

Minutes

KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY

June 7, 2023

In-Person Meeting

Dodge City, KS

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Dawn Buehler called the **June 7, 2023**, Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting to order at **9:02 a.m.**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Peter Loecke

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Duffy, Earl Lewis, Jay Kalbas, Susan Metzger, Brad Loveless, Sara Baer, Leo Henning, Mike Beam, Andrew Lyon, Connie Owen, Kayla Savage

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: All were present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion No. 06-07-01 It was moved by Allen Roth and seconded by Lynn Goossen to approve the April 19, 2023, Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Kansas Water Authority with the following changes: on page 2, "Jeremiah Hobbs reported for *the RAC Operations Committee*." **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

KWA PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE:

John Bailey reported for the Public Water Supply Committee. Nathan Westrup presented an overview of Water Marketing Application No. 267-Renewal of Water Purchase Contract 81-2, Amendment of Article 2 for Water Purchase Contract No. 17-2, and CY 2024 Water Marketing Rate. Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments.

Items that were discussed:

- Jean Steiner asked how high the KWA should let the rate get. The committee noted that the current rate increase is producing appropriate funds.
- John Bailey discussed how variable rate contracts aid in maintaining utilities. The committee is looking at more sedimentation projects in the future, which effects utilities who use the reservoir.

Water Marketing Application No. 267 – Renewal of Water Purchase Contract 81-2

Motion No. 06-07-02 It was moved by Jean Steiner and seconded by David Stroberg for the Kansas Water Authority to approve the Director's Request to begin contract negotiations with the City of Emporia. City of Emporia submitted an application for a 5-year contract renewal. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

Water Marketing amendment of Article 2 for Water Purchase Contract No. 17-2, Wolf Creek

Motion No. 06-07-03 It was moved by John Bailey and seconded by Carolyn McGinn for the Kansas Water Authority to approve the Director's Request to begin negotiations on an amendment of Article 2 for Water Purchase Contract 17-2. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

Set the CY 2024 Water Marketing Rate

Motion No. 06-07-04

It was moved by Lynn Goossen and seconded by Allen Roth for the Kansas Water Authority to approve the CY 2024 Water Marketing Rate at \$0.493. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

KWA BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Mike Armstrong reported for the Budget Committee. Matt Unruh presented on the Kansas Water Plan Budget Guidelines.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments.

Items that were discussed:

- Dawn applauded the Budget Committee for thorough guidelines
- Randy Hayzlett asked about funding for GMDs in the guidelines. Further discussion focused on what initiatives were outlined in the guidelines. GMD funding was identified as a topic for RAC discussion.

Kansas Water Plan Budget Guidelines

Motion No. 06-07-05

It was moved by Mike Armstrong and seconded by Jeremiah Hobbs for the Kansas Water Authority to approve the updated Kansas Water Plan Budget Guidelines. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

FEDERAL UPDATE:

Matt Unruh presented on the Federal Cooperative Agreement, South Johnson County Regional Wastewater PAS. Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments.

Items that were discussed:

- John Bailey asked if there were other studies appropriate for this program. There are no immediate candidates. Further conversation in the Public Water Supply Committee could bring in further applicants.
- Mike Armstrong suggested the Cottonwood/Neosho region as a future candidate for this program.
- Dawn Buehler asked if the PAS could be applied for drinking water and other water issues. It is available.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers PAS Agreement

Motion No. 04-19-06

It was moved by Allen Roth and seconded by Lynn Goossen for the Kansas Water Authority to give approval to the Director to enter into a PAS Agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers for a South Johnson County Regional Wastewater Study. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

NORTHWEST KANSAS MINERALIZATION STUDY UPDATE:

Leo Henning and Dr. Todd Moore, Fort Hays State University, presented on the Northwest Kansas Mineralization Study that was done in coordination with KDHE which tested groundwater public water supply wells for uranium, radium, and other nitrates.

KANSAS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WATER UPDATE:

Dr. Elizabeth Siebold from the Kansas Geological Survey gave an update on groundwater and quality concerns across the state.

WATER SUCCESS STORY: WATER CONSERVATION AREAS

Earl Lewis and Mike Meyer of KDA – DWA introduced Ted Boersma with Powerline Dairy LLC. Boersma has been a WCA since 2017 and has both irrigated farmland and a dairy. He has saved 1,000 acre-feet beyond his WCA plan with the practices put into place. His WCA will be in effect until December 2026.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and comments.

KS/CO ARKANSAS RIVER WATER QUALITY SUMMIT UPDATE:

Leo Henning and Matt Unruh presented an overview of the KS/CO Arkansas River Water Quality Summit which took place May 23-24 in La Junta, CO. The summit included discussion on conservation and focusing on certain naturally occurring contaminants like selenium.

KWA EX-OFFICIO AGENCY UPDATES:

Leo Henning gave an update for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Andy Lyon gave an update for the Department of Conservation.

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

Jay Kalbas gave an update for the Kansas Geological Survey.

Sara Baer gave an update for the Kansas Biological Survey.

Susan Metzger gave an update for Kansas State University.

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

Susan Duffy gave an update for the Kansas Corporation Commission.

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Connie Owen reported that the KWO and partners are progressing with a drought declaration. The KWO is currently hosting a drive for Regional Advisory Committee applications and planning webinars on the budget process for RAC members. The WISE Program is working with new projects such as installing water monitors for NASA and new weather stations with The Nature Conservancy.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jean Steiner gave an update on the letter from the Upper Arkansas RAC. It will be passed on to the Ogallala committee which plans to meet in late summer or early fall.

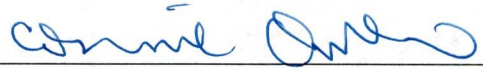
The Kansas Water Authority recognized the legislators in the room for their work during the legislative session.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Carolyn McGinn and seconded by Allen Roth to adjourn. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.



Dawn Buehler, Chair



Connie Owen, Secretary