

# MEMO



DATE: May 21, 2019  
TO: Marais des Cygnes RAC Members  
FROM: Bobbi Luttjohann, Kansas Water Office  
CC: Marais des Cygnes RAC Advisors  
RE: June 4, 2019 RAC Meeting

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Topeka, KS 66612  
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The meeting of the Marais des Cygnes Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) will be held **at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at the City Hall Study Session Room, 101 S. Hickory Street, Ottawa, KS.**

The main items of discussion at the RAC meeting will be an update of the RAC's Goals and Actions Plans, including progress and future actions, as well as RAC Budget Recommendations.

Enclosed are materials for the June 4, 2019 meeting:

- Agenda
- February Meeting Notes
- RAC Membership Drive Memorandum
- RAC Vision and the Kansas Water Plan Memorandum
- Vision and the Kansas Water Plan Attachment
- Press Release

If you cannot attend, or have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting, please contact me by telephone at (785) 296-3185 or by e-mail at [bobbi.luttjohann@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:bobbi.luttjohann@kwo.ks.gov).

**Marais des Cygnes**  
**Regional Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**June 4, 2019**  
**City Hall**  
**Study Session Room**  
**101 S. Hickory Street**  
**Ottawa, KS**  
**10:00am**

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1. Welcome and Introductions - (5 min)
2. Review of February Meeting Notes - (5 min)
3. KWA April Meeting Report: - (5 mins)
4. WRAPS, Conservation District, and RAC Field Day on July 1<sup>st</sup>: Lori Kuykendall (Chair & WRAPS) - (10 mins)
5. RAC Membership, Chairmanship, Expiring Terms: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO) – (5 mins)
6. RAC Goals and Action Plan Discussion: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO) – (20 mins)
7. RAC Budget Information and Recommendations: Earl Lewis (KWO) - (30 mins)
8. RAC Goals and Action Plans Information: Chris Shultz (KWO) – (30 mins)
9. Questions and Future Issues from Members (15 min)
10. Agency and Public Input (5 min)
11. Future Meetings
  - a. Kansas Water Authority: July 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Goodland, KS
  - b. MdC RAC: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

# Marais des Cygnes Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

## Marais des Cygnes Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

February 19, 2019  
 Fort Scott Community College  
 Ellis Family Fine Arts Center  
 2108 Horton St.  
 Fort Scott, KS 66701  
 10:00am

### Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Lori Kuykendall (Chair)	Lyndon, KS	WRAPS	2019	No
Keri Harris (Vice-Chair)	Ottawa, KS	At-Large Public	2021	Yes
Gary Armentrout	Centerville, KS	Public Water Supply	2021	Yes
Ron Brown	Fort Scott, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021	Yes
Wes Cole	Osawatomie, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	Yes
Vacant		At-Large Public	2021	
Paul Ling	Kansas City, KS	Water Assurance District	2019	Yes
Dan Riney	Ottawa, KS	Public Water Supply	2019	Yes
Allan Soetaert	Gardner, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019	No
Gayla Speer	Wellsville, KS	Agriculture	2021	Yes
Larry Walrod	La Cygne, KS	Planning and Zoning	2021	No
Lyle Wobker	Paola, KS	Agriculture	2019	Yes
Scott Yeargain	Ottawa, KS	Conservation/Environment	2021	Yes

### Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Lesley Rigney	MICoCD/Hillsdale WRAPS
Frank Guilfoyle	KCC
Travis Sieve	KDHE
Mandy Shoemaker	BBCoCD
Dustin Sneed	DOC Tech BBCo
Chris Shultz	KWO
Bobbi Lutjohann	KWO

