

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND SMALL BUSINESS

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

9:05 a.m./p.m. on February 1, 1990 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Jenkins, excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department
Pat Brunton, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Sam Brownback, Secretary, Kansas State Board of Agriculture
Gary Hall, President, Kansas State Board of Agriculture
Becky Koch, Administrator, Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom
Mardelle Pringle, Chairman, Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

Chairman Roenbaugh announced the appointment of a subcommittee to work on HB 2581, an act concerning worthless and insufficient checks. The Chairman of the subcommittee will be Representative Martha Jenkins with members Representative Bill Bryant and Representative John Solbach.

The Chairman introduced Sam Brownback, Secretary, Kansas State Board of Agriculture.

Secretary Brownback stated the highlight of Kansas agriculture in 1989 was a low point -- the drought. It was little surprise that in 1989, Kansas lost the title of being the "Wheat State." He further stated all was not gloom and doom in Kansas agriculture for 1989. Several very positive trends emerged as well. (Attachment I). Mr. Brownback furnished the committee with copies of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture 1988 Report. A copy of which is on file in Legislative Services, Room 511-S, State Capitol.

Gary Hall, President, Kansas State Board of Agriculture, gave a briefing on the future of agriculture. He stated the Board is very confident of the future of agriculture in this state. He reminded the committee of the importance of research.

Mardelle Pringle, Yates Center, reported on the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom and it's happenings for the year. She stated the foundation helps educate K-12 students by providing resources that integrate information about agriculture into the science, math, language arts, social studies and other classes already taught. (Attachment II).

Becky Koch, Administrator, Agriculture in the Classroom, stated she is very excited about 1990 and Ag in the Classroom. She further stated the foundation is expanding their programs. Questions and answers followed.

Representative Mollenkamp introduced a committee bill by request which is basically the old SB 93 - UCC Law. Representative Solbach moved to introduce this bill and Representative Amos seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Roenbaugh adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m. The next meeting of the committee will be February 6, 1990, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 423-S.

Statement on Kansas Agriculture

by

Gary Hall, President
Kansas State Board of Agriculture

and

Sam Brownback, Secretary
Kansas State Board of Agriculture

to the

House Agriculture and Small Business Committee

February 1, 1990

AG. & SB
2-1-90
ATTACHMENT I

The highlight of Kansas agriculture in 1989 was a low point - - the drought. That drought continued from 1988 into and through 1989. Even today it persists in some parts of the state. As if the drought wasn't enough trouble for the wheat crop, a warmer-than-normal January caused some wheat stands to break dormancy. Then a sub-zero Arctic blast hit in early February on a crop with no snow cover. That was followed by dust storms in March, and one of the driest Aprils on record. It just about did in the wheat. To add insult to injury, moderate to heavy rains in May caused unusually severe weed problems and delayed the start of harvest. It's a testimony to the resilience of wheat that it made any crop at all, given these disastrous conditions. The Kansas wheat crop in 1989 totaled only 213.6 million bushels. That was the lowest production since 1966 with an average crop yield of 24 bushels per acre, 10 bushels below 1988 and the lowest yield since 1967. Some 3.5 million acres of wheat were abandoned in Kansas in 1989. That amounted to 28% of the seeded crop and represented the highest percentage of abandonment since 1951. It was little surprise that in 1989 we lost the title of being the "Wheat State."

But wheat was not the only agricultural enterprise affected by drought. Pasture conditions deteriorated in the dry weather. Stock water levels were dangerously low and the cow herds of Kansas started moving. They went to available rental pasture, neighboring states and to the sale barn. The Kansas State Board of Agriculture, along with Kansas State University and the Kansas Farm Bureau, created a Hay and Forage Hotline. That toll-free line was swamped during the first half of the year with people calling for hay, forage and pasture. At one point, pasture listed for rent on the hot-line had a "life expectancy" of less than 30 minutes before a desperate farmer or rancher would rent it, frequently sight unseen.

Kansas State University estimated that the drought of 1989 would cost Kansas agriculture and associated industries \$1.61 billion. The impact of the drought of 1989 will continue to be felt during 1990 and beyond.

But all was not gloom and doom in Kansas agriculture for 1989. Several very positive trends emerged as well.

The Kansas Value Added Processing Center opened its doors as a resource center and commercialization unit to help Kansas do more value added agricultural processing. With its Director, Dr. Richard Hahn, we are off to a good start in building on what Kansas does best - agriculture.

