

CHAPTER 165

HOUSE BILL No. 2705

(Amends Chapter 123)

AN ACT concerning water; relating to members of the Kansas water authority; concerning perfection of water rights; relating to the state water plan fund; amending K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 74-2622, 82a-714 and 82a-953a and repealing the existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 82a-953a, as amended by section 177 of 2004 House Bill No. 2675.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. On and after July 1, 2004, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 74-2622 is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-2622. (a) There is hereby established within and as a part of the Kansas water office the Kansas water authority. The authority shall be composed of ~~23~~ 24 members of whom 13 shall be appointed as follows: (1) One member shall be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate as provided in K.S.A. 75-4315b, and amendments thereto. Except as provided by K.S.A. 46-2601, such person shall not exercise any power, duty or function as a member or chairperson of the water authority until confirmed by the senate. Such member shall serve at the pleasure of the governor and shall be the chairperson of the authority; (2) except as provided by subsection (b), 10 members shall be appointed by the governor for terms of four years. Of the members appointed under this provision one shall be a representative of large municipal water users, one shall be representative of small municipal water users, one shall be a board member of a western Kansas groundwater management district, one shall be a board member of a central Kansas groundwater management district, one shall be a member of the Kansas association of conservation districts, one shall be representative of industrial water users, one shall be a member of the state association of watershed districts, one shall have a demonstrated background and interest in water use conservation and environmental issues, and two shall be representative of the general public. The member who is representative of large municipal water users shall be appointed from three nominations submitted by the league of Kansas municipalities. The member who is representative of small municipal water users shall be appointed from three nominations submitted by the Kansas rural water district's association. The member who is representative of a western Kansas groundwater management district shall be appointed from three nominations submitted by the presidents of the groundwater management district boards No. 1, 3 and 4. The member who is representative of a central Kansas groundwater management district shall be appointed from three nominations submitted by the presidents of the groundwater management district boards No. 2 and 5. The member who is representative of industrial water users shall be appointed from three nominations submitted by the Kansas association of commerce and industry. The member who is representative of the state association of watershed districts shall be appointed from three nominations submitted by the state association of watershed districts. The member who is representative of the Kansas association of conservation districts shall be appointed from three nominations submitted by the state association of conservation districts. If the governor cannot make an appointment from the original nominations, the nominating authority shall be so advised and, within 30 days thereafter, shall submit three new nominations. Members appointed by the governor shall be selected with special reference to training and experience with respect to the functions of the Kansas water authority, and no more than six of such members shall belong to the same political party; (3) one member shall be appointed by the president of the senate for a term of two years; and (4) one member shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives for a term of two years. The state geologist, *the state biologist*, the chief engineer of the division of water resources of the state board of agriculture, the director of the division of environment of the department of health and environment, the chairperson of the state corporation commission, the secretary of commerce, the director of the Kansas water office, the secretary of wildlife and parks, the administrative officer of the state conservation commission, the secretary of the state board of agriculture and the director of the agricultural experiment stations of Kansas state university of agriculture and applied science shall be nonvoting members ex officio of the authority. The director of the Kansas water office shall serve as the secretary of the au-

thority.

(b) A member appointed pursuant to subsection (a)(2) shall be appointed for a term expiring on January 15 of the fourth calendar year following appointment and until a successor is appointed and qualified.

(c) In the case of a vacancy in the appointed membership of the Kansas water authority, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment in the same manner that the original appointment was made. Appointed members of the authority attending regular or special meetings thereof shall be paid compensation, subsistence allowances, mileage and other expenses as provided in K.S.A. 75-3223, and amendments thereto.

(d) The Kansas water authority shall:

(1) Consult with and be advisory to the governor, the legislature and the director of the Kansas water office.

(2) Review plans for the development, management and use of the water resources of the state by any state or local agency.

(3) Make a study of the laws of this state, other states and the federal government relating to conservation and development of water resources, appropriation of water for beneficial use, flood control, construction of levees, drainage, irrigation, soil conservation, watershed development, stream control, gauging of stream and stream pollution for the purpose of determining the necessity or advisability of the enactment of new or amendatory legislation in this state on such subjects.

(4) Make recommendations to other state agencies and political subdivisions of the state for the coordination of their activities relating to flood control, construction of levees, drainage, irrigation, soil conservation, watershed development, stream control, gauging of stream, stream pollution and groundwater studies.

(5) Make recommendations to each regular session of the legislature and to the governor at such times as the authority considers advisable concerning necessary or advisable legislation relating to any of the matters or subjects which it is required by this act to study for the purpose of making recommendations to the legislature. All such recommendations to the legislature shall be in drafted bill form together with such explanatory information and data as the authority considers advisable.

(6) Approve, prior to submission to the legislature by the Kansas water office or its director, (A) any contract entered into pursuant to the state water plan storage act, (B) any amendments to the state water plan or the state water planning act and (C) any other legislation concerning water resources of the state.

(7) Approve, before they become effective, any policy changes proposed by the Kansas water office concerning the pricing of water for sale pursuant to the state water plan storage act.

