

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Johnson at 3:30 p.m. on March 18, 2002, in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Flora - excused
Representative O'Brien - excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes
Kay Scarlett, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Steve McAllister, Dean, University of Kansas School of Law
Leslie Kaufman, Associate Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau
George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner, Kansas Animal Health Department
Major General Gregory Gardner, Adjutant General
Jamie Clover Adams, Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture

Others attending: See attached list

Hearing, discussion, and action on SCR 1622 - Concurrent Resolution urging the University of Kansas school of law to establish an agriculture law teaching professorship and an agriculture law clinic

Chairman Johnson opened the hearing on **SCR 1622**. Raney Gilliland briefed the committee on the resolution.

Steve McAllister, Dean, University of Kansas School of Law, appeared in support of **SCR 1622**. He believes investment in an agriculture law teaching professorship and an agriculture law clinic at the University of Kansas School of Law would benefit countless farmers across the state, the Kansas agricultural industry as a whole and, ultimately, the State of Kansas. (Attachment 1)

Leslie Kaufman, Associate Director, Public Policy Division, Kansas Farm Bureau, appeared in support of **SCR 1622** and the concept of an increased agriculture law focus at the University of Kansas School of Law to provide farmers and ranchers additional legal resources through an agriculture law clinic and more attorneys practicing in Kansas that understand agriculture law and modern production agriculture. (Attachment 2)

As there were no other conferees, Chairman Johnson closed the hearing and opened discussion on **SCR 1622**. **Representative Hutchins moved to recommend SCR 1622 be adopted. Seconded by Representative Larkin, the motion carried.**

George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner, Kansas Animal Health Department, reviewed the time line of activities on March 12 and 13 when a rumor of a possible foreign animal disease at the Holton Livestock Exchange was reported by the media. The Commissioner discussed changes in emergency management response procedures in light of last week's incident. He reported that USDA is investigating the impact the information had on the market and that KLA has asked the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to investigate whether someone used the information for their own personal gain.

Major General Gregory Gardner, Adjutant General, reported on Kansas Emergency Management activities following notification of a rumor of a foreign animal disease in Holton.

Jamie Clover Adams, Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture, reported on the department's response to the events of March 12. She noted that the story originated in Iowa, not Kansas.

Briefing on proposed amendments to SB 395 - State of emergency disaster and unlawful acts involving

CONTINUATION SHEET

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contagious or infectious diseases of plants or animals

Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes, briefed the committee on balloon amendments based on proposals made at the hearing on **SB 395** and suggestions made by the working group. (Attachment 4)

The Chairman asked committee members to review the suggested amendments prior to working the bill on Wednesday.

The meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2002.