

Approved: 1-27-97  
Date

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Corbin at 10:00 a.m. on January 21, 1997 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department  
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes  
Lila McClafin, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Larry Froelich, Executive Director, Board of Pharmacy  
Dirk Hanson, DVM, Executive Director, Board of Veterinary Examiners  
George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner, Animal Health Department  
Dr. Marc A. Johnson, Dean and Director of Agriculture, Kansas State University, KSU  
Allie Devine, Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture  
Sally Nellor, Dairy Farmer, Gardner, Johnson County  
Marlyn Spare, Water Protection Association of Central Kansas (Water Pack), St. John, KS, Stafford County

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Corbin called on Larry Froelich to present their bill request.

Mr. Froelich presented a request concerning the dispensing and administering of drugs. Senator Clark moved to accept the request and the bill be introduced. The motion was seconded by Senator Morris. Motion carried.

Dirk Hanson requested a bill be introduced concerning veterinary practices; amending K.S.A. 47-816 and 47-826 and repeals the existing sections. Senator Clark moved to accept the request and the bill be introduced. The motion was seconded by Senator Karr. Motion carried.

George Teagarden presented a draft of a bill concerning public livestock markets; relating to injured, disabled or diseased animals. Senator Karr moved to accept the request and the bill be introduced. The motion was seconded by Senator Sallee. The motion carried.

Chairperson Corbin called on Dr. Johnson, Dean and Director of Agriculture, KSU, for a presentation on environmental quality research endeavors at KSU.

Dr. Johnson briefly reviewed KSU agricultural projects and impacts in promoting conservation and protecting the environment. He introduced the other participants that would be presenting information. He distributed an informal report titled **"Promoting Conservation and Protecting the Environment"**. This report is available in the Chairperson's office or in the office of the Legislative Research Department.

Secretary Devine reviewed projects that the Department of Agriculture and KSU are researching onsite to improve water quality through research and regulations. In her roll of oversight of pesticides it is important to posture agriculture to use pesticides and chemicals correctly and safely because they play an important roll in production.

Sally Nellor told how KSU had helped her and her husband develop a animal waste system for their farm. They worked with Joseph Harner to plan and design their system. Their farm is in the Hillsdale Lake watershed area that drains into the Hillsdale Lake and the system has been very successful in safe guarding the run off.

Marlyn Spare distributed a report in support of KSU extension serve and gave an overview of how their water pack has work with KSU to improved irrigation management and scheduling procedures by using current technology (Attachment 1).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE Room 423-S-Statehouse, at 10:00 a.m. on January 21, 1997.

Dr Johnson briefly responded to questions.

A motion was made by Senator Sallee to adopted the minutes of January 14 and 15. Motion was seconded by Senator Morris. The minutes were adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 1997.

# SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1/21/97

NAME	REPRESENTING
Steven Graham	KSU
LARRY FROELICH	Bd of Pharmacy
<del>Ellie Dumas</del>	Dept. of Ag
Marc Johnson	KSU
Sally Nelson	Dairy Farmer
Mike Beam	Ks. LUSTK. ASSN.
Tom Allen	Seaboard
Nirk Houson	Ks Bd of VET ETAM
Gary Reser	Ks. VET. MEDICAL ASSN.
George Teagarden	KAHB
Marty Vanier	KAA
Tim Stroda	Ks Pork Producers Council
Gene & Blochberg	AMPI
Charles Benjamin	KWBC / Sierra Club - KS
Kerri Ebert	Ks Dairy Association
Dorenda Mitchell	Dept. of Agriculture
SUE PETERSON	K-State
John M Jackson	Water Protection Assoc. of Central Kansas
MARLYN SPARE	WATER PROTECTION ASS. of Central Kansas

JOHN FEDERICO

Pete McGill + Assoc.



