

Approved Thomas F. Walker  
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

The meeting was called to order by REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS F. WALKER at  
Chairperson

9:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1989 in room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman - Revisor  
Carolyn Rampey - Legislative Research  
Laura Howard - Legislative Research  
Jackie Breymeyer - Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Joe Harkins, Director, Kansas Water Office

The meeting of the House Governmental Organization Committee was called to order by Representative Thomas F. Walker, Chairman. He stated the minutes would stand approved if here were no corrections or additions at the end of the meeting.

Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research, stated that in her talk yesterday she had been mistaken in the physical location of some of the water offices. Mr. Harkins will tell the correct locations.

The Chairman introduced Mr. Harkins. Mr. Harkins distributed a handout that gave the eight agencies that have a major interest in the water resources of the state. (Attach. 1) He told the committee the physical location of the offices. He stated that each water related agency plays an important role in state government.

The states east of Kansas go by the Riparian Doctrine. This doctrine embodies the concept that water which flows across one's land belongs to the owner while it is there.

The western portion of the United States goes by the Appropriation Doctrine. Water that flows across an owners land belongs to the state. This concept was adopted by Kansas in 1945. Prior to this Kansas operated under the Riparian Doctrine. This is one of the most fundamental water principles.

Mr. Harkins spoke of vested water rights and the historical water usage of such water rights. He used the handout to go through each administrative unit. He explained how critical water is by saying. "Water is the bloodstream of Mother Earth."

Mr. Harkins drew twelve blocks on the chalkboard to demonstrate the process that policy issues run through on an annual cycle. Seventy-five percent of the work that goes through this process has been adopted by the Legislature.

Mr. Harkins was asked about the Basin Advisory Committee. He told how they work with the twelve hydrological units to resolve issues.

Mr. Harkins brought a scroll which outlined how each agency works independently of the other and how plans are implemented. Each year a plan is developed and brought forward. All the plans and processes go into one coordinated effort. Suggestions and proposals are all a part of the input process. It ends up as an integrated whole that the water people bring before the legislature each year. It entails their best cooperative effort. There is no one person with authority to pull everything together into one unit. This was not what the Legislature wanted. What it wanted was each unit negotiating and planning, and ultimately implementating, which is a complicated process. The many facts of budgets, proposals, manpower, efforts and priorities are of major concern. There is actually no mechanism that makes all the agencies work together. The plan does come out as an integrated whole which shows the work and cooperation of each agency.

Mr. Harkins showed the committee the three water books; the Water Plan, which is the blue book, Annual Implementation Plan, a green book, and Management Manual, which is a red book.

Mr. Harkins said that if each entity would be graded, there would be A's to C's. In reply to the question of does this way of doing things work well he replied that it was a good question. One needs a good perspective. The Chairman thanked Mr. Harkins and adjourned the meeting.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.





