

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Taddiken at 8:30 a.m. on January 10, 2006 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Tim Huelskamp - excused
Ralph Ostmeyer - excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research
Amy VanHouse, Kansas Legislative Research
Lisa Montgomery, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Judy Seitz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Justin Holstin, Kansas Propane Education and Research Council (KanPERC)
Dr. Fred Cholick, Dean of Agriculture and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Taddiken welcomed everyone to the Committee. He introduced Judy Seitz, the new Committee secretary. He said there would be bill introductions each day.

Justin Holstin introduced Jim Brewer, Acting Chairman of the Council; Ron Davis, member of the Council, Helen Davis; Joyce French, member of the Council; Dan McLaughlin, Kansas State Fire Marshal designee; Natalie Busby, Director of Communications; and Greg Noll, Director of Education.

Mr. Holstin reported that KanPERC became effective in 2003 and received assessments of around \$244,000. The budget for this year is estimated to be at \$211,000. Financial information is included in his written report. The Council has nine members appointed by the Governor and a Fire Marshall designee. The Council holds quarterly meetings. He said the Council is working on coloring books for schools to provide safety education. Mr. Holstin also reported on the Duty to Warn Information, Public Safety Press Releases, Fire Safety Training Grants and Brochures (Attachment 1).

Mr. Holstin stood for questions.

Greg Noll reported that 42 training classes consisting of Certified Employee Training Programs (CETP) were conducted in 2005 (Attachment 2). The propane marketers can then educate their customers. He said there are more training classes scheduled for 2006 and called the Committee's attention to their web site: www.propaninkansas.org

Mr. Noll stood for questions.

Dr. Cholick said that the Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension service is a continuum of new knowledge and new products. The second step is to develop the human resources in students. He also stated that there is a shortage of students in the agriculture field (K-State Research & Extension Report to Kansas Legislature January 2006 on file in Senator Taddiken's office). He also reported that the accomplishments are a result of partnerships with state and federal agencies and other universities. Dr. Cholick reported on the wheat breeding program, beef cattle identification and technology, watershed specialists working with producers to control pollution and the 4-H program. He stated that K-Sate has over 150 research projects. Dr. Cholick reviewed the budget fund sources and budget responsibilities (Attachment 3).

Dr. Cholick introduced Chiquita Miller, Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, Wyandotte County. She reported on the extension programs in Wyandotte County. She discussed the demographics and called attention to the following extension programs: 4-H, Camp C.A.R.V.E.R. (City Agricultural Resourceful Visionaries Entering Real Life), Master Gardeners and St. Joseph's Neighborhood Garden. Ms. Miller also

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reviewed basic living skills on nutrition, health, parenting, family life, job ready skills, household cleaning, clutter control, budgeting and food safety. She also reported on partnerships and collaboration with coalitions and Boards in the community (Mother-to-Mother and Back to School Fairs) (Attachment 4).

Dr. Cholick and Ms. Miller stood for questions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

The next meeting is January 11.