Kansas also improved as an agricultural exporting state. In 1989 we moved from 6th to 4th as a state in the total value of our agricultural exports. We exported over \$2.3 billion worth of agricultural goods and led the nation in all categories associated with exports of wheat, wheat products and animal processed products. This trend bodes well for the future of Kansas but also makes us susceptible to the capriciousness of the international marketplace. Such is life in the global market.

That global market became very obvious to Kansas during this past year when 13 head of Kansas purebred bulls were exported for show and sale to Chihuahua, Mexico. This project, cosponsored by the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Kansas Livestock Association and the International Livestock and Meat Program, was a glowing success and has resulted in several groups of Mexican cattlemen coming to Kansas to purchase more purebred cattle.

Likewise, a Korean meat buying mission stopped in the state to purchase several million dollars worth of meat products. Due to recent openings for meat exports to the Asian marketplace, demand has increased rapidly for meat products from the US to Japan and South Korea.

A trend that continues to gather steam and support is one of broadening the marketplace for agricultural products. The State Board of Agriculture, has been heavily involved in pushing new, industrial uses of agricultural commodities. The Board has had a task force on the topic which reported to the 1989 Annual Meeting. We cosponsored a four-state conference in Kansas City and now are involved in a national conference cosponsored by more than twenty organizations to bring industrial uses to the forefront of agricultural policy and commercialization activity. We agree with a statement made by Edward Schone of MIT that, "The new idea either finds a champion or dies . . . no ordinary involvement with a new idea provides the energy required to cope with the indifference and resistance that major technological change provokes . . ." This area will require strong champions to come forward to make these new uses realities. Some of these new uses, such as soybean ink, ethanol fuel, and degradable plastics, have established a beachhead in the marketplace and will hopefully grow and prosper for the benefit of all agriculture.

A new crop came on the scene to Kansas agriculture in 1989. It is canola, a type of rapeseed that produces a very healthy oil presently desirable in the consumer marketplace. A change occurred in farm legislation allowing the planting of canola on base acres and a major grain company stepped forward offering to buy canola produced in Kansas. This caused several organizations to cosponsor meetings across the state about this new crop. It is uncertain how many acres have actually been planted but best guesses put it somewhere between 1,000 - 2,000 acres. Another relative new comer, white wheat, was grown and marketed in the state last year as well. As with anything new, it will be tough going, for these new crops but if they can get established to the benefit of the Kansas farmer it will be as Thomas Jefferson stated, "The greatest service which can be rendered any country is to add a useful plant to its culture; especially a bread grain; next in value to bread is oil."

And finally, a group pulled together to form Kansas Agricultural Leadership, Inc. a not-for-profit corporation designed to foster and develop agricultural leadership in Kansas. This program is modeled after programs existing in more than 20 states. Activities of this type must succeed if agriculture is to have the quality of leadership it needs to lead it into tomorrow. Farmers will, in all probability, continue to be a smaller and smaller percentage of the total population, thus it is imperative that we have high quality leadership pulling us together and articulating our opinions to a frequently disinterested public.

We are in a new decade, but before we leave the 80's, I think it fitting to ask how were they to Kansas agriculture? Each of us would have to respond individually to that question as no single simple answer could address how it was to all of us. I have some statistics on the 80's that suggest trends that developed during the decade. I will share those with you although they should perhaps be viewed as being used the same way a drunk uses a lamppost - more for support than illumination. I am aware that some people

have problems with statistics and would agree with Benjamin Disraeli, the famous British politician who once said, there are three kinds of lies; lies, damn lies and statistics. So take these for what they are worth.

One very important agricultural statistic changed wildly during the 80's and that was net farm income. We started the decade with a negative net farm income and during the same decade saw the highest net farm income in the history of Kansas agriculture.

During the decade our farm debt-to-asset ratios peaked in 1985 when we had 27 cents of debt for every dollar of assets and have since declined through to the end of the decade. This was due to a combination of farmers prudently reducing their debt, and their asset values appreciating during the last half of the decade.

Our mix of income from various agricultural operations changed during the decade. We started out getting roughly 40% of our cash receipts from the major commodity crops of wheat, sorghum, corn and soybeans and 55% from cattle and hogs. We ended up getting roughly 32% of our cash receipts from those same major grain commodities and over 60% from cattle and hogs, with the heavy preponderance of that in cattle. Indeed, in 1988 almost 58% of our cash receipts came from one agricultural enterprise, - - cattle. The big decline area in recent years has been the percent of cash receipts from wheat, declining to 16% in 1988. It started out the decade at 24.6%.

We increased our off-farm income in agriculture with it now accounting for over 15% of total farm income. The percentage of income coming from government payments increased during the decade but declined at the end. In 1988 we received 9% of our total farm income in the form of government payments.

