CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Gary Harshberger called the April 18, 2018 Kansas Water Authority meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. at the Johnson County Water District No. 1 (WaterOne) Administration Office in Lenexa, KS.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Harshberger, Chairman; Mike Armstrong; John Bailey; Mark Fischer; Greg Graff; Alan King; Calvin Kissick; Brad Loveless; Karma Mason; Dennis Schwartz; Ted Nighswonger; Lynn Wobker; David Barfield; Leo Henning; Jackie McClaskey; Dan Devlin; Sue Schlapp; Tracy Streeter; Rob Reschke; Steve Adams; Rolfe Mandel and Ed Martinko.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Randy Hayzlett

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion No. 04-18-01 It was moved by Brad Loveless and seconded by Ted Nighswonger that the January 24, 2018 Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Kansas Water Authority be approved as presented. Motion carried with no dissenting votes.

KWA RAC COMMITTEE: Membership
Greg Graff presented the Membership Report for approval.

Motion No. 04-18-02 It was moved by Greg Graff and seconded by Calvin Kissick to approve RAC membership items as presented, including appointment of Kyle Spencer to the Upper Smoky Hill RAC. Motion carried with no dissenting votes.

KWA PWS COMMITTEE: CY 2019 Water Marketing Rate
Dennis Schwartz and Cara Hendricks presented.

Motion No. 04-18-03 It was moved by Dennis Schwartz and seconded by John Bailey to set the Calendar Year 2019 Water Marketing Variable Rate at $0.405/1000 gallons. Motion carried with no dissenting votes.

2018 PWS Comprehensive Capital Development Plan (CCDP) Update Cara Hendricks provided an update regarding the status of the draft 2018 CCDP with a brief review of the components that are updated and reviewed annually, including adjustments to O&M costs based on updates provided by the Corps of Engineers, forecasted water use projections based on actual reported use, reflections of debt payments made, and other program changes.

VISION EDUCATION IMPLEMENTATION:
Vision Education Implementation
Walz Tetrick Advertising, Mission, KS has contracted with the state of Kansas to develop a Water Education and Awareness campaign. Angela Ross Presnell and Jeff Chase provided an overview of the “Kansas Runs on Water” brand that will be featured through a website containing educational tools, water facts and
templates for use in printed, audio and video media. The campaign is projected to be completed and ready for roll out in the late summer or early fall of 2018.

**RESEARCH COORDINATION:**
*Research Coordination*

Dan Devlin presented.

**KWO/KWA OPERATIONS:**
*U.S. Geological Survey and Corps of Engineers Agreements*

Earl Lewis presented for approval.

Motion No. 04-18-04

It was moved by Brad Loveless and seconded by Calvin Kissick to give approval to the Director to enter into agreements with U.S. Geological Survey for the Stream Gaging Network, Kansas River Quality Monitoring and Neosho River Sediment Monitoring Agreement. It was also moved to approve the Director to enter into agreements with Corps of Engineers for the Kansas River Study and Cottonwood/Neosho River Sediment Study. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.**

**Drought Report**

Tracy Streeter presented an update.

**KWA BUDGET COMMITTEE:**
*FY2020 & FY2021 Budget*

Karma Mason presented.

Motion No. 04-18-05

It was moved by Karma Mason and seconded by Dennis Schwartz to adopt the FY2020 & FY2021 budget process as outlined in the memo. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.**

**LEGISLATURE/BUDGET UPDATE:**
*State-Legislative Update*

Earl Lewis provided this update.

*Federal –Legislative Update*  Tracy Streeter and Earl Lewis provided this update.

*Federal-NRCS Update*  Bruce Wells provided this update.

**KWA RAC COMMITTEE:**
*Kansas RAC*  Brad Bradley presented an update on their RAC

*Great Bend Prairie*  Berry Bortz presented an update on their RAC.

*Equus-Walnut*  Steve Hieger presented an update on their RAC.

**KDA DWR UPDATE:**

David Barfield provided this report to the KWA on Wichita ASR Proposed Permit Modification Request, Quivira National Wildlife Refuge Impairment and City of Hays/R9 Ranch Water Right Changes.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

Tracy Streeter provided the Director’s Report which included an update on State of the Resource Reports for each planning region with a focus on reservoir sedimentation in the Kansas Region.
NEW BUSINESS: No new business was presented.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: August 22, 2018 Dodge City, KS

Adjournment The KWA adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

____________________________
Gary Harshberger, Chairman

____________________________
Tracy Streeter, Secretary
CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Gary Harshberger called the July 20, 2018, Kansas Water Authority conference call to order at 8:03 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Harshberger, Chairman; Mike Armstrong; John Bailey; Greg Graff; Calvin Kissick; Brad Loveless; Karma Mason; Dennis Schwartz; Ted Nighswonger and Tracy Streeter

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Fischer; Randy Hayzlett; Alan King; Lynn Wobker; David Barfield; Leo Henning; Jackie McClaskey; Dan Devlin; Sue Schlapp; Rob Reschke; Steve Adams; Rolfe Mandel and Ed Martinko.

USGS AND CORPS OF ENGINEERS AGREEMENTS:

Motion No. 07-20-01 It was moved by Brad Loveless and seconded by Dennis Schwartz to give approval to the Director of the Kansas Water Office to enter into agreements with U.S. Geological Survey for the monitoring on Republican River at Clay Center above Milford Lake and the monitoring on Kansas River Below Tuttle Creek Lake, and with the Corps of Engineers for the Kansas River Water Quality Study. Motion carried with no dissenting votes.

MILFORD RCPP:

Motion No. 07-20-02 It was moved by Ted Nighswonger and seconded by Brad Loveless to give approval to the Kansas Water Office, serving as the lead project partner, to enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to establish the Milford Lake Watershed RCPP Project at the discretion of the Director of the Kansas Water Office. Motion carried with no dissenting votes.

WRRDA 7001 PROPOSAL:

Motion No. 07-20-03 It was moved by Mike Armstrong and seconded by Brad Loveless to authorize the Kansas Water Office to submit the Kansas River Basin Study WRRDA Section 7001 proposal, as well as a letter of support from the Kansas Water Authority to be included with the proposal submission. Motion carried with no dissenting votes.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was presented.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: August 22, 2018 Manhattan, KS
Adjournment

The KWA adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

Gary Harshberger, Chairman
Tracy Streeter, Secretary
The following summarizes the goals of the KWA Public Water Supply Committee (PWS Committee) with regard to the items presented herein:

**Informational Items:**
- City of Lawrence Water Marketing Contract Negotiations Update
- 2018 PWS Comprehensive Capital Development Plan Update

**City of Lawrence Water Marketing Contract Negotiations Update**

At the January meeting this year, the KWA authorized the Kansas Water Office (KWO) to enter into negotiations with the City of Lawrence for a new water marketing contract from Clinton Lake with the understanding that the negotiated contract will not result in a significant impact to the overall water marketing program and its customers. The City currently holds two water marketing contracts with the KWO, including a 40-year capped-rate contract that expires at the end of 2019, and a 40-year variable rate contract that expires at the end of 2030.

