spiegel American Royal Assn. AgPress Duane Lankard Janis Lee Barbara Moyer Kansas Extension Homemakers Council

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JOSEPH A. LIEBER
Executive Vice President

DATE: January 26, 1989

TO: Senate and House Agriculture Committees

FROM: Joe Lieber, Executive Vice President of the
Kansas Cooperative Council and
Vice Chairman of the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture
in the Classroom

RE: Ag in the Classroom

Members of the Committee:

I would like to express my personal support and the support of the Kansas Cooperative Council for the Kansas Ag in the Classroom program.

As a member of the Foundation for the past four and a half years I have seen the results of the efforts of the Foundation and its supporters.

You have heard reports on what the Foundation has done and is doing to teach the students of Kansas about its number one industry, agriculture. I think the Foundation has made great strides since its inception, and its future goals reflect a willingness to do more.

These results did not come easily but were accomplished by a lot of hard work and dedication by people interested in agriculture, including some of you in the Legislature.

I taught school for fourteen years and have a Masters Degree in Education as well as an Administrative Certificate, so I feel I know a little bit about education.

I've seen a lot of programs introduced into the schools of Kansas, but I don't know of any that has accomplished their goals as well as the Ag in the Classroom.

This is why I and the Kansas Cooperative Council feel the Foundation is worthwhile.

I sincerely hope that the Legislature continues to support this program.

Thank you.

Ag & SB
01-26-89