The number of farms in Kansas held steady during the early part of the decade and then resumed falling. Over the period 1950 - 1989, the number of farms in Kansas has steadily declined.

The total acreage farmed remained roughly the same, thus the average size of farms during the decade increased and from the period 1950 - 1989, increased substantially. We end the decade with 69,000 farms and an average farm size of 694 acres.

And our share of the food dollar continued to erode as consumers demanded more and more processed products. In 1980 we received 37 cents of every food dollar. In 1987 we received 30 cents of every food dollar.

This is generally the condition of Kansas agriculture today. Board President Gary Hall will look to the future and then we would be happy to respond to questions.

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

1989 Annual Report

AG & SB
2-1-90
ATTACHMENT II

1989 Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

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Secretary
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Dr. Jerry Horn
Associate Dean
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Dr. Lee Droege Mueller
Commissioner
Kansas Dept. of Education
120 East 10th
Topeka, KS 66612

In 1989, the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom continued to carry out its major objectives:

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

The foundation helps educate K-12 students by providing resources that integrate information about agriculture into the science, math, language arts, social studies and other classes already taught.

This philosophy is gaining widespread acceptance and use in education as the interdisciplinary, whole language, holistic or integrated approach of teaching. Using this educational theory, all subject matters are taught around a common theme. For example, the topic of wheat can teach students plant growth, fractions, research and writing, geography, history, nutrition and much more. As one teacher said, "The students can't tell when one subject ends and another one begins since they all revolve around one topic."

The foundation works with teachers, volunteers, students and others to carry out six concepts.

Agriculture is ...

...the business that provides our food, clothing and shelter.

...interdependent with the well-being of society in Kansas, the United States and the world.

...a vital, dynamic system shaped by research and development.

...influenced by government.

...interdependent with the environment and uses natural resources.

...historically significant.

Kansas Foundation for
Agriculture in the Classroom
Bluemont 124, Kansas State University
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913 532-7946

Becky Vining Koch, Administrator
Susan Staggenborg, Office Assistant
(January - July)
Candace Plett and Jackie McClaskey,
Student Assistants (August to
present)

Summer Courses

In 1989, 45 teachers were enrolled in the Integrating Agriculture into the Classroom summer courses offered through Kansas State University.

The June 12-23 class based at the Farmland Industries Research Farm near Bonner Springs involved 21 teachers, primarily from the Kansas City area but from western Kansas, too. Highlights of their two weeks included field trips to the Kansas City Board of Trade, General Mills flour mill, Armour meat processing plant, Masson's Greenhouse, Agriculture Hall of Fame and Kreider's farm. They also heard speakers on topics ranging from insects to ag policy, nutrition resources to children's gardening and books about agriculture to soil conservation.

Teachers in the Kansas City class developed materials especially for the American Royal and Kansas Children's Museum plus individual projects that included Agri-Jeopardy, Sunflower Power, Develop an Environmentality, Pig Passion and Kansas Crops.

The Manhattan course involved 24 teachers July 5-14. To see agriculture firsthand, they visited the KSU greenhouses, meat lab, flour mill and veterinary medicine complex plus

the Kansas Artificial Breeding Service Unit, Dillon's supermarket, Johnson's cow/calf operation, Black Diamond Feedyard and the Mertz farm. The teachers also acted out forestry lessons, learned about Extension school enrichment programs, made omelets and heard about careers in agriculture.

The Manhattan teachers developed projects on topics such as Agriculture Art Projects, Wheat and the Mennonites, First Buffalo Now Cattle, Soybeans, Sheep in Literature, Reading Nutritional Labels and Farm Animals.

The classes also had sessions on creative teaching and integrating curriculum to learn how to best use their agricultural knowledge with students.

Each class had a scholarship luncheon where the teachers could interact with scholarship donors and foundation members. More than \$13,000 was donated by agricultural organizations, agribusinesses and foundations to make this course possible for the teachers. After the course, the teachers presented programs to their scholarship sponsors and in-service trainings to other educators.

State Fair Activities

More than 1,300 children completed the Ag-Citing Experience at the 1989 Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson September 8-17. The activity centered around a historical theme to focus on the current emphasis on Kansas history in education. The KFAC booth in the Pride of Kansas Building resembled a one-room school with teacher and student desks and a chalkboard backdrop. Students picked up activity pages appropriate to their grade

levels at the booth then found the answers to questions on the pages at other exhibits throughout the building. Each student who completed the experience reached into a wooden egg crate full of wheat to pull out a piece of paper that said what award they won. The awards were donated by Kansas ag organizations and From the Land of Kansas companies.

