



# Cimarron Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

**Cimarron Regional Advisory Committee Meeting**  
9:00 am, Wednesday, February 21, 2018  
Conestoga Energy Offices, 1701 N. Kansas Ave., Liberal, KS

## Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Nick Hatcher (Chair)	Liberal, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	Y
Bret Rooney (Vice-Chair)	Satanta, KS	Groundwater Management	2021	N
Trista Brown	Satanta, KS	At Large Public 2	2021	N
Michael Bryant	Copeland, KS	Agriculture 2	2019	N
Calvin Burke	Liberal, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019	Y
Luke Grubbs	Hugoton, KS	Irrigation	2021	Y
Brian Hemman	Hugoton, KS	Agricultural Industry	2019	N
Matt Higgins	Elkhart, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2021	Y
Danny Law	Ulysses, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2019	N
Gary Boldt	Ulysses, KS	At Large Public 3	2019	Y
Jim Sipes	Manter, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2021	N
Alan Olson	Ulysses, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	N
Jason Norquest	Garden City, KS	At Large Public 4	2019	Y

## Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Mark Rude	GMD No. 3
Mike Meyer	KDA-DWR
Richard Rockel	KWO
Alexandra Davis	KWO

## Welcome and Introductions

A quorum was not present, 6 of the 13 committee members were present. The meeting was started at 9am by Chairman Nick Hatcher. *\*Correction: a quorum consists of 4 members, therefore a quorum was present*

## Approval of Agenda

Ginger's legislative, funding, and vision update was moved up before the State of the Resource Project.

## Review and Approval of November Meeting Notes

Calvin Burke motioned to approve the minutes. Matt Higgins seconded. There was not a quorum so the committee could not vote to approve the minutes. *\*Correction: a quorum was present; therefore the vote of approval was valid, and due to confusion regarding the number of members needed to constitute a quorum the November minutes were voted on again for approval in May of 2018*

**Membership:** Nick Hatcher (Chair), Liberal, KS; Brett Rooney (Vice-Chair), Satanta, KS; Trista Brown, Satanta, KS; Michael Bryant, Copeland, KS; Calvin Burke, Liberal, KS; Luke Grubbs, Hugoton, KS; Brian Hemann, Hugoton, KS; Matt Higgins, Elkhart, KS; Danny Law, Ulysses, KS; Gary Boldt, Ulysses, KS; Jim Sipes, Manter, KS; Alan Olson, Ulysses, KS; Jason Norquest, Garden City, KS  
**KWO Planner:** Richard Rockel, 785-296-3185; [richard.rockel@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:richard.rockel@kwo.ks.gov)

## **Legislative, Funding, & Vision Updates – Ginger Harper (via conference call):**

Ginger provided an update to the committee regarding legislation, funding, and the vision. The 8 million transfers have not been happening for some time. During legislative visits RAC Chairs and Water Authority Members met with 90 legislators. A great job has been done this year in raising the importance of the vision and water funding, and everyone wants to fund water. The budget situation in Topeka is far from resolved, however last week the appropriations subcommittee recommended 4 million in water funding from the state general fund, and that will go to the Senate subcommittee meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

It has been a quiet legislative session so far, not very many actual bills have come out. The groundwater management assessments fee for raising the cap from 1.5 to 2 was passed by the senate, and is going to the house. Changing the filing deadline for MYFA made it out. No funding bills came out of committee. It is important as RAC members for you to continue to reach out and engage with your local legislators.

## **State of the Resource Project Outreach Event Planning**

Richard Rockel asked Calvin Burke and Matt Higgins if there was anything in the SOTR they wanted to see added regarding water quality. Neither had anything specific to add, however Calvin brought up that there are chloride issues on some domestic wells, and chloride is building up in treatment ponds causing discharge to be very high in chlorides, mostly coming from National. They are looking at working with Conestoga to blend water from two wells for application, because right now the water can be put into the river but isn't of high enough quality for land application. They are working with national to update the treatment plant and improve pretreatment on the industrial side. Mark Rude suggested looking into grants from the Bureau of Reclamation.

Discussion turned to adding a narrative on water quality and quantity leaving state. Richard will add something that includes a hydrograph and send it out to the group to look over.

Nick Hatcher asked that the SOTR include increases in acres of cotton from D42 resistant varieties, emphasizing the genetics portion of cotton. The question came up as to whether growing cotton is considered conservation. Mike Meyer answered saying that it isn't yet, but it could be because switching from corn to cotton does save water, documentation is key.

Richard Rockel asked Jason Norquest how we get increased use of RCPP. Jason responded saying that there has been an increase in people talking about it because it is cheaper to get into; you don't have to put telemetry device on flow meter anymore. Qualifications on capacity of well have dropped which is helping the buy in a lot. Producers must supply monthly readings of flow meter (keep records). It is a time vs. money constraint, too much paperwork & time going into it to get funds from the program, it is not a priority.

The committee decided for outreach to go out and give presentations to groups in other settings. Nick will present at GMD3 annual meeting and the Water Office will provide the presentation. No other specifics were decided.

## **Producer Survey**

Discussion was had on the best way to deliver the survey and get the most participation, and phone via text message was decided on as the best way to reach and get response back from producers.

## **Social Media Presence**

The committee was notified that Trista Brown had created a Facebook page for the RAC. Discussion was had on potential content and use of the page, and the potential for using other social media outlets for outreach. It was decided

that Facebook was the best way to deliver content related to the RAC. Alexandra and Richard from the Kansas Water Office will send information to Trista to put on the page, and if the committee would like to see anything specific they should notify Alexandra and Richard so they can get graphics and information put together to send to Trista.

### Other Business

#### Agency Reports:

Mike Meyer KDA-DWR: Water use reports due March 1<sup>st</sup>

Mark Rude GMD3: Handed out a vision action priorities document, take note of page 5 and 6. 2691 came out of committee and the deadline was changed from October to December. Reminder that the GMD3 Annual meeting is March 14<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

Public Comments – None

Messages to Kansas Water Authority – None

#### Future Meetings:

KWA April 18, 2018, Lenexa KS; RAC Chair or designee attend

GMD3 Annual Meeting: March 14, 2018, Liberal KS 9am

### Adjourn

11:15am