

Approved: 1-28-98  
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Corbin at 8:10 a.m. on January 27, 1998 in Room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Jerry Karr

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department  
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes  
Lila McClafflin, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:  
Richard Wenstrom, President, Water Protection Agency of Central Kansas

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson David Corbin called for approval of the minutes of January 22 and 23. Senator Tyson with a second from Senator Huelskamp moved to approve the minutes of January 22 and 23. The motion carried.

Senator Tyson presented a request for the introduction of a bill that would make any compensation received by the Department of Wildlife and Parks, whether monetary, in-kind or otherwise, from leases of real property under the control and jurisdiction of the Secretary, that it must be accounted for and this be reflected in their budget. Senator Tyson with a second from Senator Huelskamp moved to have the bill be introduced as a committee bill. The motion carried.

Chairperson Corbin called on Richard Wenstrom, President, Water Protection Agency of Central Kansas for a presentation on their Water Pack.

Richard Wenstrom introduced their board members that were present. He said their role before the Committee was for information purposes, and to avail themselves for a resource. He said their association was formed in 1990. It was formed to be a pro-active voice for irrigated agriculture. Their association has taken an active role in water issues and has worked with other groups and government agencies to develop water policy (Attachment 1). He also, handout a copy of their publication Water Pack News and a bulletin Water Pack, Water Protection Association of Central Kansas. These publications can be viewed in the office of the Chairperson.

Mr. Wenstrom responded to questions regarding the Quiveria National Wildlife Refuge. Responding to other questions he said they have worked with their members to upgrade their water delivery packages on their irrigation systems and also, to educate their members on ways to preserve water. He estimated on his farming operation his water savings were about ten percent per year. He said all members of the Pack were farmers who raise irrigated crops.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 1998.

## SENATE ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-27-98

NAME	REPRESENTING
Laurie Ann Brown	KS Govt Consult
Randy Nusz	Water PACK
Roger Stotts	Water PACK
RICHARD WENSTROM	Water PACK
Steven Graham	K-State
HeAnn Schmitt	legislative Div. of Post Audit
Alan Steppart	Pete Mcbill & Associates
Steve Maechtlen	Water Pack
Kent L. Moore	Water Pack
Lee Masenthin	KDOC & H
Jean Barber	Mainage District
Walter Holman	Western Resources
Gordon Schmidt	Water Pack
John M. Jackson	" "



**A REPORT TO THE  
KANSAS LEGISLATURE,  
AGENCIES AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS**

**BY**

**WATER PROTECTION ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL KANSAS**

**JANUARY 1998**

Senate Energy & Natural Resources

Attachment: /

Date: 1-27-98

## **Overview**

Water Protection Association of Central Kansas, formed in 1990, is an organization of about 500 agricultural producers and businesses. 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 Protection Association of Central Kansas 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.

**Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resources  
Subbasin Water Resources Management Program (SWRMP)  
Middle Arkansas River Project**

This program is designed to address water resources issues that have been identified in the State Water Plan. The SWRMP began in 1993 in the Rattlesnake Creek Subbasin, the first of 12 subbasins selected for this program. Currently, the SWRMP is active in 8 of those subbasins in central and western Kansas. We are 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. Three SWRMP projects are in the Water PACK area; Rattlesnake Creek, Pawnee-Buckner and Middle Arkansas Subbasins. The Quivira Coalition, of which our organization 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 Protection Association of Central Kansas. 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.