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00a.m. by Vice-Chairperson, Keri Harris. All present provided self-introductions. Keri thanked everyone for attending the meeting and Ronnie Brown for securing the meeting location.
- Review of October Meeting Notes:** The minutes from the October meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
- Agenda Amendments:** A motion was made by Gary Armentrout to amend the agenda to include a presentation by Chris Shultz (KWO) and move the presentation by Travis Sieve (KDHE) to No. 3 on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Lyle Wobker. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. **WRAPS Program Changes: Travis Sieve (KDHE):** reported that the WRAPS Program has undergone changes. Travis gave a history of the WRAPS Program and how EPA is involved, and how changes within the EPA have affected the WRAPS Program. Due to funding, all WRAPS projects could not be funded through the current program to promote adequate delistings. Therefore, the 34 total WRAPS projects were divided into two programs. Fifteen of these will be under the Active Implementation Program and will be funded through grants from KDHE and EPA. The remaining 19 will be placed in the Partnership Program. The Partnership Program will be managed by a sponsoring organization. KACD will be the sponsor of the grants for the partnership program. KACD will receive funds and the CDs will implement funds on the ground for projects. Applications will go through the CSIMS program that the CDs are currently using. KDHE continues to build strategic plans to compliment the already completed 9 Element plans for the Active Implementation Program to implement practices to promote delistings. Hillsdale WRAPS will remain in the Active Implementation Program. Melvern, Pomona, Middle MdC, and Marmaton WRAPS will be sponsored through KACD.  
The Active Implementation Program will be based on the efficiency of practices to remove phosphorus. The program will still focus on target areas and the grants will be awarded on an annual basis.  
More information on the WRAPS Program and contact information can be found here:  
<http://www.kdheks.gov/nps/wraps/>
  
5. **Lake Levels Animation: Chris Shultz (KWO)** gave a presentation on the Lake Level Animation Program that he has built. The program shows how a reservoir's storage is reduced during the historical drought of record, as well as other years that can be programmed in. Chris presented 2018 data to show how the storage changed and then compared those animations to 2012, which was a drier year, and to the historical drought of record. The animations will be on the KWO website in the future. Chris asked for the feedback from the RAC. The RAC suggested that showing a breakdown of the different pools within the reservoirs would be helpful. The RAC also discussed the demand increases used in the program, as well as storage lost due to sedimentation.
  
6. **KWA December Meeting Report: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO):** reported that at the December KWA meeting in Wichita several items were discussed including RAC membership and training, Kansas Reservoir Protection Initiative, Water Technology Farms, Water Injection Dredging (WID), HABs, the Annual Report, and the 2019 Surplus Water Report.
  
7. **KWA January Meeting and Legislative Visits Report: Keri Harris\* (Vice-Chair & At-Large Public), Dan Riney (PWS), and Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO):** reported that on January 30<sup>th</sup> 27 KWA and RAC members conducted 69 legislative visits at the Capitol. The following day the KWA had their meeting in Topeka, at which Lt. Governor Lynn Rogers spoke at the meeting. Other topics covered were sorghum research, PWS Committee and Bathymetry Program updates and an update from KDWP&T.  
\*Keri read a report provided by Lori Kuykendall (Chair & WRAPS).
  
8. **WRAPS, Conservation Districts, and RAC Field Day: Keri Harris (Vice-Chair & At-Large Public)** gave an update of the Soil Health Field Day the RAC is planning. Keri stated that the Field Day will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup> and will focus on soil health. The exact location is still being determined. Speakers for that day will be Candy Thomas (KS/NE Regional Soil Health Specialist) and Doug Petersen (IA/MO Regional Soil Health Specialist). Scott Yeargain (Conservation/Environment) offered to talk with the Sierra Club to see if they would fund the meal for the Field Day.
  
9. **Legislative Update: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO):** reported that not much has gone on in this legislative session so far. Bobbi did provide a schedule of the legislative calendar and important dates. Bobbi reported that HB 2185 and

HB 2188 are under consideration. The KWO does not have much input on these bills at this time. She then reported that SAKW has proposed draft legislation to the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee concerning tax exemptions for donated easements. Bobbi noted information about bills and the Kansas legislators can be found at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

**Gary Armentrout (PWS):** reported on SB 169, which will increase Operator Fees.

**Keri Harris (Vice-Chair & At-Large Public):** reported on HB 2219, which would require open meetings to be electronically recorded and to have those recordings available to the public within 24 hours.

**Ron Brown (Conservation/Environment):** reported on the possible closing down of wind farms issue. He reported that hearings have been held.

