

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Powell at 3:30 p.m. on January 13, 2010, in Room 783 Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representatives Meier - Excused  
Representative Navinsky - Excused

Committee staff present:

Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research  
Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research  
Jason Thompson, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Daniel Yoza, Revisor of Statutes Office  
Pat Matzek, Administrative Assistant

The Committee Rules and Information for Conferees for 2010 were distributed to all members and staff for their review (Attachments 1 and 2). They were adopted without objection.

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dr. Fred Cholick, Dean of Agriculture and Director of Kansas State University Research and Extension.

Others attending:

See attached list.

Dr. Fred Cholick, Dean of Agriculture and Director of Kansas State University Research and Extension, distributed copies of *An Informal Report to the Kansas Legislature, dated January 2010* (available on its website at [www.ksre.ksu.edu](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu)). Dr. Cholick spoke on several main topics from the Report:

- **Kansas PRIDE Program** - During the 2008-2009 program year, Kansas PRIDE volunteers raised over \$900,000 and partnered with 644 other organizations to complete 1,216 community improvement projects. Volunteers invested over 85,000 hours.
- **4-H Citizenship in Action Conference** - The two-day study in government introduces youth to the legislative process. The 2009 conference delegates were asked to research and consider three current legislative issues; loss of revenue and subsequent budget crunch, energy, including the development of coal-fired plants, and proposed age changes in driver's licensing.
- **Tribune-Area Producers Endorse Research Efforts** - Residents near Tribune who grow dryland wheat, corn and sorghum, rely on agronomist Alan Schlegel at the Tribune unit of K-State's southwest Research-Extension Center for research-based information they can use to be more profitable as farmers are always searching for new practices to increase their profits.
- **New Partnership Supports Military Families** - In 2009, K-State Research and Extension opened an office on Fort Riley to help military families. The new office is staffed with agents to conduct programs in four essential life skills; family life, child development, family resource management, and nutrition and health.
- **Biofuels Research Has "Great Potential" for Kansas** - Scott Staggenborg, a K-State agronomist, is working with a team of scientists to study the potential of sorghums and perennial grasses to produce biomass. Biomass refers to the organic matters produced by the plants, which can then be converted to fuels such as ethanol, biodiesel, or methanol.
- **Budget and Districting** - The budget is \$6.5 million less for K-State Research Extension of state general funds from last year. In addition, there are 22 less faculty, 9 less agents plus 16 agent positions open, 50 less classified system personnel and \$1.4 million less of operational budget. In an effort to increase efficiency and effectiveness, 25 counties have formed nine district.

At the conclusion of the presentation, questions were asked and comments were made by members of the Committee.

Chairman Powell made a motion to introduce two bills; one relating to deer hunting permits, and one concerning prairie rattlesnakes. Representative Fund seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.



COMMITTEE RULES  
2010  
KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON AG & NATURAL RESOURCES

The purpose of these rules is to facilitate the understanding of members of the Committee and the public in reviewing the flow of legislation through this committee. Unless stated to the contrary herein, the rules of the House or Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure will apply.

PROTOCOL OF MEETING & COMMITTEE INFORMATION

1. Items listed on the agenda shall be brought before the committee as announced by the chair. However, the chair may bring to discussion, and possible vote any bills previously heard at any time. Any listed item on the agenda may be removed, at any time by the chair.
2. Original motions shall be in order when a bill is pending for consideration. A motion requires a second to be in order. A substitute motion will not be allowed. Amendments to motions are not in order unless approved by the Chair.
3. An amendment to a bill must be "germane" to the area of law that is being proposed or changed. Since committees serve the purpose of examining issues for which there may be multiple solutions or approaches, "germaneness" will be interpreted as broadly as possible. Only the Chair shall determine if an amendment is "germane".
4. The question of adjournment shall be reserved to the Chair and no motion to adjourn shall be entertained.
5. A motion to "table a bill" shall be in order at any time a bill is taken up by the chair for discussion. The motion to "table a bill" is non-debatable and requires a majority vote of members present to pass. A successful motion to "table a bill" shall lay the bill over a minimum of one day. The Chair may refuse to accept a motion to table a bill or move a bill out of committee.
6. A motion to "take from the table" shall be in order only when such item is on the agenda or is taken up by the Chair. The motion requires a simple majority and is non-debatable, unless debate is approved by the chair.
7. A motion to report a bill "without recommendation" shall not be in order.

