

Kansas Water Authority Meeting
In-Person/Zoom
Emporia, KS
9:00 a.m. – April 20, 2022
Agenda

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>KWA Advice</i>	<i>KWA Decision</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
9:00 am	Call to Order/Roll Call	Dawn Buehler	--	--	--
9:05 am	Approval of Meeting Minutes				
	January 27, 2022 Meeting	Dawn Buehler		X	2
9:10 am	KWA Public Water Supply Committee Update	John Bailey			--
	<i>*Possible Action Item*</i>				--
9:30 am	KWA RAC Operations Committee	Jeremiah Hobbs			
	RAC Membership			X	4
	RAC Messages to the KWA			X	5
9:40 am	Kansas Water Plan Update	Connie Owen	X		--
9:45 am	Legislative Update				
	House Water Committee	Connie Owen	X		--
	FY 2022 & 2023 Appropriations Process	Matt Unruh	X		--
10:30 am	BREAK				
10:45 am	KWA SWPF FY 2024 Budget Recommendation Process	Matt Unruh	X		6
11:00 am	Kansas Drought Discussion				--
	Updated Governor's Drought Declaration	Connie Owen	X		--
	Drought Response	Richard Rockel	X		--
	Reservoir Water Supply Operations During Drought	Nathan Westrup	X		--
12:00 pm	LUNCH				
12:45 pm	Kansas Water Success Stories	Andy Lyon	X		--
1:05 pm	Federal Update				
	Federal Infrastructure Funding	Tom Stiles Connie Owen	X		--
	Tuttle Creek Water Injection Dredging	Josh Olson	X		--
	EPA Wetland Grant	Kirk Tjelmeland		X	7
1:35 pm	KWA Ex Officio Agency Updates				--
2:05 pm	Director's Report	Connie Owen	X		--
2:15 pm	New Business				
2:30 pm	Adjourn				

Upcoming Kansas Water Authority Meetings

- June 22, 2022 – Pittsburg
- August 17, 2022 – TBD
- October 19, 2022 – TBD
- November 2022 – Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas
- December 14, 2022 TBD

Zoom Participation Information (4/20/2022 Meeting):

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84258305864?pwd=T0JoOWJ0aDhDR09WSE5FeWgvYUZ4dz09>

Meeting ID: 842 5830 5864

Passcode: 823561

One tap mobile

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Minutes

KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY

January 27, 2022

Zoom Meeting

Virtual

CALL TO ORDER: Chair **Dawn Buehler** called the **January 27, 2022**, Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting held in-person and Via Zoom webinar/call to order at **8:35 a.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Buehler, Michael Armstrong, John Bailey, Randy Hayzlett, Jeremiah Hobbs, Alan King, Chris Ladwig, Allen Roth, Jean Steiner, Allan Soetaert, David Stroberg

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lynn Goossen and Carolyn McGinn

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Duffy, Earl Lewis, Lane Letourneau, Susan Metzger, Brad Loveless, Sara Baer, Leo Henning, Andrew Lyon, Connie Owen, Rolfe Mandel

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Ernie Minton, Mike Beam, David Toland, Kayla Savage

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Motion No. 01-27-01 It was moved by **Allen Roth** and seconded by **Randy Hayzlett** to approve the December 1, 2021, Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Kansas Water Authority. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

KWA PWS COMMITTEE:
John Bailey & Richard Rockel gave a presentation for the Public Water Supply (PWS) Committee and update on the 2022 Surplus Water Report.

Surplus Water Report
Motion No. 01-27-02 It was moved by **Mike Armstrong** and seconded by **David Stroberg** to approve the 2022 Surplus Water Report. The motion was amended to give authorization to the Director of the Kansas Water Office to enter in to surplus water supply contract for water defined to the surplus by the report. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

KANSAS WATER PLAN UPDATE:
Connie Owen gave an update on the ongoing Kansas Water Plan update.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET:
Matt Unruh gave an update on the Governor's fiscal year 2023 budget recommendations.
Connie Owen gave an update on the House Water Committee.
Governor Laura Kelly gave an update on her fiscal year 2023 budget Recommendations.

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Kansas Water Authority discussed and drafted a letter of support to send to members of legislation in regards to the House Water Committee’s desire to increase funding for Water Projects and Debt Paydown beyond the Governor’s Recommendation.

Motion 01-27-03

It was moved by **Jeremiah Hobbs** and seconded by **John Bailey** for the Kansas Water Authority to approve and send a letter of support to members of legislation in regards to the House Water Committee’s initiative, desire, and actions to increase financial support of water initiatives to protect, secure, and sustain water resources for the people of the state. **Motion carried with no dissenting vote.** Information found in meeting materials.

STATE WATER PLAN FUND DATA SHARING:

Richard Rockel & Katie Goff from the Kansas Water Office presented the State Water Plan Fund Data Dashboard.

DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS:

Dawn Buehler gave an update on Kansas’ drought preparedness.

NEW BUSINESS:

Earl Lewis gave update from the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

Andrew Lyon gave update from the Department of Conservation

Susan Duffy gave an update from the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Dawn Buehler gave an update on behalf of Susan Metzger from Kansas State University.

