

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Taddiken at 8:30 A.M. on March 2, 2005 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Derek Schmidt - excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research  
Lisa Montgomery, Office of Revisor of Statues  
Jacqui Jones, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Kansas Department of Transportation - Mike Crow, Director of Operations  
Kansas Highway Patrol - Walt Darling  
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks - Richard Koerth, Assistant Secretary of Administration  
The University of Kansas - Doug Riat, Director, Facilities Operations  
Kansas State University - Bruce Shubert

Others attending:

See attached list

Chairman Taddiken opened the meeting by advising Committee members that the meeting would be more of a listening and informational meeting than a hearing. There would be time to ask questions of each presenter.

Mike Crow of the Kansas Department of Transportation spoke about the use and purchase of ethanol and bio-diesel by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). He submitted and referred to an agency update on the use of Alternative Fuels (see attachment 1). He then stood for questions from the Committee.

Walt Darling of the Kansas Highway Patrol then presented information regarding the purchase of fuel for its motor vehicles. He referred to a graph (see attachment 2) describing the effort the Highway Patrol uses in purchasing fuel for these vehicles both from bulk and retail sources. After his presentation he stood for questions.

Richard Koerth was the presenter for the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP). He made reference to information contained in testimony on the use and purchase of ethanol and bio-diesel fuels submitted by KDWP Secretary Michael Hayden (see attachment 3). It was noted that there are areas within the state where it is not practical for KDWP employees to purchase or use ethanol or bio-diesel. A memorandum was sent out on February 8, 2005 to advise and encourage KDWP employees to use ethanol and bio-diesel while on state travel (see attachment 3-1).

Doug Riat of the University of Kansas (KU) presented next. He talked about KU's experience with bio-fuels and shared his observations, from an operational perspective, regarding any problems and impediments that had been experienced (see attachment #4).

He notes that KU has not been using ethanol recently. He stated that KU was unaware of the stipulations of law until it was brought to their attention and assured the Committee that their next bulk purchase will be ethanol. KU is presently using bio-diesel and finds that availability at local terminals is no longer a problem.

Mr. Riat remarked that there is a strong student interest in examining potential bio-diesel use in buses providing campus transportation. There may be a trial run with the privately owned bus company providing student transportation this spring. Mr. Riat then stood for questions.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Agriculture Committee at 8:30 A.M. on March 2, 2005 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

Bruce Shubert of Kansas State University (KSU) spoke to the Committee and provided a report showing the most recent data on bulk purchases of ethanol by the University (see attachment #5). Information on purchases by individuals on university business was not available. Bio-diesel has not been available from any of the fuel contractors with whom KSU does business. Up until now there has been a concern about low temperature use of the fuel. It is the intent of the university to use bio-diesel this summer when this will no longer be a concern. After his presentation, Mr. Shubert stood for questions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2005.