



Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

10:30 am November 9, 2022

Great Bend Water Office

1615 10th Street

Great Bend, KS 67530

Virtual Option Available

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Craig Crossette (Chair)	Sterling, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2023	Yes
Isaac Aberson (Vice-Chair)	Jetmore, KS	Watershed Protection	2023	Yes
Berry Bortz	Preston, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	No
Kendal Francis	Great Bend, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	Yes
Orrin Feril	Stafford, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2025	Yes
Veronica Coons	Great Bend, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2025	Yes
James Oberle	Pawnee Rock, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2025	No
Daniel Filbert	Macksville, KS	Agriculture 2	2025	No
Mark Fincham	Pratt, KS	Groundwater Irrigation	2023	No
Stephanie Royer	La Crosse, KS	At Large Public 2	2023	No
Jeff Holste	Burdett, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2025	No
Cammie Vaupel	St. John, KS	Commerce/Industry 2	2025	No
Vacant				

Others in Attendance:

Name	Affiliation
Scott Satterthwaite	Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
Sara Maguire	Kansas Water Office (KWO)

Welcome and Roll Call: Craig Crossette called the meeting to order at 10:35am.

Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of Agenda: RAC members approved the agenda as written.

Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of Meeting Minutes: RAC members approved the meeting minutes as written.

Kansas Water Office Updates

a. Statewide Updates

- i. **Kansas Water Plan:** Sara Crawley of KWO announced the completion of the Kansas Water Plan.
- ii. **Kansas Water Authority Update:** Sara summarized the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting held on October 19, 2022.

b. Regional Updates

- i. **RAC Membership:** Sara reminded everyone of the RAC vacancy available to be filled.
- ii. **Open Discussion from Members:** None.

c. Agency Updates

- i. Scott Satterthwaite of KDHE discussed the Drinking Water Protection Program and related groundwater assessments, as well as the WRAPS and Silver Jackets programs.
- ii. Orrin Feril gave an update on GMD5, discussing Rattlesnake Creek and the Watershed Plan, as well as vacancies they are looking to fill.

Membership: Craig Crossette, Chair, Sterling, KS; Isaac Aberson, Vice Chair, Jetmore, KS; Jeff Holste, Burdett, KS; Berry Bortz, Preston, KS; James Oberle, Pawnee Rock, KS; Orrin Feril, Stafford, KS; Daniel Filbert, Macksville, KS; Mark Fincham, Pratt, KS; Kendal Francis, Great Bend; Stephanie Royer, La Crosse, KS; Veronica Coons, Great Bend, KS; Cammie Vaupel, St. John, KS.

KWO Planner: Sara Crawley, 785-296-0867; sara.crawley@kwo.ks.gov

- iii. Veronica Coons discussed the Barton County Conservation District and their community garden, as well as related upcoming educational opportunities.

Regional Activities

- a. **Review Goals III and IV:** The committee opened discussion regarding their first two sets of goals and action plans.
 - i. **Goal III:** Implement watershed protection measures to improve the reliability and health of surface water resources in the region.
 1. The group was unaware of where they are at with this goal and Scott offered to provide pertinent information to the group.
 - ii. **Goal IV:** Allocate necessary resources to accurately locate, characterize, prioritize and remediate contamination sites within the Equus-Beds Aquifer.
 1. The group agreed that Berry Bortz may be able to provide helpful input here and agreed to revisit this goal during a future meeting when Berry is present.

Other Business

- a. **Public comments:** None.
- b. **Questions and Future Issues from RAC Members:** None.
- c. **Meetings**
 - i. **Governor's Water Conference:** The Water Conference is scheduled for November 16th and 17th in Manhattan.
 - ii. **Equus-Walnut RAC:** The next RAC meeting will be scheduled around January 2023.
 - iii. **KWA:** The next KWA meeting is scheduled for December 14th in Colby, KS.

Adjourn: Craig adjourned the meeting at 11:26am.