\*\*\*\*\*

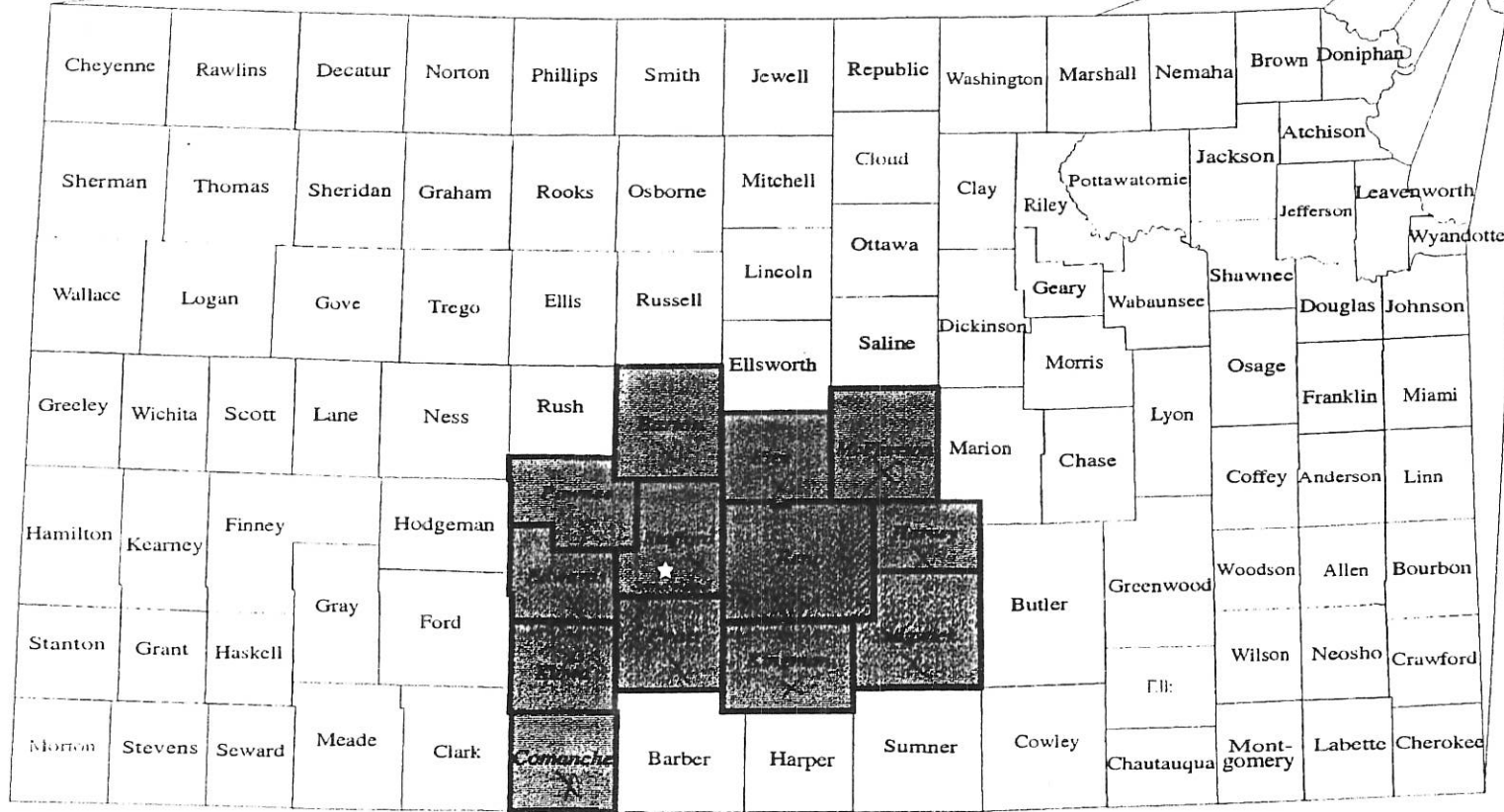
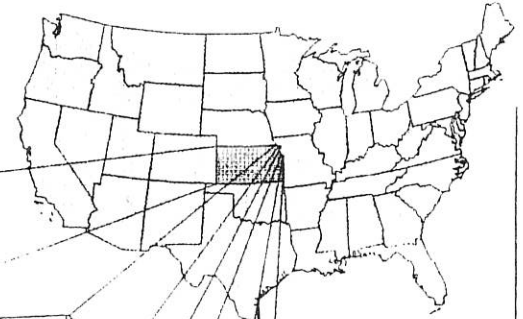
Water Protection Association of Central Kansas is an educational organization with a focus on irrigation and water management. We would welcome the opportunity to share our knowledge and experience with those making policy decisions effecting water users throughout Kansas.

\*\*\*\*\*

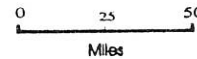
“When the well’s dry, we know the worth of water.”