As a follow up to a previous meeting held in March, the KWO met with the City of Lawrence on July 20, 2018 to continue contract negotiations for a new water marketing contract from Clinton Lake. At the meeting, KWO reviewed with the City the results of analysis for various contract scenarios that were discussed at the March meeting. As part of the analysis, the indications regarding long-term contract needs made by the other entities served by Clinton Lake through current water marketing contracts with KWO have been incorporated.

KWO staff continues to work with the City as it moves forward with contract negotiations, and will be reviewing the latest progress, potential contract recommendations and next steps with the Public Water Supply Committee at an upcoming meeting.

_This item is for information only. No action is needed at this time._

**Public Water Supply Program Comprehensive Capital Development Plan (CCDP) Update**

As previously updated to the KWA, KWO staff are continuing efforts to update the CCDP. These include adjustments to O&M costs based on updates provided by the Corps of Engineers, forecasted water use projections based on actual reported use, reflections of debt payments made, and other program changes. Additionally, the CCDP will be updated based on the terms of the final contract with the City of Lawrence. An updated 2018 CCDP is anticipated to be provided to the PWS Committee for review sometime later this calendar year.

_This item is for information only. No action is needed at this time._
The KWA Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Operations Committee met August 10, 2018, via conference call. Discussion during the conference call focused on the following topics:

- Membership applications for the Smoky Hill-Saline and Upper Republican RACs
- Great Bend Prairie RAC Goal Implementation Memorandum of Understanding Request

The Committee reviewed and discussed the applications of Dan Baffa from Salina for membership on the Smoky Hill-Saline RAC as well as Scott Ross of Atwood and Kenny Sanderson of Goodland for membership on the Upper Republican RAC. The following membership recommendations were approved by the full RAC Operations Committee:

- Recommend Dan Baffa for the At Large Public (cc) position on the Smoky Hill-Saline RAC with a term expiration of August 2021
- Recommend Scott Ross for the Conservation/Environment (cc) position on the Upper Republican RAC with a term expiration of August 2021

The Committee also discussed a letter dated July 14, 2018, from the Great Bend Prairie RAC addressed to the Kansas Water Authority. Within this letter the Great Bend Prairie RAC highlights observations from their RAC’s standpoint on positives and negatives of Vision implementation up to this point. The letter also requests establishment of memorandum of understanding (MOU) among all Governor’s Natural Resource Subcabinet agencies to commit to providing the necessary resources to advance Vision implementation as well as provides a conceptual outline which could be used as a standard operating procedure (SOP) to advance Regional Goal Action Plan implementation.

The KWA RAC Operations Committee feels it is appropriate for Berry Bortz, Chair of the Great Bend Prairie RAC, to discuss this letter in greater detail during the RAC Updates portion of the August KWA Meeting and for the full KWA to discuss the items highlighted during his report.

The KWA RAC Operations Committee recommends KWA approval of the applications for membership on the Smoky Hill-Saline RAC from Dan Baffa and on the Upper Republican RAC from Scott Ross and Kenny Sanderson.
Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee

July 14, 2018

Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee
KWO Office
900 SW Jackson Street
Topeka, KS 66612

Kansas Water Authority
KWO Office
900 SW Jackson Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Kansas Water Authority Members:

At a recent regularly called meeting of the Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), after lengthy discussion, the Committee voted to request the Natural Resources Sub Cabinet and others that have influence or interaction with the Water Vision to establish a Memorandum of Understanding for providing resources and time toward the implementation of the action plans established in the Kansas Water Vision.

The Great Bend Prairie RAC holds some concern and frustration that there is not sufficient accountability and structure at the agency and administrative level to adequately implement the goals of the Vision.

Obviously there has been some successes and some apparent breakdowns with the development and transition of the RACs.

Some of the successes are:
- Surfacing issues related to water in Kansas
- Forward movement of issues (for example our alternative crop goal for wheat feeding)
- State wide engagement process
- Assigned to an individual at KDA
- University Participation
- Ability for RACs to act as communication vehicle for Water Vision
- Education and development of RAC members

Some of the breakdowns are:
- Poor relationships of RACs with agencies
- Absence of intra/inter-agency cooperation
- Lack of information before and after setting goals
- Lack of funding
- No ownership and accountability by appropriate entities
- Lack of political expertise on committees
- Few signs of commitment from Administration and Legislature post goal setting
Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee

- Dropping participation levels on committees and difficulty retaining local leadership to work on implementation
- Territorial/political issues between agencies and administration
- Staff resignations without a clear ownership replacement of goal

“Vision without execution is just hallucination.” This quote by Henry Ford appears to have a lot of validity when discussing the progress or should I say the lack there of when evaluating the implementation of our goals.

In May of last year, at the Garden City meeting the Great Bend Prairie RAC asked for guidance on the role the RAC’s were to play in goal implementation. Absolutely no response was received. Later at the Pittsburg meeting, we asked for help in breaking a gag order issued by the KCC. Once again, we felt we received no help from the KWO or the KWA.

At the McPherson meeting, our RAC made a formal request for guidance on how to implement goals. The response was something about the IPM4 which we still haven’t figured out how it pertains to the RAC’s role in goal implementation.

In January, at the Topeka meeting, Greg Graff expressed that the Authority did an excellent job getting talented people involved in the goal setting process but there was a lack of structure in getting the goals implemented and quite possibly the Authority didn’t think that part of the process through as well as they should have.

We have great appreciation for Mr. Streeter’s honest assessment that “we have not moved the needle very far” with regard to implementation. Greg and Tracy’s honest feedback regarding the lack of serious progress was spot on. Later that same January day, Governor Brownback told us that we would have to invest considerable time and resources in order achieve our goals, then he promptly left the State with no offer to help secure the resources necessary.

If we are to make steady progress, such brutally honest, critical analysis of the processes involved (whether from within or outside sources) is essential if we are to affect the accomplishment of the desired outcome. Such feedback should be encouraged by all parties involved.

The RAC members have made a considerable investment in time and effort. Now we need the resources and structure necessary to implement the goals so all the previous efforts do not go to waste. Obviously, financing the Vision is a huge undertaking, but there is a more fundamental flaw in the system. There is a lack of structure and organization, or standard operating procedures “SOP” to implement the goals. Because the RAC’s are advisory in capacity only, they have no real power or ownership. The Authority has very little power, other than the power of persuasion, to implement the goals. Many of the appropriate agencies show interest but lack commitment because the goals aren’t theirs. Group ownership of projects is seldom effective without clearly defined chains of command, and defined consequences for failure to act. Aristotle recognized this phenomenon when he made the following observation, “Men pay most attention to what is their own; they care less for what is common. . . They are more prone to neglect their duty when they think that another is attending to it.” Let’s think about that second sentence for a moment, “They are more prone to neglect their duty when they think that another is attending to it.” Doesn’t that sentence accurately depict why we have the severity of the issues before us.
William Forester Lloyd in 1833, and Garrett Hardin in 1968, used the phrase the “tragedy of the commons.” The findings of their research essentially were that when no one owns or sufficiently benefits by conserving, no one takes responsibility for it. Thusly the resource tends to be used inefficiently, overused, or even extinguished.