Ag & Natural Resources Committee  
Date 2-2-10  
Attachment 1

8. A motion to reconsider a previous successful motion shall only be made by a member voting on the prevailing side of the original motion. A simple majority vote of members present shall be required to reconsider a previous successful motion.
9. A motion to report a bill out of committee shall not be in order until all amendments, which have been prepared by the Revisor of Statutes office reported to the chairman in advance of the meeting, have been considered.
10. No conferee shall be interrupted, except by the chair, during presentation of their testimony.
11. Questioning of a conferee shall be limited to the subject matter on the agenda for the day unless approved by the Chair. If the questioning of a conferee by a committee member goes beyond "reasonableness", the chair may discontinue the committee member's questioning of that conferee.
12. There shall be no recorded committee votes on committee action. Any committee member may request their individual vote be recorded on a bill.
13. The Chair shall set the Committee Agenda, including scheduling and the order of business.
14. All requests for committee bills shall only be made by committee members or state agencies.
15. All seating will be assigned by the Chair.
16. Granting of excused absences is reserved to the chair. Prior notification of absences shall be communicated to the committee assistant, Pat Matzek (296-7694). Any absence by a member not requesting an excused absence, shall be an unexcused absence and recorded as such by the committee assistant unless the Chair makes an exception.
17. All cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices, in the committee room shall be in "silent" mode and use of cell phones in the committee room will not be permitted. The owner of any cell phone that rings during a committee meeting shall provide apples or oranges for all committee members and staff. (21)
18. Photography, including cell phones, video, and audio taping is prohibited unless approved in advance by the Chair.
19. All powers, duties and responsibilities not addressed above are reserved to the Chair.

INFORMATION FOR CONFEREES  
2010  
KANSAS HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

1. When time is separately reserved on the agenda for proponents and opponents of an issue and the time expires for either side, the testimony shall cease. Conferee's time limit will be determined by the number of conferees and order of business. The chairman may make exceptions for the original sponsor of a bill, Legislative Staff, and State Agency Personnel. Conferees will be recognized in the order as established by the committee chairman. No conferee will be allowed to "yield" their time to another conferee.
2. All conferees are requested to submit a one page summary of testimony. (More lengthy written testimony may be submitted in addition to the one page summary.)
3. All conferees shall have written testimony and shall provide 22 copies to the committee secretary at the time of appearance. If a one page summary and written testimony are both presented, then 30 copies of each **shall** be required.
4. All conferees whose testimony extends more than one page or five minutes **shall** expect their time to be shortened by the chair, if necessary, to expedite the meeting. Exceptions will be allowed for the original sponsor of a bill, staff briefings, and state agency briefings.
5. At the option of the chair, all who are scheduled to testify on a bill may be required to submit written testimony 24 hours in advance of the hearing for distribution to committee members.
6. Anyone wishing to testify before the Committee **shall** contact the Committee Assistant, Pat Matzek at 785-296-7694, a minimum of 24 hours before the meeting.
7. All cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices, in the committee room **shall** be in "silent" mode and use of cell phones in the committee room will not be permitted. The owner of any cell phone that rings during a committee meeting shall provide apples or oranges for all committee members and staff. (26) **NO TEXTING!** If you want to text, please leave the room.
8. No food or drinks will be allowed in the committee room by guests, spectators or conferees.
9. Any non-committee attendee who sends signals to committee members shall be removed from the committee meeting for the rest of the legislative year.
10. Photography (including cell phones), video recording, audio recording or transmitting of proceedings, and is prohibited unless approved in advance by the Chair.
11. All requests for committee bills shall only be made by committee members or state agencies.

Ag & Natural Resources Committee  
Date 2-2-10  
Attachment 2

12. Any usage of computers in the committee room by anyone, except legislators and staff, shall be approved by the chair before each meeting.
13. Conferrees **SHALL NOT** read their testimony. Rather, testimony should be presented in a summary fashion. Conferrees shall introduce themselves, identify on whose behalf they are appearing, identify whether they are a proponent, opponent, or neutral on the bill and as briefly as possible, state the reasons for their position.
14. If suggested amendment(s) are to be offered, a proposed draft of the amendment(s) must be provided with the written testimony.
15. Conferrees shall address their remarks during testimony to committee members and staff only.
16. The Chair reserves the right to limit testimony that is cumulative in nature or testimony that is, in the judgement of the Chair, not relevant to the matter under consideration.
17. Testimony shall relate to the subject matter of the measure under consideration. Conferrees testifying on unrelated subjects will be admonished and if unrelated testimony continues, the Chair will terminate that conferee's testimony.
18. While the taking of testimony is not preceded with the formality of an oath, by appearing before the committee every conferree hereby certifies that his or her testimony is truthful, based upon facts that are capable of verification and offered in good faith. Conferrees shall promptly bring to the committee's attention any qualifications or corrections in their testimony.
19. The Chair reserves the right to take such action as may be necessary to prevent disruptive behavior in the committee room during hearings and deliberations.
20. The Chair reserves the right to take such action as may be necessary when a violation of these rules is suspected.
21. Committee members shall not be approached during committee hearings or deliberation by anyone other than fellow legislative members or legislative staff.