

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE WATER COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ron Highland at 9:00 am on Thursday, February 11, 2021, in room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Chris Waggoner, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Damien Gilbert, Committee Assistant  
Meredith Fry, Legislative Research Department  
Victoria Potts, Legislative Research Department  
Zach Fridell, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Erich Glave - KDHE Bureau of Environmental Field Services  
Tom Stiles - KDHE Bureau of Water  
Bob Jurgens - KDHE Bureau of Environmental Remediation

Others in attendance:

No list available

### **Presentation on: KDHE's Bureau of Environmental Field Services**

Erich Glave, Director of District Offices for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, introduced himself and his role at KDHE. He then presented to the committee about KDHE's six district offices across the state and the work they do to assist in hazardous waste removal, disaster response, and pollution inspection and prevention ([Attachment 1](#)). He went on to describe the organization's Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), Drinking Water Protection Program, and other initiatives. Revenue and expenditure information for all operations were discussed, and clarification of the Local Environmental Protection Program funding was given at the request of the committee.

### **Presentation on: Safe Drinking Water Act, KDHE Bureau of Water**

Tom Stiles, Director of KDHE's Bureau of Water, introduced himself and his role at KDHE. He then continued the presentation by discussing the administration of the Clean Drinking Water Act in Kansas. Major areas include engineering and permits, compliance and data management, capacity development and enforcement, and water system operator certification. Stiles then went on to define and discuss public water supply, as well as the regulations on pollution levels allowed in such water. Stiles concluded by breaking down the Public Water Supply division's budget.

### **Presentation on: Contaminated Site Cleanup - Bob Jurgens (KDHE Bureau of Environmental Remediation)**

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Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Water at 9:00 am on Thursday, February 11, 2021, in room 152-S of the Capitol.

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Bob Jurgens introduced himself and his role to the committee. He then continued the presentation with an exploration of KDHE's duties related to contamination cleanup, where it provides oversight to ensure cleanup of contaminated soil, water and sediments. Jurgens then explained the contamination cleanup departmental budget, as well as its revenues and expenditures. He then explained common types of contaminations, including leaking underground storage tanks, surface mines, orphan sites, and dry cleaners, and explained the steps to identify and clean up contamination sites. Jurgens ended by explaining how the permitting process allows KDHE to evaluate the facility plan and track chemical use in order to prevent future contamination.

With no questions from the committee, Rep. Highland adjourned the meeting at 10:24am.