

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE WATER COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ron Highland at 9:00 am on Monday, March 15, 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:

Dan Meyerhoff - Executive Director, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts
Amanda Scott - District Manager, Cowley County Conservation District

Others in attendance:

No list available

Presentation on:

Dan Meyerhoff, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, thanked the committee for the opportunity to testify ([Attachment 1](#)) and referred them to an informational sheet on KACD ([Attachment 2](#)) before making a presentation to the committee about the scope, duties, and budget of the organization ([Attachment 3](#)). The organization provides local leadership to protect and improve Kansas natural resources through collaboration, education and implementation. Each county serves as its own conservation district, and all 105 conservation districts are divided into 5 regions. The organization was formed in the 1930s as a response to the Dust Bowl in an effort to protect against further soil erosion. Primary funding for each district comes from the county commission but is matched up to \$25,000 by the state, and the federal government also provides some funding through the US Department of Agriculture. Amanda Scott, District Manager for the Cowley County District, then explored the various programs and partnerships in which KACD engages.

Questions related to relations with nature conservancies, the meaning of various acronyms, and the trend of funding for districts as a whole. A guide to the acronyms used in the presentation was provided later that day ([Attachment 4](#)).

With no further questions, Chairperson Highland adjourned the committee at 10:04am.