Teacher Resources

Spring and fall semester Ag-Citing News newsletters for teachers were published in 1989. These newsletters informed teachers of the many different resources available to help them integrate agriculture into their classes. The 1989 issues told educators about the foundation's Adopt a Classroom program, summer courses, Ag Week materials and teaching units plus where to get materials such as the Grow Your Own Tree kit, Coming to America unit, Food Science: Technology with Taste videoconference tape and Farm and Food Bytes software. These newsletters were mailed to the 1,500 teachers on the list who have made contact with the foundation plus all 1,025 K-12 school librarians in the state.

Agriculture in the Classroom Week

March 19-25, 1989, was declared Agriculture in the Classroom Week in Kansas by Gov. Mike Hayden. At the March 9 signing, Gov. Hayden read part of the proclamation that said, "Let March 19-25 be declared Agriculture in the Classroom Week in Kansas to honor the teachers and volunteers who are educating young people about our state's No. 1 industry -- agriculture."

The foundation also sponsored mini-classes to help children learn more about agriculture at the fair. More than 260 students on class field trips to the fair had lessons on wheat, beef and dairy. Some had the opportunity to pet a newborn Jersey calf, grind wheat into flour and see what beef cattle eat.

The Giant Cheeseburger and Getting to the Core demonstrations were presented on stage to illustrate to Pride of Kansas Building visitors how agriculture can be integrated into education.

Ag Week activities were developed by the foundation to assist teachers and volunteers in carrying out special projects to honor agriculture. These projects focused on

Real Dairy Foods

Wheat from Field to Food

Cattle are More than Meat

Getting to the Core: Our Earth's Soil

America the Beautiful with Plants

Grow Your Own Tree.

A display at the Capitol on Ag Day, March 20, explained the foundation's activities to others.

Adopt a Classroom

During the 1988-89 school year, 46 classes were paired with farm families through the Adopt a Classroom program. The farm families usually wrote once a month to tell the students what was happening on their farms and sent photos, magazine pictures, grain samples and activities for the children. In turn, the students often drew pictures of how they imagined the farm and wrote back to the family.

Forty Arkansas City fourth and fifth graders rode buses all the way to the Frank and Diane Arment farm near Athol to visit their adopted family's farm, take part in a community barbecue and camp out overnight at the school gym. Maurice Heiman of Baileyville took ducks and silage when he visited his adopted fourth graders in Marian Hedges' class at Country View in Winfield. Mary Dahl of Courtland took a six-week-old Charolais calf to visit the second graders in Marilyn Patten's class at Lowman Hill in Topeka, and the students named the calf Tony. A second grader in Jennifer O'Neil's class at Frankfort got to ride on a tractor for the first time when his class visited the Bill and Chris Pannbacker farm near Washington.

American Royal

With the American Royal director of education and a teacher's advisory committee member in the Kansas City summer course, the foundation had a support role in their development of classroom activities that go along with a videotape before students visit the Royal. At the AR teacher in-service training, the foundation's programs were explained for the Kansas City area teachers.

Annual Meeting

Two summer course teachers shared how they're integrating ag topics at the KFAC annual meeting November 13 at the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka. Kathy Atkinson, a second grade teacher at Turner Elementary in Kansas City, showed drawings and books from her students' Pig Passion

project. Lendi Bland displayed plants being grown in different soils by her Valley Falls sixth graders through their Take Root in Soil project.

Barbara Moyer was presented with the foundation's fourth Golden Apple award for her years of service, and financial donors were recognized for their contributions. Marilyn Patten and Marilyn Resnik, both teachers at Lowman Hill Elementary in Topeka, told about their students' experiences in Adopt a Classroom.

Partnerships in Agricultural Literacy was the theme of the national AITC meeting June 4-6 in Washington, D.C., attended by Pringle, Koch and board member Barbara Moyer. Again, group discussions helped the Kansans share successful ideas and pick up hints from other state programs.

Videoconferences

The foundation publicized U.S. Department of Agriculture videoconferences designed for students. In February, Food for the Future was broadcast live from EPCOT Center in Florida to show students hydroponics, integrated pest management and other modern agricultural practices. In December, Food Science: Technology with Taste was broadcast from a Campbell Soup plant in Texas to illustrate commercial food processing and the many food science careers.

Regional and National Activities

Chairman Mardelle Pringle and Administrator Becky Koch attended the midwest region AITC meeting May 3-5 in Bettendorf, Iowa. This gathering allowed volunteers and educators from the 12-state area to share ideas. The Kansans led roundtables about the Ag-Citing Experience and foundations and gained ideas about fund raising, working with textbook editors, science fair projects and many other topics.