At our July meeting Mr. Streeter indicated that the RACs do have a role to play. He suggested that the role of the RACs now is monitoring annually and reviewing the goals of the Water Vision and holding the multiple agencies and jurisdictions accountable for progress.

If that is the case, we certainly think a MOU calling for the Sub Cabinet to agree to do what is necessary to get resources in place to remove the barriers of solving problems with water (aquifer depletion, water quality, reservoir sedimentation, streambank stabilization, and nutrient eutrophication, etc.).

As not to bring complaint without some sort of solution, our RAC offer’s the attached conceptual outline as a jumping place for discussion and debate to establish some structure to aid in the timely implementation of the “Vision’s” goals to avoid this exercise from becoming “just a hallucination”.

Sincerely,

Berry Bortz
Great Bend Prairie RAC, Chair
ATTACHMENT

1) RAC’s
   A. Gather and assemble information
   B. Identify and advises KWA on issues and concerns
   C. Recommends goals and action plans to KWA
   D. Public outreach and Educational meetings

2) KWA
   A. Reviews
   B. Condense
   C. Combine (why have 5 different municipal goals)
   D. Elevate, Reject, or send back for modification
   E. Recommends goals to administration after input from agencies

3) Administration
   A. Assign each goal to entity or agency

4) Agency
   A. Names contact coordinator person
   B. Reviews goals and action plans
      i. Reasonableness
      ii. Time lines
      iii. Needed Resources and Regulations
   C. Reports back to Administration with recommended changes and resource requirements including information and funding levels

5) KWA
   A. Approves Goal after report from Agency and Administration

6) Administration
   A. Secures resources
   B. Reports back to KWA with changes and recommendations who then reports progress and status back to RAC’s

[Please note the elevation of a goal up to an appropriate agency or entity with the appropriate technical background and abilities, to check for reasonableness, required resources and information, and time line requirements before final adoption by the Kansas Water Authority. In reviewing our situation, several of our goals seemed very reasonable and maybe even noble. However, over time they each seem to be flawed. Had we had more complete information at the onset and involved more of the appropriate agencies in development, we would have presented better goals with higher probabilities of a desired outcome and less resistance and territorial battles.]
Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee

Vision Goals
- Commitment
- Collaboration
- Accountability
- Communication

Agencies
- Designates contact person
- Review goals & action plans
- Report to Admin with changes & funding info

RAC
- Gather & assemble information
- Identify issues
- Submit plans & recommendations to KWA

Administration
- Report to KWA & RAC
- Secure funding
- Designate Agencies responsible for execution of goals

KWA
- Review & streamline goals
- Work with RAC to refine goals
- Submit approved goals to Admin
All 14 of the Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) continue to track a number of local water resource issues, Vision Regional Goal Action Plan implementation progress, and engage with stakeholders within their respective regions. The following information provides an overview of recent activities taking place for all RACs.

Cimarron RAC
The Cimarron RAC has continued to discuss finding ways to improve communication methods within the region, and has established a RAC member operated Facebook page. No progress has been made in conducting meetings with Oklahoma to discuss the water situation and a path forward; focus will continue on finding new Oklahoma contacts to work with. A producer survey was developed to create a baseline of conservation but how and where to utilize that survey still needs to be determined. There has been interest from the RAC in the Master Irrigators Program that was discussed at the Ogallala Summit in April. Discussions have brought up several ideas including:

- Using it to train/educate and disseminate data and information
- Have it act as a voluntary audit, where you get feedback on what areas you can improve in
- Use it to document conservation efforts

The RAC is in support of something similar to the Master Irrigators Program in Kansas, and believes it could work to tie everything together for producers and provide a systematic approach to irrigation operations and decisions. Outreach efforts in the area have been limited, except in July when one of the members put together an information booth with RAC related information that was set up at the Grant County Fair. A Technology Farm Field Day is set to be held at the Hatcher Land & Cattle Farm on August 28th.

Equus-Walnut RAC
The Equus-Walnut RAC last met in person on May 1 in El Dorado where the City of Wichita’s Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) permit modification proposal was the primary topic of discussion. The RAC has been engaged on this topic from the beginning and intends to continue to follow the proposal throughout its process with the Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Water Resources and Equus Beds Groundwater Management District #2. The RAC also met on July 13 via conference call to discuss RAC input to be provided to the KWA in support of the KWA’s ongoing budget recommendation development process.

Several RAC members participated in the South Central Kansas Water Summit hosted by Wichita State University’s Environmental Finance Center in May. At this event a brainstorming session with several different water use groups was held to discuss ongoing water conservation activities at the municipal and industrial level as well as incentives for users to implement water efficiency improvements. Field days have also been scheduled for the Weber and Jacob Water Technology Farms located within the region. These fields day are scheduled to take place on August 16.
Great Bend Prairie RAC
Interest remains high to define the pumping reductions needed to reach long term sustainability of water resources in the region. At the July 12, 2018, RAC meeting the committee requested the state and Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5 (GMD5) share the cost of running the existing GMD5 groundwater model (includes entire region) for sustainability. Programs and research to reduce water use while maintaining economic stability of the region continue to be a priority to aid in reaching water resource stability in the region. Protecting fresh water from salt water contamination is also a priority with current efforts waiting for definition of the problem from Kansas Corporation Commission.

Kansas RAC
The Kansas Regional Advisory Committee held its most recent meeting on July 11th in Topeka. The agenda included an update from Tracy Streeter, KWO, on the Education piece of the Vision. In his presentation he mentioned that the Legislature approved $100,000 of the $3.25 million FY2019 SWPF restoration for this project. The “Kansas Runs on Water” campaign was developed by Walz-Tetrick and unveiled at the April Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting in Lenexa. Response to the campaign was positive and the KWO is requesting $250,000 for Vision education for FY 2020. The Funding and Governance subcommittee presented the most recent version of the Kansas RAC power Point. A couple of suggestions were made including using the “Kansas Runs on Water” slogan in the opening slide. BMP and KBWM subcommittee have met with USACE and KDWPT staff regarding the management of property around federal reservoirs. There are some changes in the works with Priority Leasing. This group will represent the Kansas RAC on the BMP Implementation, for allocating the $900,000 focusing on sediment reductions. The Education subcommittee is trying to find measurable goals in the Action Plan and will present something at the October meeting. They will also assume first round responsibility for the State of the Resource draft each year. Earl Lewis, KWO, gave a presentation on the new budget process that has been put in place to solicit input from all 14 RACs on the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF). The hope is to have the entire $8 million restored to the SWPF, $6 million from State General Fund (SGF) and $2 million from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF) however only $1.2 million was restored for FY2018 and $3.25 million was restored for FY2019. There was a good deal of time spent on this with two items that address the RAC Action Plan; Water Injection Dredging (WID) and Purchase of Reservoir Storage. These two items were put in memo form and have been submitted to the KWO and will be passed onto the KWA. Earl Lewis, KWO, gave a presentation on the new budget process that has been put in place to solicit input from all 14 RACs on the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF). The hope is to have the entire $8 million restored to the SWPF, $6 million from State General Fund (SGF) and $2 million from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF) however only $1.2 million was restored for FY2018 and $3.25 million was restored for FY2019. There was a good deal of time spent on this with two items that address the RAC Action Plan; Water Injection Dredging (WID) and Purchase of Reservoir Storage. These two items were put in memo form and have been submitted to the KWO and will be passed onto the KWA. Earl Lewis, KWO, gave a presentation on the new budget process that has been put in place to solicit input from all 14 RACs on the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF). The hope is to have the entire $8 million restored to the SWPF, $6 million from State General Fund (SGF) and $2 million from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF) however only $1.2 million was restored for FY2018 and $3.25 million was restored for FY2019. There was a good deal of time spent on this with two items that address the RAC Action Plan; Water Injection Dredging (WID) and Purchase of Reservoir Storage. These two items were put in memo form and have been submitted to the KWO and will be passed onto the KWA. Kirk Tjelmeland, KWO, updated the RAC on the RCPP. The $2.88 million will be delivered all at one time, not annually over the 5 year project and the NRCS will hold and monitor the spenddown. If everything goes well the program will launch and the first signup period will be this fall. Other meeting issues: Low level in the Kansas River is impacting power production at Bowersock and Tracy is requesting some adjustments in release rates from Tuttle and Milford. DOC is making $1 million available for Livestock Water Supply due to the drought. NRCS received an additional $5 million for EQIP enabling completion of a good number of applications.