Brad Loveless gave an update from Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

Allen Roth gave an updated from Kansas Association of Conservation Districts.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Connie Owen gave Director’s Report from the Kansas Water Office.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dawn Buehler adjourned the meeting at **12:03 p.m.**

Dawn Buehler, Chair

Connie Owen, Secretary

MEMO



DATE: April 14, 2022
TO: Kansas Water Authority
FROM: Jeremiah Hobbs, RAC Operations Committee Chair
RE: RAC Membership

900 SW Jackson Street
Topeka, KS 66612
Phone: (785) 296-3185
Fax: (785) 296-0878
www.kwo.ks.gov

The Kansas Water Authority Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Operations Committee met April 4, 2022, via GoToMeeting. Discussion during the conference call focused on the following topics:

- Membership applications for the Equus-Walnut, Marais des Cygnes and Neosho RACs.
- RAC Messages to the KWA

The Committee reviewed and discussed applications for membership on the Equus-Walnut, Marais des Cygnes and Neosho RACs. The following membership recommendations were approved by the RAC Operations Committee for consideration and action by the full KWA:

- Recommend Tim Boese be considered for the Conservation/Environment (cc) category on the Equus-Walnut RAC with a term expiration of June 2025.
- Recommend Laura Hines be considered for Industry/Commerce (cc) category on the Marais des Cygnes with a term expiration of June 2023.
- Recommend Dean Grant be considered Water Assurance District (cc) category on the Neosho RAC with a term expiration of June 2023.

The KWA RAC Operations Committee recommends KWA approval of the applications for membership on the Equus-Walnut, Marais des Cygnes, and Neosho RACs as indicated above.

Message from the Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee:

Message: *“The Upper Republican RAC would like to raise awareness on water quality issues that are being created by chemical applications and contaminations, the possible long-term effects, cost associated with issues that are caused, and how it is paid for.”*

Background: In response to water quality and contamination issues within the region in recent years, members of the Upper Republican RAC expressed concern over issues of chemical applications and fertilizers that could potentially create issues to water sources through exposure and cross-contamination.

Staff Input: Water quality is an important issue for the state of Kansas. Issues with water quality can affect both surface water and ground water and impede the safe use of those water resources for beneficial uses such as public and private drinking water. Communities should be aware of the current and potential contamination threats to their water resources. Various resources are available for communities and regions to gather information on potential contaminations to both ground and surface waters. The long-term effects and cost associated with the issues are dependent on the type of contamination, the beneficial use of the water resource, and the size of the contamination.

Response: The RAC Operations Committee determined that there is timeliness of this memo in regards to an article published on March 28, 2022 on the High Plains Public Radio titled, “As fertilizer pollutes tap water in small towns, rural Kansans pay the price.” The news piece highlighted Kansas towns with active drinking water violations and the cost to those rural towns in cleaning water supplies.

The KWA RAC Operations Committee recommended sharing this message with the full Kansas Water Authority as a topic to call to attention.

MEMO



DATE: April 14, 2022
TO: Kansas Water Authority
FROM: Matt Unruh
RE: FY2024 KWA Budget Recommendation Development Process

900 SW Jackson Suite 404
Topeka, KS 66612
Phone: (785) 296-3185
Fax: (785) 296-0878
www.kwo.ks.gov

FY 2024 KWA SWPF Budget Process Review

Included below for the KWA's reference and review is a proposed budget recommendation development process for FY 2024. KWA advice regarding this process is requested at this time prior to initiation.

FY 2024 KWA SWPF Budget Recommendation Process

April

- *KWA approves FY 2024 recommendation budget development process*
- KWA sets appropriation target (i.e. SGF/EDIF restoration or part thereof, pursuing BRFTF recommendation funding or other funding alternatives)
- KWA provides guidance on priorities / areas of funding

May

- Agencies develop funding requests
- Agencies convene to develop recommendations to KWA Budget Committee

May-June

- Research Coordination Group meets to develop research funding recommendations
- Recommendations provided to agencies and KWA Budget Committee

June

- KWA Budget Committee meets to develop draft budget recommendations

June-July

- RACs review draft budget recommendations and provide feedback to KWA Budget Committee

July-August

- KWA Budget Committee finalizes recommendations to full KWA
- Full KWA acts on recommendations

September

- KWA FY 2024 SWPF budget recommendations are submitted by agencies as part of agency administration budget process

MEMO



DATE: April 14, 2022
TO: Kansas Water Authority
FROM: Kirk Tjelmeland
RE: EPA Wetland Grants

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Topeka, KS 66612
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Approval by the Kansas Water Authority, under KSA 74-2622, is required before the Kansas Water Office enters into agreements with the federal government. The KWO applied to receive funding 2021 Wetland Program Development Grant (WPDG) funding through Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7. The total amount of the grant is \$330,566.00, with a federal funding amount of \$247,924.00 and a non-federal matching fund obligation of \$82,642.00. All non-federal matches will be provided by in-kind service contributions. KWO has received notification from EPA of successful award of the grant.

The grant is entitled *Shoreline lacustrine wetlands in large Kansas reservoirs: status, trends and limiting factors* this would provide additional information to the 2015 WPDG which looked at wetlands in aging reservoirs. The proposed grant is looking wetland conditions in multiple reservoirs throughout the state.

Grant ideas were developed early in 2021 by a group of state agencies, interest groups and Kansas citizens with wetland knowledge. These grants address tasks identified in the Wetland Program Plan. KWO staff continue to work with the EPA and other wetland entities to accomplish tasks in the Wetland Program Plan to further the knowledge and understanding of wetlands and the water resource benefits they provide to the state of Kansas.

The KWO recommends the KWA authorize the Director to enter into an agreement with the U.S. EPA for the 2021 Wetland Program Development Grant.
