MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Faber at 3:30 p.m. on January 9, 2007, in Room 426-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Vaurn Flora - excused Representative Bill Light - excused Representative Jerry Williams - excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department Becky Krahl, Kansas Legislative Research Department Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes Jason Thompson, Revisor of Statutes Florence Deeter, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Ray Hammarlund, Director, Agriculture Marketing and Community Development, Kansas Department of Commerce

Others attending:

See attached list.

Briefing on Agricultural Marketing

Chairman Faber invited all members of the committee to introduce themselves giving information as to how long each has been in the Legislature, the district each represents, places of employment and any specific interests.

Chairman Faber introduced Ray Hammarlund, Director of Agriculture Marketing and Community Development from the Kansas Department of Commerce, who introduced his staff to the Committee. Mr. Hammarlund presented an overview of the annual report for Fiscal Year 2006 (Attachment 1). His testimony included the Agriculture Marketing Division's mission statement, delineation of four marketing programs, including the dollar amounts of each project, the Agritourism Promotion Act, and the Kansas Farm Wine Industry.

Included in his testimony is a map of the ethanol and biodiesel plants in Kansas, both those that are presently operating and those under construction. Value Added Center Sales generated \$157,842,340 in biofuel projects during 2006. He stated the importance of working to enhance the bioscience industry in Kansas.

Mr. Hammarlund answered questions from members on the topics of the animal identification study. The cost drivers in the system are not easily identified. He stated that there is an increasing interest in the ethanol and biodiesel commodity production in Kansas. One factor influencing the flow of fuel in production is the use of various oils, some of which gel in the biodiesel product and clog distribution during cold weather. Questions to be answered in this field center on having long term contracts for a specific oil or tallow, stock contracts on the open market, or having an integrative crush facility from which one can obtain supply of the raw product. Distribution of petroleum products is by pipeline; ethanol and biodiesel products are transported primarily by rail, to a truck and then to the blending facility.

Chairman Faber announced the joint meeting with the Senate Agricultural and Senate Natural Resources will be held in the Old Supreme Court Room, 313-S at 3:30 p.m., January 10, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.