(8) Approve, before it becomes effective, any agreement entered into with the federal government by the Kansas water office.

(9) Request any agency of the state, which shall have the duty upon that request, to submit its budget estimate pertaining to the state's water resources and any plans or programs related thereto and, upon the authority's receipt of such budget estimate, review and evaluate it and furnish recommendations relating thereto to the governor and the legislature.

(10) Approve, prior to adoption by the director of the Kansas water office, rules and regulations authorized by law to be adopted.

(11) Approve, prior to adoption by the director of the Kansas water office, guidelines for conservation plans and practices developed pursuant to subsection (c) of K.S.A. 74-2608, and amendments thereto.

(e) The Kansas water authority may appoint citizens' advisory committees to study and advise on any subjects upon which the authority is required or authorized by this act to study or make recommendations.

(f) The provisions of the Kansas governmental operations accountability law apply to the Kansas water authority, and the authority is subject to audit, review and evaluation under such law.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 82a-714 is hereby amended to read as follows: 82a-714. (a) Upon the completion of the construction of the works and the actual application of water to the proposed beneficial use within the time allowed, the applicant shall notify the chief engineer to that effect. The chief engineer or the chief engineer's duly authorized representative shall then examine and inspect the appropriation diversion works and, if it is determined that the appropriation diversion works have

been completed and the appropriation right perfected in conformity with the approved application and plans, the chief engineer shall issue a certificate of appropriation in duplicate. The original of such certificate shall be sent to the owner and shall be recorded with the register of deeds in the county or counties wherein the point of diversion is located, as are other instruments affecting real estate, and the duplicate shall be made a matter of record in the office of the chief engineer.

(b) Not later than 60 days before the expiration of the time allowed in the permit to complete the construction of the appropriation diversion works or the time allowed in the permit to actually apply water to the proposed beneficial use, the chief engineer shall notify the permit holder by certified mail that any request for extension of such time must be filed with the chief engineer before the expiration of the time allowed in the permit.

(c) Unless the applicant requests an extension or the certificate has not been issued due to the applicant's failure to comply with reasonable requests for information or to allow the opportunity to examine and inspect the appropriation diversion works, as necessary for certification, the chief engineer shall certify an appropriation:

(1) Before July 1, 2004, if the time allowed in the permit to perfect the water right expired before July 1, 1999, *except in those cases in which abandonment proceedings pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-718, and amendments thereto, are pending on July 1, 2004; or*

(2) *before July 1, 2006, in such cases in which an abandonment proceeding was pending pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-718, and amendments thereto, on July 1, 2004; or*

~~(2)~~ (3) not later than five years after the date the applicant notifies the chief engineer of the completion of construction of the works and the actual application of water to the proposed beneficial use within the time allowed, in all other cases.

If the chief engineer fails to issue a certificate within the time provided by this subsection, the applicant may request review, pursuant to K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 82a-1901 and amendments thereto, of the chief engineer's failure to act.

(d) Except for works constructed to appropriate water for domestic use, each notification to the chief engineer under subsection (a) shall be accompanied by a field inspection fee of \$200, or commencing July 1, 2002, and ending June 30, ~~2005~~ 2010, a fee of \$400. Failure to pay the field inspection fee, after reasonable notice by the chief engineer of such failure, shall result in the permit to appropriate water being revoked, forfeiture of the priority date and revocation of any appropriation right that may exist.

(e) A request for an extension of time to: (1) Complete the diversion works; or (2) perfect the water right, shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50, or commencing July 1, 2002, and ending June 30, ~~2005~~ 2010, a fee of \$100.

(f) A request to reinstate a water right or a permit to appropriate water which has been dismissed shall be filed with the chief engineer within 60 days of the date dismissed and shall be accompanied by a fee of \$100, or commencing July 1, 2002, and ending June 30, ~~2005~~ 2010, a fee of \$200.

(g) All fees collected by the chief engineer pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the state treasurer as provided in K.S.A. 82a-731, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 3. On and after July 1, 2004, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 82a-953a is hereby amended to read as follows: 82a-953a. During ~~the each~~ fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer ~~\$3,773,949~~ \$6,000,000 from the state general fund to the state water plan fund created by K.S.A. 82a-951, and amendments thereto, 1/2 of such amount to be transferred on July 15 and 1/2 to be transferred on January 15, except that (1) such transfers are subject to reduction under K.S.A. 75-6704, and amendments thereto, and (2) *the amount of moneys transferred from the state general fund to the state water plan fund during state fiscal year 2005 on each such date shall not exceed \$1,874,419.50.* All transfers under this section shall be considered to be demand transfers from the state general fund, except that all such transfers during the fiscal year ending June 30, ~~2004~~ 2005, shall be considered revenue transfers from the state general fund.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 82a-714 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 5. On and after July 1, 2004, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 74-2622 and 82a-953a and K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 82a-953a, as amended by section 177 of 2004 House Bill No. 2675, are hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.

Approved May 17, 2004.

Published in the *Kansas Register* May 27, 2004.