-- Benjamin Franklin

# Kansas State University Water Protection Association of Central Kansas Irrigation Water Management Project



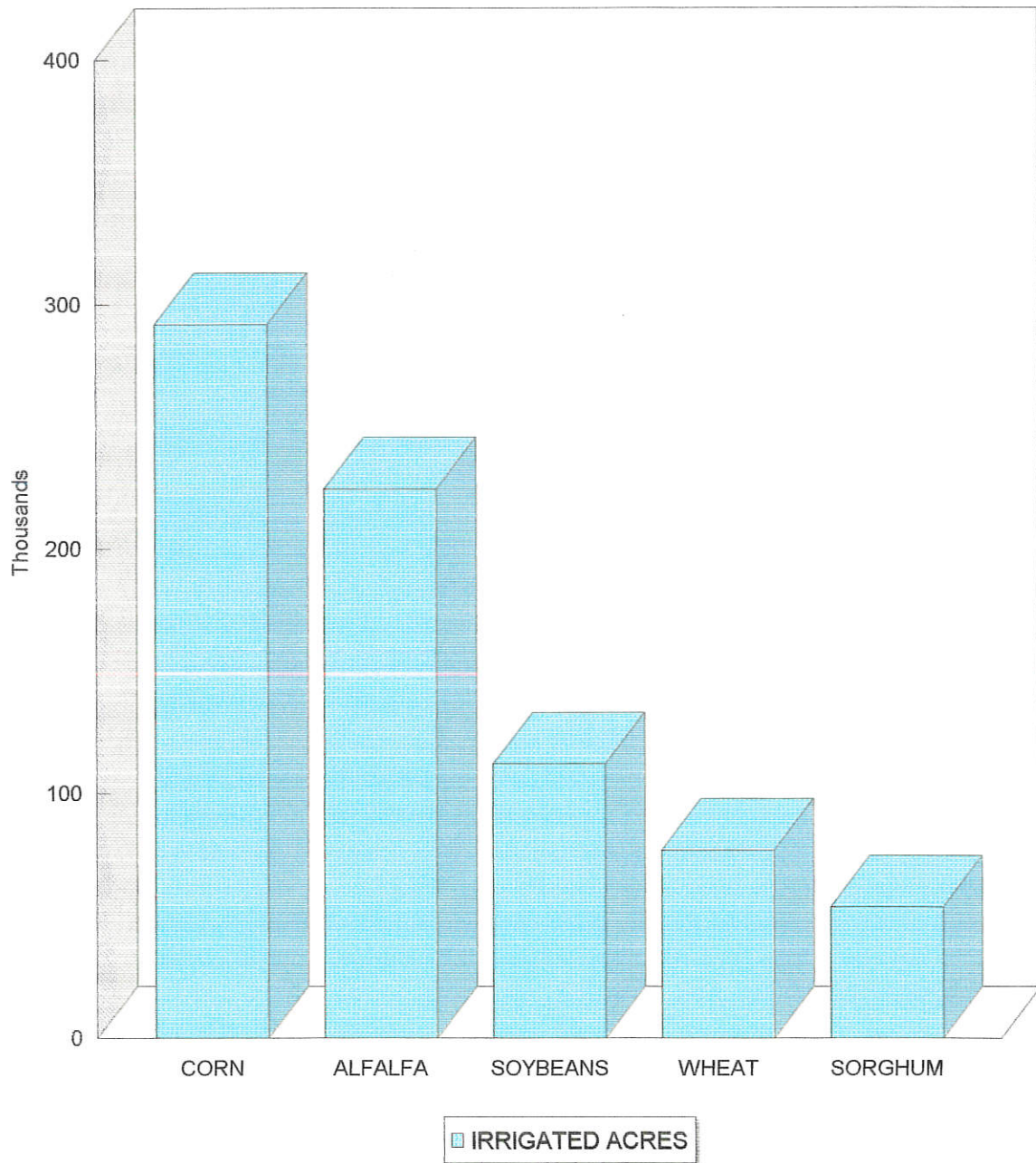
Primary Counties Benefiting from Sandyland