Marais des Cygnes RAC
KWO is evaluating the small PWS lakes within the Region. This assessment will allow the RAC to determine what the supply is within the Region that is not served by the mainstem Marais des Cygnes. Doing so will determine if there is demand within the Region that is currently not being met. Progress of this evaluation will be presented at the MdC RAC’s October 1st meeting.

The KWO, using the MEKRO Model, is evaluating reservoir storage to meet the demands of municipal and industrial users. This evaluation will determine the necessity of partnering with the USACE in PAS to determine the need to call-in unallocated storage in Melvern and/or conduct pool raises at Pomona and Hillsdale.

The RAC is also working with the WRAPS Program and KDHE, along with the local Conservation Districts and KDA-DOC to partner on a producer field day highlighting no-till and cover crops as a way to reduce sedimentation into the Region’s PWS reservoirs.

Missouri RAC
The Missouri Regional Advisory Committee has held two meetings in the last 30 days, a regularly scheduled meeting and a meeting to provide budget recommendations to the KWA. In the June 21st meeting the Ag subcommittee brought up the water summit meeting that Representative Sloan held and the relevant water issues that were discussed. The Missouri River subcommittee said the USACE has reported that the river will be running above the 10 year average and the navigation season will be three weeks longer due to the excess water. Presentations at this meeting were given by The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Doniphan County Conservation District, KGS, Iowa Tribe and the Sac and Fox Tribe. Heidi Mehl, from TNC, gave an overview on what TNC does and also a project she is involved with in Kansas. She spoke about the Sustainable Rivers Program (SRP), the Kansas River was recently selected to receive funding to look at possibly restoring ecological flows without impacting current water users. They are working towards a workshop in early 2019. Chris Griffin, from DP County, said the RCPP has received approval and that they are just waiting for the final okay from the NRCS. This RCPP is directed at limiting sediment movement through numerous EQIP practices. Andrea Brookfield, from KGS, gave an update on the Phase II progress and demonstrated the webpage they had created with all the well information. She also mentioned she will be transitioning off the project and Geoff Bohling will be taking her place. Only the first of this five year study has been funded for this project. Alan Kelley, of the Iowa Tribe, presented on some of the items the Tribe is working through: establishing a water board, water right issues, working with nitrate issues and construction of a new water tower. Lisa Montgomery, from the Sac & Fox Nation, presented on some of the water issues they are dealing with. They do a great deal of sampling on the 25 sq. mile reservation and continue to struggle with Livestock and human fecal coliform bacteria issues. Their data is available on the EPA STORET website which includes sampling locations on surface water sites, wells and a CAFO. Other items from the meeting, funding enhancements for FY2019 totaled $3.25 million for such items as: Watershed Conservation Practice Implementation, Streambank Stabilization and enhancements to the WRAPS program. The July 16th meeting was focused on looking at budget numbers and supplying recommendations to the KWA. Earl Lewis, from KWO, gave a presentation on the new budget process that has been put in place to solicit input from all 14 RACs on the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF). The hope is to have the entire $8 million restored to the SWPF, $6 million from State General Fund (SGF) and $2 million from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF) however only $1.2 million was restored for FY2018 and $3.25 million was restored for FY2019. Earl had prepared the spreadsheet that is broken down into 4 sections that match up with the Vision: Water Conservation, Water Management, Technology and Crop Varieties and Additional Sources of supply. There was a good deal of time spent on this with items of concern documented and those were put in memo form. This has been submitted to the KWO and will be passed onto the KWA. Other items from the meeting, the Healthy Watershed Grant that was submitted to the BOR did not receive funding.

Neosho RAC
The RAC has contacted landowners within the Region to be participants in a WQTF. KSU has conducted field visits on the properties of the willing landowners. KSU’s initial evaluation identified two properties that would be good candidates for a WQTF. Currently KSU is conducting laser level land surveys to determine placement of edge of field monitoring and needed dirt work. The RAC is partnering with landowners, KSU, Westar, WRAPS, and possibly private companies to fund the WQTF. The RAC will visit the Westar property near Emporia on September 12th prior to their RAC meeting.

Initial conversations with the USACE, KDHE, USGS, KBS, and GRDA have begun in order to identify the possibility of conducting HAB studies locally at Marion Reservoir and Region-wide from Marion to Grand Lake. Funding would need to be secured through the Handshake Program for FY19 for the local study at Marion and additional, separate funding would need to be secured for FY19 and FY20 to conduct a Region-wide study. GRDA has partnered with USACE in a different study looking at HABs that may be beneficial for the RAC’s proposed study.

Red Hills RAC
The Red Hills RAC continues to support the pilot produced water project and reuse of produced water; a new regional lake; and encourage water conservation including removal of Eastern Red Cedars and rangeland
management. The pilot produced water treatment project has been delayed due to the original firm elevating costs above the developed budget and grant funds. Efforts are underway to change contractors for the project. Local leadership for the lake project continues to meet with the landowners and potential investors to develop the project. The rangeland Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) project sponsored by the Nature Conservancy addresses a portion of the Conservation Goal is underway. The hydrologic evaluation portion of the RCPP project has identified willing landowners to quantify the change in water resources with removal of eastern red cedar trees and other rangeland management practices.

**Smoky Hill-Saline RAC**
The Smoky Hill RAC continues to support efforts to educate the region on the areas water resources emphasizing conservation. The second annual Smoky Hill Region Water Conservation Field Day is scheduled for October 19 in Salina. Work to encourage development or updating of municipal water conservation plans in the region is underway. Sediment reduction efforts presently focus the Reservoir Protection Initiative on one watershed above Kanopolis Lake in addition to the WRAPs projects already in progress.