**10. RAC Membership, Chairmanship, and Expiring Terms: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO):** reported that in 2019 five members of the RAC will have terms expiring. Bobbi provided a list of the members and when their term expires, along with the timeline for the RAC membership drive. Bobbi also discussed the application process. She stated all members wishing to reapply for their position will need to turn in an application no later than May 31, 2019. The application can be found on the KWO website here: [https://kwo.ks.gov/docs/default-source/regional-advisory-committees/rac-membership/application\\_rac\\_060915.pdf?sfvrsn=56f28414](https://kwo.ks.gov/docs/default-source/regional-advisory-committees/rac-membership/application_rac_060915.pdf?sfvrsn=56f28414)

**11. RAC Member Trainings: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO):** reported that session board leadership training series was offered through the K-State Research and Extension. While most dates have passed, there were still two left in February, one on the 19<sup>th</sup> and one on the 26<sup>th</sup>. However, the KWO is planning on doing RAC member training in the fall once new members are appointed. Format for this has not been completely laid out at this time. There will be more to come on the training once time gets closer.

**12. Goal Revisions: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO):** Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO) reported that in 2019 the RACs and the KWO will look at the goals and action plans set forth for each Region and determine if these need to be changed. Bobbi asked for the RACs thoughts on this.

**13. Future RAC Meetings Planning: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO):** reported that as 2019 continues the RAC meetings will be planned to coincide with certain issues. The next meeting is planned to be in June to address budget. If the budget is not completed at that time, a July RAC meeting will be held to give recommendations to the KWA about the budget. The fall RAC meeting will be held once the KWA has appointed new members and approved a budget. This meeting will focus on new member training.

**14. Questions and Future Issues from Members:**

**Keri Harris (Vice-Chair & At-Large Public):** reported on the CD Annual Meeting attendance. Keri stated that the RAC and CD connection is extremely important and having RAC members attend the CDs Annual Meetings allows these groups to work more effectively together.

**Scott Yeargin (Conservation/Environment):** discussed legislation and the continuation of funding for the abandoned well program. He noted that the MdC Region is heavily involved in this program.

**15. Agency and Public Input:**

**Frank Guilfoyle (KCC):** stated that the KCC is still plugging wells, however the program now only has one person to manage the program, when there used to be three. The KCC is making changes, but the program is still planning to continue. There have been applications still coming in requesting well plugging. Frank stated some wells cannot

be plugged because it is the operators' responsibility by law since they have a lease on it. It was asked if KCC can go after the bonding for liability.

### 16. Future Meetings:

**Kansas Water Authority:** April 18, 2019 Abilene, KS

**Tentative Kansas Water Authority Meeting:** July 30-31<sup>st</sup> in Goodland, KS

**MdC RAC:** The next meeting will be held in June. A doodle poll will be sent out to pick the best date.

RAC Membership:

Timeline shared at the KWA meeting regarding the RAC membership drive:

- KWA Notification of existing RAC members with 2019 term expirations by 3/31/2019
- Open call for applications during May 2019
  - KWO would need to have received determination of interest in having name continue to be under consideration for RAC membership by the KWA for members with expiring terms by the end of this open call for applications but interest could be shared in advance of this period as well.
    - Expression of interest in continuing on with RAC membership for members with 2019 expirations does not guarantee re-appointment by the KWA
  - Anyone interested in a position with a 2019 term expiration can apply for RAC membership during this period.
- KWA RAC Operations Committee review of candidates for members during June 2019
- Full KWA takes action on RAC Operations Committee membership recommendations at July 2019 meeting

RAC Members highlighted in red have terms expiring in 2019

<b>Name</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Term</b>
Lori Kuykendall (Chair)	Lyndon, KS	WRAPS	2019
Keri Harris (Vice-Chair)	Ottawa, KS	At-Large Public	2021
Gary Armentrout	Centerville, KS	Public Water Supply	2021
Ron Brown	Fort Scott, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021
Wes Cole	Osawatomie, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019
Vacant		At-Large Public	2021
Paul Ling	Kansas City, KS	Water Assurance District	2019
Dan Riney	Ottawa, KS	Public Water Supply	2019
Allan Soetaert	Gardner, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019
Gayla Speer	Wellsville, KS	Agriculture	2021
Larry Walrod	La Cygne, KS	Planning and Zoning	2021
Lyle Wobker	Paola, KS	Agriculture	2019
Scott Yeargain	Ottawa, KS	Conservation/Environment	2021



# MEMO



DATE: May 16, 2019  
TO: Regional Advisory Committee Members  
FROM: Matt Unruh  
RE: 2019 RAC Membership Process

900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404  
Topeka, KS 66612  
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Currently the Kansas Water Office (KWO) is in the process of soliciting applications for membership on all 14 of the Regional Advisory Committees (RAC) across Kansas. The RACs play a vital role in advising the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) on implementation of each region's water supply priorities as part of the *Kansas Water Vision* and the Kansas water planning process as a whole. RAC members also help identify and provide input on other emerging water resource related issues/concerns and serve as a local voice in water resource-related discussions.

