

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE WATER COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ron Highland at 9:00 am on Wednesday, February 24, 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:

Dr. Rolfe Mandel - Kansas Geological Survey

Others in attendance:

No list available

Presentation on:

Dr. Rolfe Mandel, Director of the Kansas Geological Survey, presented to the committee about his organization's purpose and initiatives ([Attachment 1](#)). The purpose of the KGS is to conduct geological studies and research and collect, correlate, preserve, and disseminate information leading to a better understanding of the geology of Kansas, with special emphasis on natural resources of economic value, water quality and quantity, and geologic hazards. Mandel then explored the structure and budget of KGS, before moving on to describing the various initiatives it is engaged in. The programs related to water include an annual well water measurement program, researching the effectiveness of streambank stabilization projects, and exploring the effects of playas on the recharging of aquifers.

Mandel then fielded questions from the committee, including about induced seismology in south-central Kansas, pollution in the Arbuckle Formation, the use of captured carbon for regenerative agriculture, the methodology of measuring wells, and research on water desalination.

Seeing no further questions, Chairperson Highland adjourned the meeting at 10:17am.