**Solomon-Republican RAC**
The Solomon-Republican Advisory Committee held their last meeting in Downs on July 23rd. The focus of the meeting was budget recommendations to the Kansas Water Authority for the FY2020 budget. Earl Lewis, from KWO, gave a presentation on the new budget process that has been put in place to solicit input from all 14 RACs on the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF). The hope is to have the entire $8 million restored to the SWPF, $6 million from State General Fund (SGF) and $2 million from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF) however only $1.2 million was restored for FY2018 and $3.25 million was restored for FY2019. Earl had prepared the spreadsheet that is broken down into 4 sections that match up with the Vision: Water Conservation, Water Management, Technology and Crop Varieties and Additional Sources of supply. There was a good deal of time spent on this with Education being the primary concern. In particular the hiring of someone to manage this statewide effort, this was passed onto the KWO in memo form. Jennifer Nichols, KDHE, explained that 88% of lakes sampled have blue-greens present and that they are a part of the phytoplankton community. The blooms only become a problem when they are large, last a long time and occur frequently. Blooms happen when there are plenty of nutrients, temperatures are high and there is little movement in the water column. In 2017 KDHE collected and analyzed 160 samples from 28 lakes resulting in 24 lakes being posted to Watch, Warning or Closure. Webster led the pack in 2017 with 14 weeks sampled and is leading in 2018 with 5 weeks in Warning status. Because the HAB is buoyant it can be easily identified by placing a sample of water in a jar. Place the jar in a refrigerator overnight, if floating in the morning, this is the bad stuff. The bloom at Sebelius driven by the wind gathered over the public water intake and was pulled into the Cities treatment plant. The algae were drawn into the plant causing it to be pulled off line for treatment. A boil water order was put in place when the line pressure dropped with the wells not able to keep up with demand. Heavy rain events near Hill City were the trigger to the HAB on Sebelius. KDHE doesn’t sample private waters so landowners can use the jar test or pay private labs to complete testing. Kirk Tjelmeland, KWO, led a discussion on the recently completed Sebelius Economic Impact report completed by the Docking Institute. The report will be presented to the public at a meeting in August or September in the Norton Area. When that date and location is finalized the RAC will be notified. Several points of interest in the report include: calculated economic impact to Norton County is $4.8 million annually, recreational users from CO and NE contribute $761,000 annually, Kansas sales tax generated is over $70,000, the value of the Norton Municipal Water Right is $1.8 million, value of the water right held by Almena Irrigation District #5 is $11.5 million and the value of the water left in Sebelius by the contract is $2.4 million. Planning for a meeting with a presentation by the Docking Institute of study findings is in the works. Kirk also presented an update on the Milford RCPP. The RCPP is getting closer to a formal signing of a contract. The main goal of the project is to limit nutrient loading in the Milford Watershed. The $2.88 million will be delivered all at one time not annually over the 5 year project and the NRCS will hold and monitor the spenddown. Time spent by the 28 partners prior to the formal contract execution does not count towards committed in-kind match. The whole partner group and the three workgroups have been meeting since January to make this program a success. If everything goes well the program will launch and the first signup
period will be this fall. The hope is to have the first signup end the 3rd week of November the same as EQIP. Other issues: Lynn Davignon, KDWPT, brought up the proposed water transfer that could take place in NE from the Platte River to the Republican River. An application has been filed by Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID) to divert up to 275 cfs from the Platte River, staged in the Elwood Reservoir or directly released into Turkey Creek at 100 cfs making its way to the Republican River. The Platte has two invasive species that would decimate sport fish populations in Harlan County, Lovewell and Milford if this transfer is allowed to take place. Asian Carp and White Perch have reduced sportfish populations by as much as 80% in lakes where they have infested and cause bodily injury to recreationalists. The comment period is up through August 16th for written comments.

**Upper Arkansas RAC**
The Upper Arkansas RAC has had recent discussions in regards to industrial water use efficiency gains. In response, letters have been sent out to all large-scale industrial water users as an introduction to the RAC and a forum to leverage and share information with other industrial users. An update will be sent out once or twice a year from the RAC Industry representative to provide encouragement and promote communication amongst industries that otherwise have little in common. There is continued concern about invasive species and interest in the update of the tamarisk study by the Kansas Forest Service. The RAC took a position to support the WaterSMART Grant applications in the region coming from both GMD3 and KWO; the latter application was not submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation due to the absence of cost-share funds. Two new WCA’s are pending approval within the region. The Harshberger Farm was added as the third Water Technology Farm in the region this year. The Garden City Company and Dwane Roth Farm field days were held August 15th, while Harshberger Farm and T&O Farms are scheduled for field days the last week of August. The First Annual Bottom Line Conference hosted by the Kearny County Conservation District will be held on August 22nd & 23rd. The main focus of the conference is to give High Plains producers the advice and tools needed to improve soil health and profitability through solutions based on actions.

**Upper Republican RAC**
The Upper Republican RAC has continued to focus on discussions regarding public outreach and education for water users with an emphasis on State of the Resource outreach efforts. Support from the RAC for the implementation of the GMD4 LEMA continues. The Northwest Kansas Technical College Precision Agriculture Program continues to grow and support Water Technology Farms. The program will be hosting a field day the last week of August. There are two new WCA’s pending approval in the region. Other topics that have recently been of interest to the RAC include the funding of small municipality system leaks and looking at long-term trends and projections of nitrates and other potential groundwater contaminants.

**Upper Smoky Hill RAC**
The Upper Smoky RAC has had recent discussions about increasing education and public outreach within its area.
  - Outreach continues within Wichita County, led by the Wichita County Water Conservation Area Group.
  - There are now 24 farms included in the Wichita County WCA, 8 of which were approved just this year.

The Educators Workshop planned for the summer of 2018 had to be canceled due to conflicts with teacher schedules and attendance.
  - There is still interest in expanding and sharing the projects with other teachers and schools.
  - Continue to work with high schools within the region continues as the school year starts back up.

Recent discussions have focused on Western Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 1 (GMD1) work towards developing a LEMA plan for the district.
  - GMD1 is anticipating having a plan in place for Wichita County by 2020.
  - GMD1 has held a public informational meeting in Wichita County for what a potential LEMA could look like.
After the Wichita County LEMA (if approved), GMD 1 plans on a county by county approach for any other LEMA's in the district.

GMD1 will start taking applications again for cost share on water conservation/measurement devises, most likely starting in December, and is looking into several grants to provide additional funding.

At the last meeting the idea was brought up to develop an app to look at and track water meters, something similar to what is used in Nebraska. Both regional Water Technology Farms are scheduled to have field days the last week of August

Verdigris RAC
Discussions with local WJD in the upper portion of the Region have taken place to see the possibility of constructing planned structures above federal reservoirs as a sedimentation reduction practice. The KWO is currently identifying planned watershed structures that are near the reservoirs and working with the WJD to determine if there is landowner interest.

The KWO is working with NRCS, KRWA, and KDA-DWR to help the City of Madison, City of Hamilton, and connecting RWDs secure additional water supply through the rehabilitation of a watershed structure using the PL-566 Program. This project is currently being evaluated by the NRCS as the City of Madison works on its engineering plans.

The KWO is also working with KDA-DOC to see if any watershed dams can be rehabilitated and have water supply added in order to supply the City of Eureka with an additional supply. This project is in the very preliminary stages and is currently being evaluated by the KDA-DOC.