1989 Presentations/Displays

Date	Event	Scope
January 10-11 26	Kansas Board of Agriculture Annual Meeting Kansas House and Senate Agriculture Committees	display
February 1	Kansas Center for Rural Initiatives	15
7	Committee of Kansas Farm Organizations	35
9	KBUF Radio	
20	Onaga Teacher In-Service	20
21	Agriculture Education Student Seminar	8
March 2	Kansas House and Senate Education Committees	
9	Kansas AgriWomen Annual Meeting	45
20	Agriculture Day -- Statehouse	display
22	Kansas Rural Water Assn. Annual Meeting	display
30	South Central Kansas AgriWomen	10
April 10-11	Kansas Staff Development Conference	display
May 2	Kansas FFA Ag Newswriting Contest	55
June 29	Wichita State University Environmental Education Class	65
July 20	Kansas FFA Camp	500
September 6	Pauline Co-op AgriWomen	40
19	Midday in Kansas on WIBW	
28	Kansas Grange Annual Meeting	75
October 10	KKSU Radio	
14	American Royal Teacher In-Service	55
26	Dickinson County Farm Bureau	260
27	Joint Agriculture Education Staff	6
30-31	Kansas Rural and Small Schools Conference	display
December 4	Kansas Farm Bureau Annual Meeting	display
	KFB County Women's Luncheon	125
5	Soil Conservation Area Information Expo	60
11	Kansas Association of School Boards	25
12	Kansas WheatHearts	70

1989 Financial Report

January 1, 1989 - December 31, 1989

Beginning Balance	\$3,889.96
Income	
Donations	\$23,643.00
Sales of Materials (software, teaching units, curriculum guides)	\$1,359.70
Miscellaneous (interest, reimbursements)	\$4,754.11
State Matching Grant (based on \$30,000 per fiscal year)	<u>\$34,602.00</u>
Total Income	\$64,358.81
Expenses	
Summer Course (scholarships, expenses)	\$11,203.35
State Fair (supplies, travel, hired help)	\$1,126.10
Curriculum Development (Farm and Food Bytes and color book purchases, curriculum guide printing, teaching unit review)	\$5,786.02
Communications (Zenith 286 computer and laserjet printer, newsletter printing, phone, postage)	\$7,453.45
Programs (travel for presentations, meeting registrations)	\$1,833.29
Office Supplies (copying, envelopes, letterhead)	\$1,024.11
Salaries (administrator, office assistant)	\$29,124.95
Miscellaneous (reimbursements, bank charges)	<u>\$1,348.39</u>
Total Expenses	\$58,899.66
Year-End Balance	\$9,349.11

1989 Donors

\$1,000 or more	Dane G. Hansen Foundation Kansas Farm Bureau Kansas Beef Council Kansas AgriWomen Kansas Livestock Association Kansas Pork Council Women
\$500 - \$999	Shawnee County Conservation District Kansas Sheep Association Johnson County Farm Bureau Kansas - National Education Association Farmland Industries Sen. Don Montgomery
\$250 - \$499	Riley County Farm Bureau Sharp Brothers Seed Company Lane County Conservation District Kansas Fertilizer and Chemical Association Reno County Farm Bureau Carbondale Grange Wyandotte County Conservation District Nemaha County Conservation District Kansas CattleWomen Servi-Tech Jackson County Conservation District Milton L. Morrison Stanton County Farm Bureau Jefferson County Farm Bureau Sedgwick County Farm Bureau Dillon's Stores -- Kroger Foundation Douglas County Farm Bureau Pratt County Farm Bureau Wyandotte County Farm Bureau Cargill Nutrena Feeds Merchants National Bank Kansas WheatHearts Neosho County Farm Bureau

\$100 - \$259

Blick's Agri-Farm Center
Gail and Mildred Sharp
Sen. Norma Daniels
Kansas Cooperative Council
Franklin County Farm Bureau
Dickinson County Farm Bureau
Franklin County Conservation District
Mobay Corporation
Pottawatomie County Farm Bureau
Leavenworth County Farm Bureau
Kansas Council of Chapters -- Soil Conservation Society of America

\$10 - \$99

Kansas Extension Homemakers Council
Sen. Don Sallee
Sen. Sheila Frahm
Don and Phyllis Rosenow
Steve Fisher
Rich Hager
Rep. Jo Ann Pottorff
Pauline Co-op AgriWomen
Nancy Howell
Cecil and pat Vining
Barbara Moyer
Lyn and Janis Lee
James and Helen Cubit

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