Starting first in the Winter 2019 edition of The WaterFront newsletter and continuing at the end of April through the month of May through KWO's communication channels, word has been put out regarding the current call for applications for RAC membership to fill currently vacant positions as well as for the RAC positions with terms expiring in 2019. KWO Water Resource Planners have been reaching out to current RAC members with terms expiring in 2019 to inquire about their interest in having their names remain under consideration for re-appointment on the RACs by the KWA. If you are a current RAC member with a 2019 term expiration and have not either submitted an application or confirmed your interest in no longer serving on your respective RAC beyond your current term please do so as soon as possible.

After the end of May, KWO staff will compile all applications submitted from current RAC members with 2019 term expirations as well as applications from individuals not currently serving on a RAC and review all applications with members of the KWA at a meeting of the KWA RAC Operations Committee. At this meeting, which has yet to be scheduled but will take place in advance of the July 30-31 KWA meeting in Goodland, the KWA RAC Operations Committee will develop membership recommendations for the full KWA to take action on from the entire applicant pool for currently vacant RAC positions as well as those positions with terms expiring in 2019. Action by the full KWA will take place on these membership recommendations at the July 30-31 KWA meeting in Goodland. For positions with terms expiring in 2019 the KWA will make appointments for 4 year terms through 2023.



# MEMO



DATE: May 16, 2019  
TO: Regional Advisory Committee Members  
FROM: Matt Unruh  
RE: Vision and the Kansas Water Plan

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Topeka, KS 66612  
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At the April 2019 Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting in Abilene, Acting Kansas Water Office (KWO) Director Earl Lewis provided the following report to the full KWA:

*In January 2015, The Long Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas was completed to provide a long-term planning framework to address declines of the High Plains/Ogallala Aquifer, decreasing reservoir water supply storage lost due to sedimentation as well as other items tied to water conservation, water management, technology & crop varieties, and additional sources of supply. Governor Kelly recognizes the value of the water resources of Kansas and for the economic prosperity of the state and has expressed the desire to initiate a process to help measure implementation progress and make necessary adjustments to help the long-term success of water resource planning efforts within Kansas. As we approach the 5 year anniversary of the Vision it is now time to evaluate progress made on implementation to this point, identify new water resource issues, update and develop new Regional Goals and Actions Plans, and incorporate these items into the Kansas Water Plan.*

*Starting today and over the course of the coming months a process will be initiated with the following proposed strategic objectives in mind:*

- *Evaluation of progress made and make changes based on implementation results to date*
- *Identification of additional issues and/or topics not previously addressed*
- *Identification of priority regional water resource projects*
- *Reorganization of Vision and incorporation of action items into the Kansas Water Plan*

*Included within this proposed process will be the opportunity for local stakeholders to provide input on local water resource issues, including those which might not be currently accounted for in the current Vision or associated regional goals and action plans. Development of new or modifications to existing regional goals and action plans are to be expected from this process, as well as evaluation of the statewide Vision document for reorganization and consolidation purposes. Ultimately, this process will yield a merged Vision/Kansas Water Plan document which will be utilized to help guide the water resource planning efforts of Kansas.*

An attachment to this memo includes a concept paper describing the proposed strategic objectives, core principles, process, and tentative timeline associated with this effort. Starting with the June RAC meetings, KWO Water Resource Planners will share Regional Action Plan implementation progress reports with all 14 of the RACs and begin to engage in discussions with RAC members regarding the current status of Action Plan implementation efforts and set the stage for future discussions on development of new/revised Regional Goals and associated Action Plans. Ultimately, the guidance and feedback provided through the RACs will play a prominent role in the overall process of reorganization and incorporation of the Vision into the Kansas Water Plan.