The KWO is currently working with Coffeyville Resources and the City of Coffeyville to determine demands (current and future) for the Region. They are coordinating with Coffeyville Resources and the USACE to determine if Coffeyville Resources intake can be altered to decrease the flows that must be released to meet their demand. The result of this evaluation will determine the need to change reservoir operations and sedimentation reduction practices.

This memo is for informational purposes only. No KWA action necessary
MEMO

DATE: August 22, 2018
TO: Kansas Water Authority
FROM: Earl Lewis
RE: Water Research Coordination

As previously presented and discussed by the Kansas Water Authority (KWA), a research coordination workgroup has continued to meet to identify priorities for research needed to support implementation of The Vision. No action is being sought at this time.

Efforts focused on the specific areas of research previously identified by the group have continued, which include streambank stabilization effectiveness, irrigation technologies and crop genetic research, and harmful algal blooms. Utilizing a combination of funding sources, including a portion of funding received from state appropriations, each of the research teams focused on these specific areas have continued their efforts and will present their current progress to the KWA.

A Water Research Newsletter template is currently being created by KWO. KWO will soon compile ongoing water-related research from universities and disseminate the newsletter once a quarter.

No action is needed at this time. Information is provided for discussion purposes only.
As noted within the Long-Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas (The Vision), “Following the first year of the goal setting process and annually thereafter, the Kansas Water Authority will evaluate progress towards meeting milestones and overall goals and will assess the need for further action. Annual public meetings will be held in each water resource planning region, highlighting the current groundwater, surface water and water storage conditions.”

To support this annual water resource condition and implementation evaluation noted within The Vision, Kansas Water Office staff have developed reports which assess water resource conditions within each of the 14 Regional Planning Areas. These reports, titled State of the Resource & Regional Goal Action Plan Implementation Reports, also provide an evaluation of implementation progress being made within each of the respective regions.

The State of the Resource & Regional Goal Action Plan Implementation Reports for each of the 14 Regional Planning Areas can be found on the Kansas Water Office webpage at: http://www.kwo.ks.gov.
The 2018 Legislature, as part of the $3.25 million restoration of the State Water Plan Fund includes $900,000 for Best Management Practice (BMP) Implementation for state fiscal year (SFY) 2019. An inter-agency team of representatives from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Conservation, and the Kansas Water Office have developed an implementation plan for these funds under the title of the Kansas Reservoir Protection Initiative. Four watersheds in association with RAC action plans have been identified as eligible for this SFY 2019 funding. These four watersheds are Tuttle Creek Lake (Kansas Region), Fall River Lake (Verdigris Region), John Redmond Reservoir (Neosho Region), and Kanopolis Lake (Smoky Hill-Saline Region).

In support of BMP implementation taking place where it will have the highest benefit to the four reservoirs previously noted, the highest priority areas for sediment reduction which support WRAPS nine element plan implementation have been targeted for the use of these funds. These targeted areas are reflected within the Tier 1 and Tier 2 areas noted in the accompanying map.

This implementation plan has also been developed with RAC involvement in mind. Representatives from the Kansas, Neosho, Smoky Hill-Saline, and Verdigris RACs have been invited to participate in the application evaluation process to ensure that local RAC-level input is included within the implementation of this initiative.

Additional information on the Kansas Reservoir Protection Initiative is available on the Kansas Water Office webpage at http://www.kwo.ks.gov/projects/kansas-reservoir-protection-initiative.
Program Objective
To protect water supply storage and improve water quality in reservoirs across Kansas that provide water to municipal and industrial customers through implementation of watershed conservation practices within Vision priority watersheds. Conservation practices are individual or a combination of practices that are determined to be the most effective and practicable (including technological, economic, and institutional considerations) means of controlling point and non-point sources of pollution at levels compatible with resource and economic goals.

Program Budget
- $900,000 for FY 2019

SFY 2019 Program Proposed Concepts and Activities
- Eligible Areas Include Portions of:
  - Fall River Lake Watershed
  - John Redmond Reservoir Watershed
  - Kanopolis Lake Watershed
  - Tuttle Creek Lake Watershed
- Eligible watershed conservation practices include those currently identified for the Sedimentation Above Federal Reservoirs (SFR) ranking category within the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Kansas Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding pool.
- Producers selected for funding will receive an incentive payment based on the amount of sediment savings estimated to be achieved by the implementation of proposed practices.
  - SFY 2019 Payment Rate: $50/ton
  - Payment cap of 100% of actual project cost
- Applications accepted starting August 1, 2018
  - End of first batching period August 31, 2018. Second batching period end date TBD
- Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Chairs or their designees from Regional Planning Areas which have eligible watersheds for SFY 2019 funding will have the opportunity to participate in application evaluation process with the Kansas Water Office (KWO), Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Conservation (KDA-DOC) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). This includes:
  - Kansas RAC
  - Neosho RAC
  - Smoky Hill-Saline RAC
  - Verdigris RAC
- Application eligibility ranking criteria will be utilized which takes into consideration:
  - Location of proposed practices in relation to identified priority watersheds for SFY 2019 eligible areas.
  - Sediment reduction efficiency of proposed practices.
- KDA-DOC Cost Share and Information Management System (CSIMS) to be utilized for application evaluation and contract administration.
- $50,000 reserve amount for each eligible watershed
- Projects to be implemented with Vision Watershed Conservation Practice Implementation funding will be designed to meet Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) specifications.
Kansas Reservoir Protection Initiative

Priority Level

Tier 1

Tier 2

Bureau of Environmental Field Services
Watershed Management Section
July 2018
The following summarizes the goals of the KWA with regard to the items presented herein:

**Informational Items:**
- Interstate Water Issues Update
- KDWPT Release
- Nebraska Letter

**Interstate Water Issues Update**

There have been two announcements in the media recently regarding interstate water issues. The first is the announcement that Kansas and Colorado have reached an agreement relative to the Republican River Compact. The second is a response from the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism to a Nebraska water project proposing to transfer water from the Platte River to the Republican River system. Governor Colyer has submitted a letter to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources objecting to the proposed project.

Attached are press releases for both announcements and Governor Colyer’s letter.

*This item is for information only. No action is needed at this time.*
IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 3, 2018

For more information, contact:  
Kendall Marr  
785.296.8674  
media@ks.gov

Kansas, Colorado reach agreement on Republican River Water Usage

TOPEKA, Kan. — Today the Governors and Attorneys General of Kansas and Colorado announced that they have reached a settlement of claims regarding Colorado’s past use of water under the Republican River Compact. The Compact allocates the waters of the basins between the states of Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas.

“This settlement is an investment in the basin to ensure a better future for Kansas water users.” said Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer. “Kansas and Colorado are committed to continuing to make the Compact work for the benefit of the citizens of our states, and this settlement recognizes the ties that bind our states together and is an important step for the economic development of the region.”

Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt also expressed his approval. “The Kansas water team at the Department of Agriculture and our legal team at the Attorney General’s office have done an outstanding job of resolving years of past disputes without litigation,” Schmidt said. “This settlement going forward promises a more cooperative approach to what really matters — the best possible management of the water resources in the basin’s South Fork on both sides of the state line.”

Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper agreed that “This settlement provides funds that could be used in the Republican River Basin within Kansas and Colorado and creates additional opportunities for cooperative water management between the States.”
Colorado Attorney General Cynthia H. Coffman also expressed her approval, saying the agreement “avoids the costs and uncertainty of litigation and furthers the principles of the Compact, including removing controversy and fostering interstate cooperation.”

The agreement resolves the existing controversies between the two states regarding Colorado’s past use of water under the Republican River Compact and allows them to continue to work collaboratively through the compact as part of an overall ongoing effort which also involves the state of Nebraska.

The settlement was signed by the governors and attorneys general of both states. A copy of the settlement is available at agriculture.ks.gov/RRCA.

###
NEWS RELEASE

August 8, 2018

For Immediate Release

News Contact: Ron Kaufman, 785-296-2870 or email ron.kaufman@ks.gov

River Proposal Threatens Kansas Lakes, Rivers

TOPEKA – To meet Nebraska’s legal obligation to increase the flow of the Republican River into Kansas, the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District has proposed creating a connection in Nebraska between the Platte River Basin and the Republican River Basin. After entering northcentral Kansas, the Republican River feeds into Lovewell Reservoir and Milford Reservoir before joining the Kansas River near Junction City. The Republican River also connects with several other waterways in northcentral Kansas.

The State of Kansas opposes this project because invasive Asian Carp and White Perch in the Platte River could enter the Republican River (along with other nuisance species) if the two rivers are connected. As a result, the project could severely impact Kansas’ sportfish and native aquatic species, water-based recreation, tourism and the state’s fishing economy. There is no evidence that those two species currently live in the Republican River.

Asian Carp can grow to more than 40 inches long and weigh more than 50 pounds. One Asian Carp species, the Silver Carp, is known to leap up to 10 feet in the air when boats or personal watercraft pass over. They pose a risk of serious injury to boaters and skiers who may find themselves surrounded by dozens of large, heavy fish leaping wildly from the water. Asian Carp and White Perch also compete with sportfish, so Kansas’ $210,000,000 recreational fishing industry would be at risk from declines of sportfish such as bass, crappie and walleye. Asian Carp are filter-feeders that compete with other fish for food and space. They are prolific breeders, grow fast and can quickly become the predominate fish species in a...
lake or river. In other states, some lakes with Asian Carp have experienced sportfish population declines of more than 80 percent with corresponding damage to their fishing and tourism economies.

White Perch are native to the east coast of the United States, and they can produce overpopulated, stunted populations in reservoirs. Stunted White Perch are too small to be sought after by anglers and can be so numerous that they can clog cities’ water intakes if there is a die-off. In addition, these fish eagerly eat the eggs of other fish species.

Changes to the Republican River could also impact critical habitat for the Shoal Chub and Plains Minnow which are threatened species in Kansas. Both species release their eggs into flowing water where they would be susceptible to being eaten by White Perch.

To comment on this proposed project, submit written comments to: Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 94676, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4676. Your written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. August 16, 2018. Be sure to include:

1) The application number about which you are commenting (A-19594)

2) An indication that your comment is offered under Option 1 (written comment)

3) Your name, address, and contact information

4) Your written comments

For complete information on submitting your comments, see A-19594 NOTICE.pdf at:

https://dnr.nebraska.gov/notice-interbasin-transfer-application-19594
August 8, 2018

Mr. Jeff Fassett, Director
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 94676
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4676

Subject: Objection to Application A-19594, Option #1

Dear Director Fassett:

The state of Kansas objects to the Interbasin Transfer from the Platte River to the Republican River Basin. Application A-19594 was filed with the Department of Natural Resources on April 4, 2018 by the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID) and the Platte Republican Diversion Interlocal Agreement Partners. While the application states that no Adverse Impacts exist, the transfer will provide a pathway for invasive species of fish to enter the Republican River Basin where currently, no evidence of these species exists.

According to the Nebraska Department of Game and Parks, Asian carp (bighead and silver carp) have been documented over the past several years in the upper sections of the Loup, Platte and Elkhorn rivers. Numerous adults were sampled in 2017 in the Elkhorn and an overwintering population of both silver and bighead were documented in Turkey Creek (near Kearney, NE) which is a tributary of the Platte River which is the first documentation of an overwintering population in this area. The Department has also documented the existence of Asian Carp at the J2 return.

Asian carp have decimated sportfish populations and pose safety hazards to river and reservoir recreationalists in many parts of the United States, most recently at Barkley and Kentucky Lakes in Kentucky. Harlan County Reservoir would be impacted by the presence of these species as well as Lovewell and Milford Reservoirs in Kansas, and eventually, the upper Kansas River. Not only will species have a detrimental environmental effect on the Republican and Kansas River systems, but will have profound economic impact to the state of Kansas and local economies surrounding the reservoirs. The Kansas Republican River Compact Administration team has collaborated with the state of Nebraska to develop strategies providing greater water certainty for our water users and we support water supply strategies to insure compliance with the Compact. However, the invasive species implications to the Republican River resulting from the Platte River transfer proposal prohibit Kansas from supporting its’ permit approval. For these reasons, I recommend that Application A-19594 be denied.

Sincerely,

Jeff Colyer, M.D.
Governor
Current U.S. Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor has drought conditions improved in western and southern Kansas during the month as rains moved across some areas. However, the conditions in eastern Kansas deteriorated as moderate, severe, extreme and exceptional drought conditions expanded as the region continued to miss out on the rain events. Conditions summarized by the U.S. Drought Monitor for Kansas are shown in Figure 1.

![U.S. Drought Monitor Map for Kansas](image)

Figure 1. Most Recent U.S. Drought Monitor for Kansas

The KWO continues monitoring conditions and posting drought reports on the KWO website [http://www.kwo.ks.gov/reports2/climate-and-drought-monitoring-response](http://www.kwo.ks.gov/reports2/climate-and-drought-monitoring-response). Reports are being compiled twice a month now that drought conditions have intensified. Additional information, previous reports and information links are also available on the website.
Drought Declaration Executive Order 18-16

Governor Jeff Colyer, MD issued Drought Declarations for Kansas counties with Executive Order 18-16. The declaration includes all 105 counties placing 72 counties in emergency status, 15 into a warning status and 18 into a watch status based on existing water and soil conditions and wildfire potential as well as forecasted precipitation and temperatures. The county declarations are shown in Figure 2 below.

While there have been some recent rains, drought conditions for many areas of the state, especially eastern Kansas, continue to worsen. Declining livestock water and feed supply continue to be reported. Counties in emergency stage are eligible for emergency use of water from certain state fishing lakes. They also become eligible for water in some Federal reservoirs.

To date, a total of thirteen withdrawal permits have been issued for emergency livestock water in seven counties from four state fishing lakes and four federal lakes. Five of the permits were issued so far in August. Lakes with aquatic nuisance species (ANS) such as zebra mussels are also required to obtain an ANS permit. If a lake is under a public health advisory for blue-green algae water cannot be used for livestock.

