

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Derek Schmidt at 8:30 a.m. on March 11, 2003 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Tyson, Excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research
Lisa Montgomery, Revisor of Statutes
Judy Swanson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Chuck Stones, Kansas Bankers Association
Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association
Janet McPherson, Kansas Farm Bureau

Others attending: See attached guest list

Chuck Stones, Kansas Bankers Association, testified in favor of **HB 2055**, interest rate on agricultural production loan deposits. (Attachment 1) Since interest rates have dropped so low, there is no longer a 4 percent spread, making the loan rate less than the necessary 4 percent. Committee discussion followed his testimony.

Data was requested from the State Treasurer concerning current loans. Out of 473 loans outstanding, 108 are Farm Credit loans. Forty-four institutions have loans outstanding.

Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association, testified in favor of **SCR 1610**, supporting federal cost share for noxious weed control. (Attachment 2) He suggested broadening the language to lands in addition to CRP acres.

Janet McPherson, Kansas Farm Bureau, testified in support of **SCR 1610** and **SCR 1609**. (Attachment 2) Control and eradication of noxious weeds in a concern of farmers across the state.

Senator Umbarger made a motion to amend SCR 1609 on line 23 by striking, “they are” and inserting “landowner is”. Senator Taddiken seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Senator Umbarger moved to amend SCR 1609 on lines 24 and 30 by striking, “eradicate” and inserting “control”. Senator Huelskamp seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Senator Umbarger moved to adopt SCR 1609 as amended. Senator Huelskamp seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Senator Downey moved to amend SCR 1610 on lines 11-23 by striking “on CRP land” and on lines 21-

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22, by adding “that additional federal cost share dollars be made available. Senator Umbarger seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Senator Lee moved to adopt **SCR 1610** as amended. Senator Downey seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Senator Huelskamp moved to change 4:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the February 24 Committee Minutes, then further moved to approve the February 24 Minutes as changed and February 25 Minutes as written. Senator Downey seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.