

Minutes

KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY

January 25, 2023

In-Person Meeting

Topeka, KS

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Dawn Buehler called the **January 25, 2023**, Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting to order at **09:00 a.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Buehler, Michael Armstrong John Bailey, Lynn Goossen, Randy Hayzlett, Jeremiah Hobbs, Pete Loecke, Carolyn McGinn Allen Roth, Allan Soetaert, Jean Steiner, David Stroberg

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alan King

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

PRESENT: Susan Duffy, Ryan Hoffman, Earl Lewis, Jay Kalbas, Susan Metzger, Steve Adams, Sara Baer, Tom Stiles, Andrew Lyon, Kayla Savage, Connie Owen

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Beam

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion No. 01-25-01 It was moved by John Bailey and seconded by Allen Roth to approve the December 14 & 15 2022, 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 reported for the Public Water Supply Committee. Nate Westrup then gave a presentation on Water Marketing Application No 266- Renewal of the Water Purchase contract 81-5.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments. A discussion began over the new water rate for this contract verses the old capped rate.

Contract 81-5 Renewal Negotiations

Motion No. 01-25-02 It was moved by Michael Armstrong and seconded by Jeremiah Hobbs to approve the directors request to begin contract negotiations with the City of Coffeyville. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

Nate Westrup then gave a presentation on Water Marketing Application No 265- Renewal of the Water Purchase contract 81-4.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments. Discussion on what entities Marion Reservoir may supply in the future was discussed. There was also a discussion on Water Conservation plans for any water marketing contracts.

Contract 81-4 Renewal Negotiations

Motion No. 01-25-03 It was moved by Carolyn McGinn and seconded by David Stroberg to approve the directors request to begin contract negotiations with the City of Marion. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

KWA RAC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Jeremiah Hobbs reported for the Public Water Supply Committee. Presented applications for Zack Frederick for the Agriculture 3 Category to the Great Bend Prairie RAC & the application of Katie Durham for the At- Large Public (cc) Category to the Upper Smoky RAC.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments.

Applications for Great Bend Prairie & Upper Smoky Hill RAC

Motion No. 01-25-04

It was moved by **Allen Roth** and seconded by **Lynn Goossen** to approve the applications for Zack Frederick for the Agriculture 3 Category to the Great Bend Prairie RAC with a term of June 2023 & approve the application of Katie Durham for the At- Large Public (cc) Category to the Upper Smoky RAC with a term of June 2025. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

HARVEST HYDROGEN HUB CONCEPT

Jay Kalbas, State Geologist and Director of the Kansas Geological Survey presented on the Harvest Hydrogen Hub Concept.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments. Discussion on safety of project, water use, possible water reclamation and energy generation were had.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Victoria Potts gave an update on legislation and legislative visits and spoke on the Governor's budget recommendations.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments. The KWA members' experience with legislative visits was discussed. There was also a discussion on funding the State Water Plan, specifically the fact that fully funding the statutory transfers does not mean "fully funding the water plan", and how the previous Blue-Ribbon Task Force funding estimates do not reflect what those projects would cost now.

GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY

Governor Kelly spoke about the importance of water in the Kansas.

HIGH PLAINS AQUIFER ANNUAL MEASUREMENT UPDATE

Brownie Wilson (Kansas Geological Survey) presented on measuring water levels in the High Plains Aquifer, what the process looks like and also what the current depth map is looking like.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments. Well depth and diameter, water quality, and aquifer declines were all discussed.

AGENCY UPDATES:

Kayla Savage gave an update for the Kansas Department of Commerce.

Susan Duffy gave an update for the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Jay Kalbas gave an update for the Kansas Geological Survey

Sara Baer gave an update for the Kansas Biological Survey.

Susan Metzger gave update for Kansas State University.

Andy Lyon gave an update for the Department of Conservation.

Earl Lewis gave an update for the Division of Water Resources.

Tom Stiles gave an update for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Steve Adams gave an update for the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Connie Owen gave a Director's Report from the Kansas Water Office.

NEW BUSINESS: Jeremiah Hobbs mentioned that State Association of Kansas Watersheds would be hosting their 72nd annual meeting in Topeka at the end of January.

ADJOURNMENT: Dawn Buehler adjourned the meeting at 12:47 p.m.



Dawn Buehler, Chair



Connie Owen, Secretary