

Kansas House of Representatives
Water Committee
Update, June 2021

Committee Chair

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KEY

Adjutant General - Emergency Management

Kansas Biological Survey

Kansas Corporation Commission

Kansas Department of Agriculture

Kansas Department of Agriculture - Division of Conservation

Kansas Department of Agriculture - Division of Water Resources

Kansas Department of Commerce

Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Bureau of Environmental Field Services

Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Bureau of Environmental Remediation

Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Bureau of Water

Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Bureau of Waste Management

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Kansas Forest Service

Kansas Geological Survey

K-State Research and Extension

Kansas Water Office

**Future Challenges for Water Use
And
Infrastructure Associated with Water
In Kansas**

1) Water Quality and Quantity

a) Western Kansas

- i) Ogallala, Great Bend Prairie, Equus Aquifers
- ii) Uranium contamination along Arkansas River
- iii) Depletion of water reserves

b) Eastern Kansas

- i) Loss of dam storage capacity
- ii) Population increasing along Kansas River (Junction City to Kansas City area)

c) Localized situations

- i) Saline contamination of water supply
- ii) Wildlife preserves vs. agriculture endeavors
- iii) Contamination from industrial run off or urban rainwater run off

1) Infrastructure challenges

a) Municipalities:

- i) Water treatment for home and business use
- ii) Water storage facilities
- iii) Wastewater treatment
- iv) Aging underground water lines and sewer systems

- 1) Management and Funding
 - a) Organization for managing
 - i) Oversight structure
 - (1) Local control vs.
 - (2) Central oversight
 - (3) Political vs. nonpartisan
 - b) Kansas Water Laws
 - i) Updating to reflect the final design

c)Funding challenges

i) Existing budget process with current tax structure
will not support the needs

ii)Gallorage or acre feet fee?

iii)Creation of a “Water Trust Fund”

(1)Managed like the KPERS fund

(2)Expenditures:

(a)Salaries for management

(b)Cost share grants for infrastructure
repairs/replacement

(c)Funding for scientific experimentation

(i)Optimal moisture for plant production

(ii)Retention dams for runoff control and
recharging optimization

(iii)Desilting of existing dams

(iv)Flood control

(v)Etc.

Water use for 2020 = 6,252,290 acre feet
1,13 Trillion gallons

SGF Funding for \$20 Million

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