



# Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

**Wednesday July 11, 2018**  
**Westar Professional Development Center, 801 NE Hwy 24,**  
**Topeka, Kansas 66608**

**Members Attendance:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Present</i>
Brad Bradley, Chair	Overland Park, KS	Fish and Wildlife	2021	<b>Yes</b>
Katie Miller, Vice-Chair	Junction City, KS	Conservation/Environment	2019	No
Marlene Bosworth	Sabetha, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2019	<b>Yes</b>
Glenn Brunkow	Westmoreland, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2021	<b>Yes</b>
Dawn Buehler	Eudora, KS	Recreation	2019	<b>Yes</b>
Blake Follis	Topeka, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2019	No
Sarah Hill-Nelson	Lawrence, KS	Industry/Commerce	2019	No
Heath Horyna	Topeka, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2021	<b>Yes</b>
Daniel Howell	Frankfort, KS	Agriculture	2021	No
Darci Meese	Lenexa, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019	<b>Yes</b>
William Ramsey	Leawood, KS	Planning, Restoration and Protection	2021	<b>Yes</b>
Sharon Schwartz	Washington, KS	WRAPs	2019	No
Greg Wilson	Olathe, KS	Water Assurance District	2021	<b>Yes</b>

**Others in attendance:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Representing</i>
Bruce Wells	Salina	NRCS
Andy Lyon	Topeka	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Amanda Reed	Topeka	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
John Wunder	Oskaloosa	State Conservation Commissioner
Judy Boltman	Topeka	Shawnee Co. Conservation District
Rob Reschke	Manhattan	Executive Director-KDA-DOC
Gary Boldt	Ulysses	Cimarron RAC
Tracy Streeter	Topeka	Director, Kansas Water Office
Earl Lewis	Topeka	Asst. Director, Kansas Water Office
Richard Rockel	Topeka	Kansas Water Office
Gary Koons	Topeka	Kansas Water Office
Matt Unruh	Topeka	Kansas Water Office
Kirk Tjelmeland	Topeka	Kansas Water Office

- I) **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by Chair Brad Bradley. Brad had everyone give self-introductions.
- II) **Review of April 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting notes:** The meeting notes were reviewed and approved as written.
- III) **Follow up from April 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting:**
  - a. Update on the education Piece of the Vision was given by Tracy Streeter, Director, Kansas Water Office. Tracy delivered a presentation that is available [here](#). In the presentation he said that the Legislature approved \$100,000 of the \$3.25 million restoration for this project. The three partners pledging financial support are the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA), the Kansas Water Office (KWO), the Kansas

**Membership:** Brad Bradley (Chair), Overland Park, KS; Katie Miller (Vice Chair), Manhattan, KS; Sarah Hill-Nelson, Lawrence, KS; Marlene Bosworth, Sabetha, KS; Glenn Brunkow; Dawn Buehler, Eudora, KS; Blake Follis, Topeka, KS; Heath Horyna, Topeka, KS; Daniel Howell, Frankfort, KS; Darci Meese, Lenexa, KS; William Ramsey, Leawood, KS; Sharon Schwartz, Washington, KS; Greg Wilson, Olathe, KS  
**KWO Planner:** Kirk Tjelmeland, 785-368-8149; kirk.tjelmeland@kwo.ks.gov

Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT) pledging in-kind support. The “Kansas Runs on Water” campaign was developed by Walz-Tetrick and unveiled at the April Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting in Lenexa. Response to the campaign was positive and the KWO is requesting \$250,000 for Vision education for FY 2020. It is okay to use the Kansas Runs on Water in the Kansas ppt however the website has not been developed.

