

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Powell at 8:30 a.m. on January 10, 2012, in Room 783 in the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Michael Peterson (Unexcused)

Committee Staff Present:

Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Christopher Sevedge, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Joyce Hladky, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Gary Pierzynski, Acting Dean of Agriculture, Kansas State University

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Chairman Powell welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee of the 2012 Legislative Session.

Dr. Gary Pierzynski, Acting Dean of Agriculture, Kansas State University presented the Kansas State University Annual Report and provided an overview of K-State Research and Extension's Annual Report. He highlighted various activities and accomplishments and how K-State Research and Extension has benefited Kansas families, youth, ranchers, the military, farmers and communities. Topics included:

- Record enrollment of agriculture students. Already 100 students ahead in enrollment over last year. There is demand for grads from the agronomy and grain science program. We are at 100 percent placement
- Youth programs benefit those who participate in 4-H
- Programs benefit seniors making decisions about healthcare and Medicaid
- Food assistance through Department of SRS programs to help families use limited food resources to the best of their abilities.
- Statewide programs reach out to the Spanish-speaking communities

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 HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES Committee at 9:00 a.m. on
January 10, in 783-DSOB

- K-State Research and Extension Program draws visitors to the state
- The Smoke Management Plan was released by KDHE to help guide prescribed burning on the state's prairie land.
- Annie's Project provides women knowledge and support on taking increasingly more active roles in farm management.
- Education program to teach skills needed to improve skills for cattle-feeding industry.
- Working with Communities Toward Common Goals with an office in every county, K-State provides a resource to meet the needs of communities.

Headquartered in Manhattan, K-State Research and Extension includes statewide county and district extension offices, research centers, and experiment fields supported by county, state, federal, and private funds. (Attachment 1)

Following adjournment of the joint meeting, Dr. Pierzynski answered further questions from members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

Chairman Powell opened the floor for bill introduction requests.

Chris Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture, requested the following bill introductions:

A Water right abandonment: eliminating "use it or lose it" in areas closed to new appropriation and where groundwater is a source.

There being no objection, this request will be introduced as a committee bill.

Make the Water Right Transition Assistance program permanent.

There being no objection, this request will be introduced as a committee bill.

Make the water banking law permanent.

There being no objection, this request will be introduced as a committee bill.

Revise the Food Safety and Lodging statutes, providing for a consolidated license and streamlining the act.

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There being no objection, this request will be introduced as a committee bill.

Amend the corporate farming statutes to make swine and dairy facility approval consistent.

There being no objection, this request will be introduced as a committee bill.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m. The next meeting of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee is scheduled for January 11, 2012.