# WATER-RELATED AGENCIES

Fact Sheet No. 2

July 1988

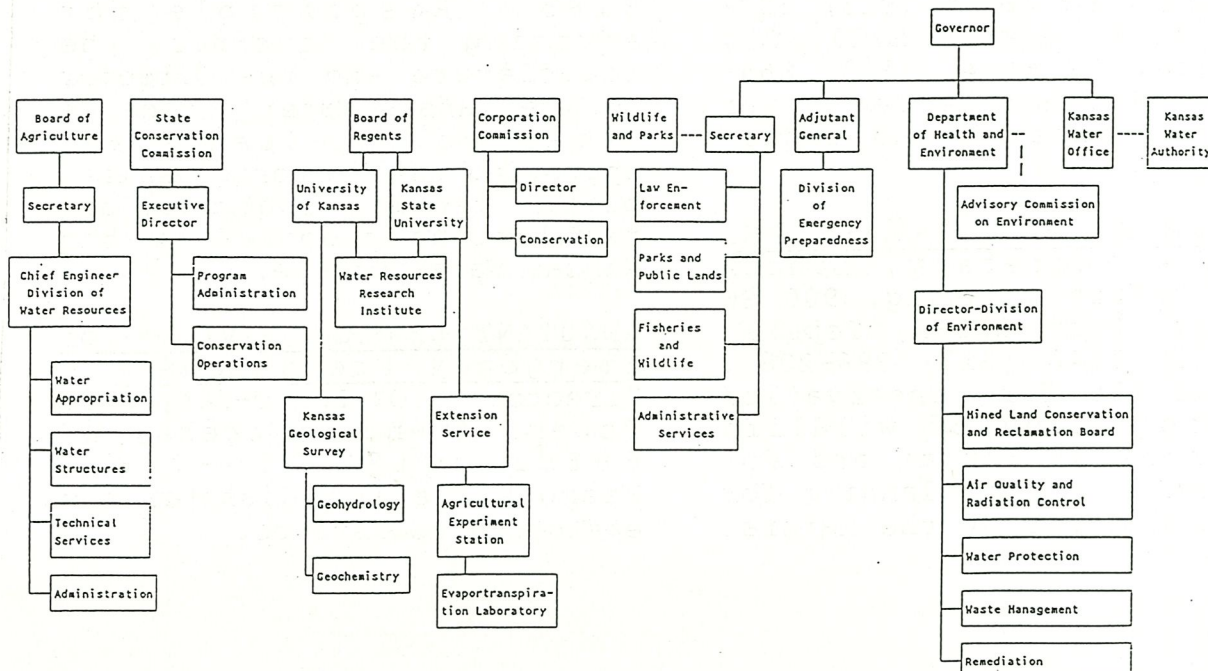
Kansas Water Office

Kansas has eight state agencies with a major interest in the water resources of the state. Those agencies are depicted in the following organizational chart. The names and addresses of each agency as well as the nature of business of each agency is listed on the back of this fact sheet.

In addition to the state agencies, there are over 500

special water districts in Kansas and over 2200 traditional local units of government (counties, cities, townships) all concerned in some way with water resource management. There are also a number of federal agencies involved with Kansas water resources. Further, Kansas is represented on several interstate or multistate water organizations.

ORGANIZATION OF WATER-RELATED STATE AGENCIES IN KANSAS



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#10.  
1/19/88

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE Division of Water Resources - Chief Engineer-Director, 109 S.W. 9th, Topeka, KS 66612 (913) 296-3717. Administers laws related to problems with the conservation and utilization of water resources in Kansas including laws regarding appropriation of water and water structures.

STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Executive Director, 109 S.W. 9th, Room 300, Topeka, KS 66612 (913) 296-3600. Responsible for three major state assistance programs: State Aid to Conservation Districts, Water Resources Cost-Share Program and State Assistance in Construction of Watershed Dams.

BOARD OF REGENTS Agricultural Experiment Station - Director, 113 Waters Hall, KSU, Manhattan, KS 66506 (913) 532-6147; Kansas Geological Survey - Director, 1930 Constant Ave., KU, Lawrence, KS 66045 (913) 864-3965; Extension Service - Director, Umberger Hall, KSU, Manhattan, KS 66506 (913) 562-5820; Kansas Water Resources Research Institute - Director, 14 Waters Hall, KSU, Manhattan, KS 66506 (913) 532-5729; 1039 Learned Hall, KU, Lawrence, KS 66045 (913) 864-3807. Responsible for water related research and education.

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND PARKS - Secretary, Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson, Room 502-N, Topeka, KS 67156-0548 (913) 296-2281. Responsible for conservation and protection of wildlife resources of Kansas and for conservation and planning for the development of the natural

resources of the state and to provide for their use and enjoyment.

KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION Conservation Division - Director, 202 W. 1st St., Wichita, KS 67202 (316) 263-3238. Regulates oil and gas drilling and production in Kansas.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT Division of Environment - Director, Building 740, Forbes Field, Topeka, KS 66620 (913) 862-9360. Regulatory body which deals with water, air and land pollution. Mined Land Conservation and Reclamation Board - Director, 107 W. 11th, Pittsburg, KS 66762 (316) 231-8540. Regulatory authority over Kansas coal mining and reclamation operations.

KANSAS WATER OFFICE - Director, 109 S.W. 9th, Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612 (913) 296-3185. The water planning, policy and coordination agency for the state.

KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY - Chairman, 109 S.W. 9th, Topeka, KS 66612 (913) 296-3185. Responsible for advising the Governor, the Legislature and the Director of the Kansas Water Office on water policy issues and approving water storage sales, plans, federal contracts and regulations proposed by the Kansas Water Office.

ADJUTANT GENERAL Division of Emergency Preparedness - Director, P.O. Box C-300, 2800 Topeka Avenue, Topeka, KS 66601 (913) 233-7560. Responsible for disaster and emergency assistance.