#### IV) RAC Business:

- a. **April 18<sup>th</sup> KWA presentation:** Brad led this discussion stating that the KWA liked what the Kansas RAC is doing and that the RAC shouldn't wait for approval but should keep them informed. There was nothing but positive feedback on the Kansas Basin Watershed Management (KBWM) system and the power point the RAC had created.
- b. **Subcommittee Reports:**
  1. **Funding and Governance:** Darci led this discussion and presented a power point (ppt) that is available [here](#). The draft presentation continues to be modified to deliver a clean and concise message. Suggested changes include: adding “Kansas Runs on Water” to the cover slide, shorten the verbiage on the slides, be more informational with slides and not combative. Tracy added that KWO will send some slides to Darci to clarify the Blue Ribbon Funding Task Force information. Dari is going to work with the subcommittee and get another draft sent back out soon.
  2. **BMP and KBWM system:** Marlene led this discussion with a reference to a meeting held back in January with David Hoover (USACE) and Dustin Mengarelli (KDWPT). Both have delivered information on acres and practices on USACE property around the major reservoirs. Marlene has crafted a spreadsheet to capture that information. Mr. Hoover has drafted a letter eliminating priority leases on USACE property and their legal staff is reviewing it, he expects some pushback. The other charge of this subcommittee is the Kansas Basin Watershed Management System (KBWM), is it going to happen? The Watershed BMP Implementation will be the initial use of this.
  3. **Education and Outreach:** Heath led this discussion and was excited they were able to hold their first meeting. Trying to find measurable goals throughout the Action Plan is difficult. There are very few Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to measure progress with. The State of the Resource document illustrates some of this and Tracy mentioned reservoir slides that Chris (KWO) has developed. The subcommittee will continue to solicit information from agencies and provide a draft product for the October meeting.
- c. **Budget Update/Input:** Tracy started this portion, explaining this was a new process to allow all 14 RACs to have input into the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF). The idea of tying projects Goals or Action plans is critical and with this he turned it over to Earl. The presentation information can be found [here](#). The recommendations that the RAC develops will be passed onto the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) prior to their August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The hope is to have the entire \$8 million restored to the SWPF, \$6 million from State General Fund (SGF) and \$2 million from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF) however only \$1.2 million was restored for FY2017 and \$3.25 million was restored for FY2018. Earl had prepared the spreadsheet that is broken down into 4 sections that match up with the Vision: Water Conservation, Water Management, Technology and Crop Varieties and Additional Sources of supply. Agency input has the total value of projects they would like to see funded at a little over \$15 million, this

is why the RAC input is so important. He went down the spreadsheet highlighting such things as the Streambank stabilization effectiveness study, Milford RCPP, Vision Education Strategy, Kansas River Alluvial Aquifer, Harmful Algal Bloom Research, Water Resource Planner, Irrigation Technology, Water Injection Dredging, Storage Purchase and Drinking Water Protection. The discussion shifted to Water Injection Dredging (WID) with a description of what this is, information is available [here](#). This is a project that the USACE is heavily involved in, developing a project on Tuttle Creek Lake to remove sediment. This project would take place in the summer or fall of 2020. Heath was curious why this hadn't been done before. Earl responded that it has been done on rivers and that the dam construction on Tuttle Creek makes it a good candidate for this type of sediment removal. After a short discussion the committee elevated **WID** and **Storage Purchase** to the top of list for recommendations to the KWA.

- d. **FY2019 Vision Watershed BMP Implementation:** Tracy led this discussion with the introduction of the project, information is available [here](#). The plan targets 4 watersheds, one above Tuttle Creek, to most effectively focus BMP implementation, project total \$900,000. Sediment reduction practices identified through Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) will be used by producers on their applications. KWO will hold the money, applications will be reviewed by a committee with representation from the four participating RACs, projects will be monitored and documented with the DOC automated mapping. Successful applicants will be paid \$50/ton of sediment not to exceed 100% of the actual project cost. Brad thought this was a good program and thought Marlene's group would best represent the Kansas RAC in the process. Greg moved that Marlene's subcommittee participate in the program and provide necessary input to the KWO, William seconded the motion. In the discussion that followed Marlene asked if this money could be spent on USACE land around the federal reservoirs and noted that her whole subcommittee would be involved. The motion passed.
- e. **Update on the Milford Lake Watershed RCPP:** Tj led this discussion. The RCPP is getting closer to a formal signing of a contract hopefully by August 1<sup>st</sup>. The \$2.88 million will be delivered all at one time not annually over the 5 year project and the NRCS will hold and monitor the spenddown. Time spent by the 28 partners prior to the formal contract execution does not count towards committed in-kind match. We are in a holding pattern with an expected flurry of activity once the contract is signed. If everything goes well the program will launch and the first signup period will be this fall.

V) **Agency or Public Comments:** Tracy mentioned that the flow in the Kansas River is impacting Sarah for power generation. The Missouri River is high at Waverly so releases from the Kansas Reservoirs have been kept at a minimum. With Tuttle Creek 12' over pool and the need to release some water from Milford to help minimize HAB issues, Tracy has been in contact with the USACE. He has requested a combined release of 900 cfs from both of these reservoirs, providing some benefit to Kansas. Rob mentioned because of drought conditions DOC is making available \$1 million for Livestock Water Supply, waiving the 30 day advance notice. Bruce requested and received an additional \$5 million for EQIP and that this has gone a long ways to getting applications off of the shelf. There were no Public comments.

VI) **Upcoming Meetings:**

- a. KWA meeting August 22<sup>nd</sup>, KDA, 1320 Research Park Dr., Manhattan, KS
- b. Next Kansas RAC meeting (Doodle poll-morning meeting at this location in October)

VII) **Meeting Adjourned:** With no further business Brad adjourned the meeting at 11:30 am.