1-5

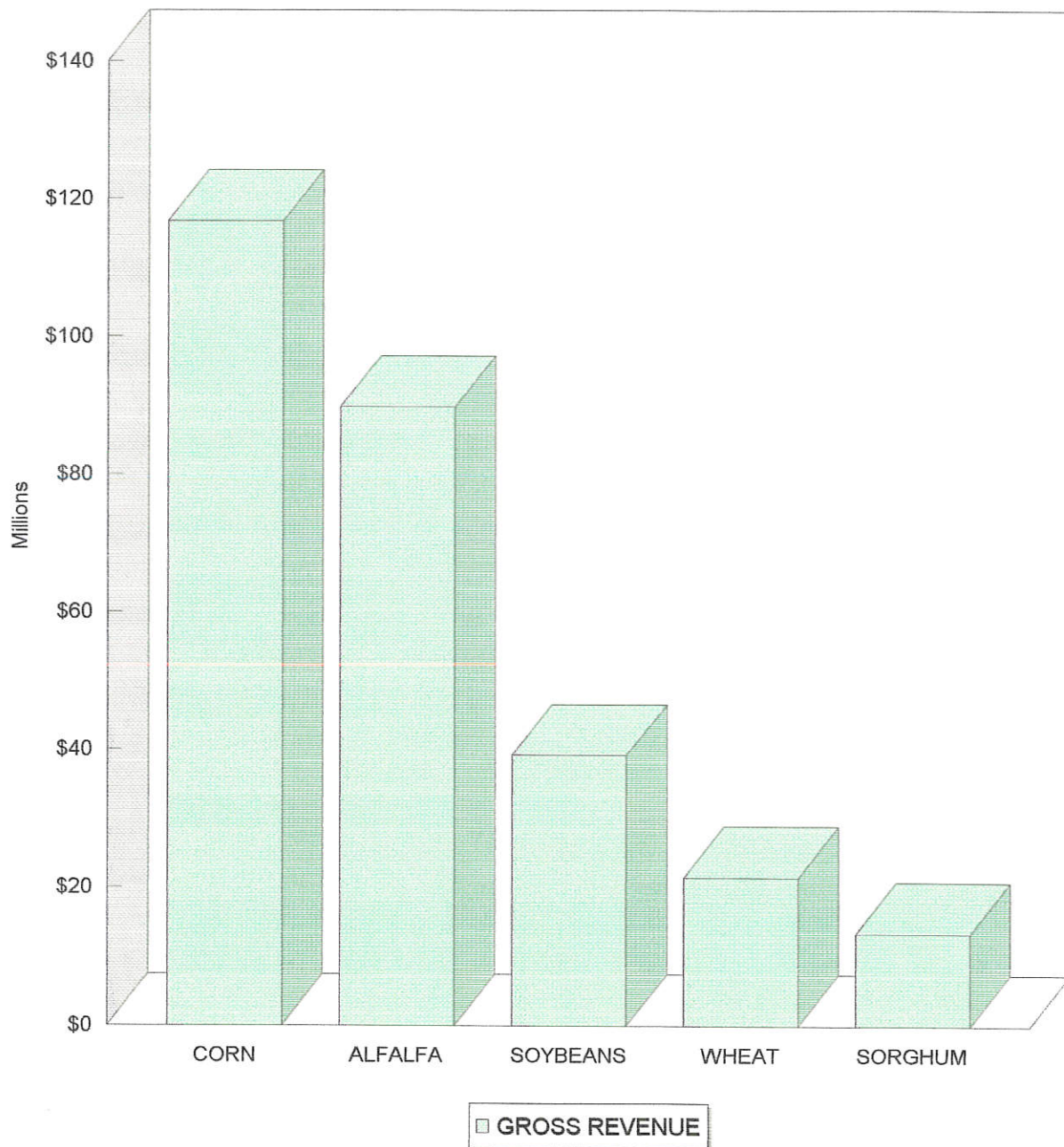
1-5

# IRRIGATED ACRES IN THE WATERPACK AREA





# IRRIGATION - GROSS REVENUE



# MAJOR EXPENSES IN THE WATERPACK AREA