MDS Report as provided by KDA-DWR on 8/20/2018

Minimum Desirable Streamflows (MDS) are monitored by KDA-DWR with administration occurring when streamflow drops below MDS for more than seven days. MDS administration continued in August on six streams affecting 313 water rights: Little Arkansas River at Alta Mills since August 10, 2017; Republican River above the Clay Center and Concordia gages since April 13, 2018; Mill Creek above Paxico since April 12, 2018; Whitewater River above the gage near Towanda since April 12, 2018; Delaware River above the Muscotah gage since March 23, 2018; and Chapman Creek at the Chapman gage since June 21, 2018. Figure 3 on the following page indicates the locations of the referenced MDS gages.
Drought conditions have substantially reduced flows entering water supply reservoirs. Analysis of federal reservoirs containing state-owned storage shows that Clinton Lake, Perry Lake, Melvern Lake, Pomona Lake, Council Grove Lake, and John Redmond Reservoir inflows have been below the 5% probability level (20 year recurrence interval) in the January to July of 2018 period, with inflows into Council Grove Lake below 2% (50 year recurrence interval). Furthermore, conditions at Council Grove Lake are much more severe than they were during the 2012 drought (Figure 4 below).
Table 1 below indicates the inflow recurrence probability of the Kansas federal reservoirs for the period of January to July of 2018.

**Table 1. Estimated Inflow Recurrence Probability of Kansas Federal Reservoirs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reservoir</th>
<th>Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council Grove Lake</td>
<td>1.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry Lake</td>
<td>2.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Redmond Reservoir</td>
<td>2.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton Lake</td>
<td>3.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pomona Lake</td>
<td>3.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melvern Lake</td>
<td>4.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuttle Creek Lake</td>
<td>8.94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillsdale Lake</td>
<td>10.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall River Lake</td>
<td>11.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion Reservoir</td>
<td>11.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto Lake</td>
<td>15.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elk City Lake</td>
<td>19.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milford Lake</td>
<td>26.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Hill Lake</td>
<td>26.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanopolis Lake</td>
<td>29.50%</td>
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*This memo is for informational purposes only. No KWA action necessary*
The Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee held a meeting on August 17th, 2018. Primary topics of the meeting included:

1. Review of the FY2019 KWA recommendation to the legislature
2. KWA budget committee recommendation for FY2020-2021 State Water Plan Funds

Karma Mason (chair), Gary Harshberger, Brad Loveless and Mark Fischer were present with Randy Hazlett on the call along with the agency and research representatives.

The KWA Budget Committee had a lengthy discussion and review of the agency and RAC request on recommended projects for the SGF/EDIF transfer in Fiscal Year 2020 and 2021. The committee wants to continue to focus funding on priority projects that are in the Vision and Regional Advisory Goals Action Plans. It was concluded that the Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee recommendations included in the 2018 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature should continue to be the primary requests for restoration of demand transfers. The following table shows the Budget Committee’s recommendation for additional SGF/EDIF restoration for FY 2020 and 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Program/Project</th>
<th>FY2020</th>
<th>FY2021</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KDA</td>
<td>Streambank Stabilization</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>KDHE</td>
<td>Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KWO</td>
<td>Milford Lake Watershed RCPP</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>KWO</td>
<td>Vision Education Strategy</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>KWO</td>
<td>Watershed Conservation Practice Imp</td>
<td>$1,800,000</td>
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**Water Conservation Sub-Total** $3,825,000 $3,225,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Program/Project</th>
<th>FY2020</th>
<th>FY2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KDA</td>
<td>Real Time Water Management (Telemetry)</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>KDHE</td>
<td>Harmful Algae Bloom Pilot</td>
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**Water Management Sub-Total** $575,000 $575,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Program/Project</th>
<th>FY2020</th>
<th>FY2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KWO</td>
<td>Reservoir and Water Quality Research</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>KDA</td>
<td>Crop and Livestock Research</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>KDA</td>
<td>Irrigation Technology</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>KWO</td>
<td>Water Tech Farms</td>
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<td>$250,000</td>
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</table>

**Technology and Crop Variety Sub-Total** $1,250,000 $1,250,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Program/Project</th>
<th>FY2020</th>
<th>FY2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KDA</td>
<td>Water Supply Restoration Program</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KDHE</td>
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<td>Storage Purchase</td>
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<td>KWO</td>
<td>Water Injection Dredging</td>
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**Additional Source of Supply Sub-Total** $2,350,000 $2,950,000

| Total State Water Plan Expenditures | $8,000,000 | $8,000,000 |
Attachment 1 is the SWPF table showing the full KWA Budget Committee recommendations for both fee revenue and the additional SGF/EDIF transfer of $8 million in FY2020 and FY2021 to the full Kansas Water Authority. Funding lines that included SGF/EDIF transfers are shown in green.

The KWA Budget Committee recognizes that staff is necessary to carry out water resource programs and projects. As such, the KWA Budget Committee recommends full KWA support for the following state agency enhancements related to personnel and that the request should be funded from the State General Fund.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Agency</th>
<th>Program/Project</th>
<th>KWA FY2020</th>
<th>KWA FY2021</th>
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<tr>
<td>KDA</td>
<td>Water Conservation Manager</td>
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<td>KDA</td>
<td>DWR Application Specialist</td>
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<td>KDA</td>
<td>Interstate Water Engineer</td>
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<tr>
<td>KDA</td>
<td>Water Appropriations Operating Budget</td>
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<td>KDA</td>
<td>Water Structures Professional Engineer</td>
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<td>KDHE</td>
<td>Onsite Environmental Support</td>
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<td>KWO</td>
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</table>

Total Personnel Request $1,360,000 $1,360,000

The KWA Budget Committee recommends the KWA adopt the State Water Plan Fund as shown in the attached table to include fee revenue as well as full restoration of the State General Fund and Economic Development Initiatives Fund demand transfers. The KWA Budget Committee also recommends the KWA support additional agency staff requests as shown in the above table from the State General Fund.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency/Program</th>
<th>FY2018 Actuals</th>
<th>FY2018 Carry Forward</th>
<th>FY2019 Appropriated</th>
<th>FY2019 w/carry forward</th>
<th>FY2020 Recs</th>
<th>FY2021 Recs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health and Environment</td>
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<td>Contamination Remediation-1802</td>
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<td>Technical Assistance to Water Users</td>
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<td>Water Injection Dredging</td>
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### State Water Plan Resource Estimate

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<th>FY2018 Appropriated</th>
<th>FY2018 w/Carry Forward</th>
<th>FY2019 Projected</th>
<th>FY2019 w/carry forward</th>
<th>FY2020 Projected</th>
<th>FY2021 Projected</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Release of Prior Year Encumbrance</td>
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<td>Other Service Charges</td>
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<td>Subtotal--Adjustments</td>
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<td>Economic Development Fund Transfer</td>
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<td>Industrial Water Fees</td>
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<td>Stock Water Fees</td>
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<td>Pesticide Registration Fees</td>
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<td>Fertilizer Registration Fees</td>
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<td>Pollution Fines and Penalties</td>
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<td>Sand Royalties</td>
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SAVE THE DATE
AUGUST 23, 2018
2018 Kansas Governor’s Summit on Agricultural Growth
Manhattan Conference Center
Manhattan, Kansas

agriculture.ks.gov/GrowAg