**A REPORT TO THE  
KANSAS LEGISLATURE'S  
AGRICULTURE COMMITTEES**

**IN SUPPORT OF  
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
AND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE**

**BY**

**WATER PROTECTION ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL KANSAS  
(WATER PACK)**

**JANUARY 1997**

*Senate Ag Co  
1-21-97  
Attachment 1*

## Water PACK Overview

Water PACK, formed in 1990, is an organization of about 500 agricultural producers and businesses. The founding principle of Water PACK is activism. The need for a pro-active voice for irrigated agriculture was the catalyst for the formation of the organization.

### MISSION:

To promote, foster, and encourage the beneficial, economical and sustainable use of quality water.

### OBJECTIVES:

- educate our members and the general public about the management of sustainable irrigated agriculture and the long term benefits to our society
- develop and maintain relationships with government and non-government organizations at all levels to promote the wise use and conservation of our water resource
- develop our membership to enhance our pro-active approach and maintain an effective organization in Kansas and the nation
- develop and implement projects that complement our mission

Water PACK is a pro-active voice for irrigated agriculture and takes an active role in water issues and works with other groups and government agencies to develop water policy. Water PACK is a partner with the Division of Water Resources, Groundwater Management District #5 and US

Fish and Wildlife Service in the Quivira/ Rattlesnake Basin Partnership. The Partnership's goal is to address water resource concerns and develop management strategies for the Rattlesnake basin.

The Quivira Coalition, of which Water PACK is a lead member, consists of other agricultural organizations, municipalities and environmental groups. The Coalition was successful in obtaining federal funds for Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. The funds will be used by US Fish and Wildlife Service to study ways to improve water management on the refuge.

### **Economic Impact**

In South Central Kansas there are more than 758,800 acres of irrigated crops. These crops use \$159,830,000 worth of inputs and create \$280,659,000 worth of income from production. In addition to crops, this area has \$367,815,000 in livestock production. As you can see, this area has a substantial impact on the economy of Kansas.

### **South Central Kansas Irrigation Scheduling and Water Management Demonstration Project**

The Project is a five year cooperative effort between Kansas State University (K-State) Research and Extension and Water PACK. The goal of this project is to increase the understanding,

adoption, and use of improved irrigation management and scheduling procedures by using current technology and climatic forecasting with field feedback of crop growth, soil moisture, applied water, and rainfall. The research is on target for this specific area of Kansas. We are intermediate in rainfall with wetter conditions to the east and dryer conditions to the west. Unique in Kansas, this area has predominately sandy soils with high infiltration rates. With proper management, our water resource is totally renewable.

## **Outreach**

K-State Research and Extension professionals will direct and conduct field demonstrations and applied research of irrigation scheduling and water management practices in cooperation with Water PACK members on demonstration farm sites located in South Central Kansas.

Cooperator/farm demonstration sites, selected in each of the 13 representative Water PACK counties, will be used for the duration of the project. Each site is located near a paved road and is identified with a large sign that lists the project title, the cooperators, the project sponsors and current irrigation scheduling information. Each demonstration site will receive an overall system evaluation and weekly visits for system and field/crop measurements. The fields will be open to peripheral visits throughout the summer with more detailed field tours and project updates scheduled each August. Annual winter seminars of education programs and project updates will also be held throughout the project region.

## **Results**

By the end of the project, substantial numbers of South Central Kansas farmers and crop consultants will be aware of the benefits of irrigation scheduling and field water management including: water and energy conservation, sustainability of water resources, reduced chemical usage, reduced equipment maintenance and wear, and enhanced crop growth and development. It is also expected that these individuals will know how to access and use the regional weather station network to obtain real-time weather data for irrigation scheduling purposes. This project should also result in a greater public awareness of resource stewardship by area farmers. The cooperative effort between KSU and Water PACK requires technical support from KSU and funding from Water PACK. This funding will cost about \$600,000 during the next five years, most of which will come from the private sector.

## **Conclusion**

Thank you for your support of K-State Research and Extension. This project is a totally cooperative effort between KSU, Water PACK and other public and private organizations with comprehensive water conservation and economic growth objectives. Water PACK and I, as a producer of crops and livestock, thank you and appreciate Kansas legislative funding of Kansas State University's Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service programs.

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“When the well's dry, we know the worth of water.”

-- Benjamin Franklin