

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Powell at 9:00 a.m. on March 17, 2011, in Room 783 in the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Representative Rocky Fund - Excused
Representative Michael Peterson - Excused

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Others attending:

See attached list.

Discussion and action on SB 152 – Clarifying that a person with a concealed carry permit may carry a concealed firearm while legally hunting, fishing or fur harvesting.

Chairman Powell opened discussion on **SB 152**. Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department, explained that this bill would permit a person with a concealed carry license to carry a concealed handgun while lawfully hunting, fishing, or fur harvesting. The bill also would permit a person with a legally acquired suppression device to use the device while lawfully hunting, fishing, or fur harvesting.

Representative Collins moved to recommend SB 152 favorably for passage. Seconded by Representative Hayzlett, the motion carried.

Discussion and action on SB 122 – Authorizing the director of the Kansas Water Office to grant easements on state property on the Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri rivers.

The Chairman opened discussion on **SB 122**. Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department, reviewed this bill that would authorize the Director of the Kansas Water Office, after consultation with the Kansas Department of Agriculture, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, and the State Conservation Commission, to negotiate and grant easements on state property for construction and maintenance of conservation projects with cooperating landowners. It was explained that the state owns the stream bed up to the high water mark along the Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri Rivers.

Chairman Powell noted that Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3 had opposed the scope of the language in **SB 122**, but could support the bill if the language was modified just for the purpose of stabilizing stream banks. The revisor explained a balloon amendment that would limit the conservation project easements to the banks of the three rivers. In addition, the balloon adds the phrase “for the expected life of the project.” (Attachment 1) Representative Grant moved to adopt the balloon amendment. Seconded by Representative Brookens, the motion passed.

Representative Grant moved to recommend SB 122, as amended, favorably for passage. The motion was seconded by Representative Hoffman. The motion carried.

Discussion and action on SB 214 – Redefining “person” in the groundwater management district act.

Chairman Powell opened discussion on **SB 214**. Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department, explained that this bill would change the existing definition of “person” for the purposes of the Groundwater Management District Act to mean any natural person, public or private corporation, municipality, or any other legal commercial entity. The bill also made other technical changes.

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee at 9:00 a.m. on March 17, 2011, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, explained a balloon amendment requested by the Chairman for **House Substitute for SB 214**. The balloon would retain the contents of **SB 214** and add the Subcommittee's recommendations on **HB 2272** concerning the exemption of certain minor construction projects from state water regulations. (Attachment 2) Representative Hoffman moved to adopt the balloon amendment. Seconded by Representative Arpke, the motion passed.

Representative Wetta moved to recommend **SB 214**, as amended, favorably for passage in the form of **House Substitute for SB 214**. Seconded by Representative Prescott, the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m. There are no further meetings of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee scheduled for the 2011 legislative session.