## **The Long-Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas: A Concept for Reorganization and Incorporation into the Kansas Water Plan**

In January 2015, *The Long Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas (Vision)* was completed to provide a long-term planning framework to address declines of the High Plains/Ogallala Aquifer, decreasing reservoir water supply storage lost due to sedimentation as well as other items tied to water conservation, water management, technology & crop varieties, and additional sources of supply. As we approach the five-year anniversary of the *Vision* it is now timely to evaluate progress made on implementation to this point, identify new water resource issues, develop new Regional Goals and Actions Plans, and incorporate these items into the *Kansas Water Plan*. The following document outlines a draft concept for these actions to take place.

### **PROPOSED STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

- Evaluate progress made and make changes based on implementation results to date
- Identification of additional issues and/or topics not previously addressed
- Identification of priority regional water resource projects
- Reorganization of *Vision* and incorporation of action items into the *Kansas Water Plan*

### **PROPOSED CORE PRINCIPLES**

- Ensuring Each Citizen has Reliable Water Supply
- Conserving and Extending the High Plains Aquifer
- Securing, Protecting and Restoring our Kansas Reservoirs
- Improving our State's Water Quality
- Developing and Maintaining our State and Local Water Infrastructure
- Develop a Long-Term, Affordable & Sustainable Method to Provide Financing for Implementation of the *Kansas Water Plan*

### **PROPOSED PROCESS**

- Provide the opportunity for local stakeholders to engage:
  - Hold public input meetings within each of the 14 Regional Planning Areas
  - Provide feedback from public meetings to Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) for each Regional Planning Area. Once feedback is evaluated RACs will:
    - Determine if new/revised Regional Goals are necessary for the region.
    - Determine if new/revised Regional Goal Action Plans are necessary.
    - Develop new Regional Goals and Actions Plans with support from the Kansas Water Office (KWO).
    - Present new Regional Goals and Action Plans to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) for review and approval.
    - Identify Priority Projects Necessary to Make Implementation Progress.

- Maintain a statewide view on issues which impact multiple regions or the state as a whole:
  - KWO staff conduct status review of all statewide action items within *Vision*.
  - The KWA, with support from KWO staff, will review and approve new/revise Regional Goals and associated Action Plans.
  - The KWA, with support from KWO staff, will review all Regional Goals and Action Plans to evaluate for consolidation of implementation efforts which impact multiple regions.
  - The KWA will review input provided by RACs on identified priority projects in development of budget recommendations provided to the Governor and Legislature.
- Merging of *Vision* and *Kansas Water Plan*:
  - Once new/revise goals and action plans have been developed and approved, KWO staff will draft document, highlighting long-term water resource priorities of Kansas as well as shorter term implementation priorities.
  - Draft document will be presented to RACs for review and concurrence.
  - Following RAC concurrence, draft document will be presented to KWA for concurrence.
  - Following KWA concurrence, there will be public hearings
  - After public hearings and KWA review of hearing comments/testimony, document will be completed and utilized to help guide water resource planning efforts of Kansas

## PROPOSED TIMELINE

- **Late Spring-Early Summer 2019:**
  - RACs provide input to KWA on SFY 2021 budget recommendation development process and begin preliminary discussions on modifications to Regional Goals and Action Plans.
  - Current RAC Implementation Progress Report shared with each RAC
- **Late Summer-Early Fall 2019:**
  - Public input meetings held and RACs begin process of developing new/revise Regional Goals and Action Plans if determined necessary
- **Fall 2019-Winter 2020:**
  - Interagency Team evaluates statewide *Vision* feedback from public input meetings (*Kansas Water Office, Kansas Department of Agriculture, Kansas Department of Health & Environment, Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism*)
  - RACs evaluate feedback from public input meetings
  - RACs develop new/revise Regional Goals and/or Action Plans
  - RACs provide recommendations to KWA on new/revise Regional Goals and associated Action Plans
- **Winter-Summer 2020:**
  - Kansas Water Plan document drafted highlighting short and long-term water resource priorities of Kansas.
  - Public hearings held on draft
  - Reorganization and incorporation of *The Long-Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas* and the *Kansas Water Plan* completed. RACs provide input to KWA on priority projects from each region to move implementation efforts forward.