

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Powell at 9:00 a.m. on January 19, 2011, in Room 783 in the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Kyle Hoffman - Excused
Representative Michael Peterson - Excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michael Wales, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Kay Scarlett, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Keith Sexson, Assistant Secretary for Operations, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Eric Johnson, Section Chief for Environmental Services, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Others attending:

See attached list.

There were no requests for committee bill introductions.

Copies of an e-mail from Carole Jordan, Director, Rural Development Division, Kansas Department of Commerce, in response to questions raised following her agriculture marketing report on January 13 concerning the agriculture marketing budget, the U.S. Livestock Genetics Export group, and a budget breakdown for the Broadband Planning Grant were distributed. (Attachment 1)

Newly appointed Secretary of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Robin Jennison, introduced Keith Sexson, Assistant Secretary for Operations; Eric Johnson, Section Chief for Environmental Services; and Chris Tymeson, Chief Attorney for the Department.

Keith Sexson, Assistant Secretary for Operations, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, reviewed the Kansas Natural Resource Planner Decision Support Tool, an online program developed by Eric Johnson, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, and Mike Houts, Kansas Biological Survey. Originally this was the Kansas Wind Survey Planner 2008 that went on-line in 2009. The Planner can be accessed online at <http://www.kars.ku.edu/research/natural-resource-planner/>

Secretary Jennison stated that the Planner offers policy information so wind developers can utilize the best areas of the state for wind power and transmission lines and be aware of how energy is going to affect the wildlife in the state.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m. The next meeting of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee is scheduled for January 20, 2011.