

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robert Tyson at 8:30 a.m. on February 2, 2001 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Dwayne Umbarger - excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Judy Krase, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Bill Howgill, Governor's liaison
Al LeDoux, Director, Ks Water Office
Brownie Wilson, Ks Water Office
Susan Stover, Ks Water Office
Dr. Lee Allison, State Geologist and Director, Ks Geological Survey
Terry Duvall, Ks Water Office

Others attending: See attached list

Senator Tyson announced that the chairman, vice-chairman and ranking minority will meet in 423-S Monday morning, February 5, at 8:30 to go over future agendas. He then stated that the subject matter today would be concerning recommendations on aquifer depletion restrictions.

The first conferee was Bill Howgill, the Governor's legislative liaison, who stated the Governor's vision for the maintenance and preservation of the High Plains/Ogallala Aquifer ([Attachment 1](#)).

The second conferee was Al LeDoux who commented about recent newspaper articles concerning high plains aquifer resources. He said one article in particular indicated that both the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate thought that it was time to go slow and look at this issue, and after speaking with the Governor he recognized that this was the Governor's position also. With that he introduced Brownie Wilson.

Mr. Wilson, an analyst with the Kansas Water Office, presented testimony dealing with Kansas high plains aquifer resources ([Attachment 2](#)). He noted that the high plains aquifer is the most heavily utilized aquifer in the state. Questions and discussion followed.

The next conferee was Susan Stover from the Kansas Water Office and she spoke on the Ogallala Aquifer ([Attachment 3](#)).

Dr. Lee Allison, Kansas Geological Survey, spoke on science needs for managing the high plains aquifer ([Attachment 4](#)). He also handed out a brochure titled "The High Plains Aquifer Coalition" ([Attachment 5](#)).

Terry Duvall, Kansas Water Office, explained three water marketing contracts. One contract is with Miami County Rural Water District Number 1, with its source from the Hillsdale Reservoir, and two contracts, which are short term, are with Jost Farms with their source from Marion Reservoir ([Attachment 6](#)). She said water contracts are submitted to the legislature for review and disapproval, not for approval. She pointed out that they have another contract with Franklin County Rural Water District Number 1 which was recently approved by the water authority and will be coming to the legislature this year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 8 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 241-N.