



Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday June 22, 2017, 9:00 am
USD 409 Meeting Room
Atchison, Kansas

Members Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Carl Johnson (Chair)	Leavenworth, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2019	Yes
John Bishop	Atchison, KS	Recreation	2019	Yes
Neil Coufal	Troy, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2017	Yes
Stephen Glaser	Atchison, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	No
Jeffrey Grossenbacher	Bern, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2019	No
Carol Hughes	Seneca, KS	WRAPs	2017	No
Alan Kelley	White Cloud, KS	Iowa Tribe of Kansas and NB	2019	Yes
Joel Mahnken	Leavenworth, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2017	Yes
Brett Neibling	Highland, KS	Agriculture 2	2019	Yes
Darcy Nightingale	Hiawatha, KS	Agriculture Industry	2017	Yes
Bill Shroyer	Sabetha, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2019	No
Luke Terry	Robinson, KS	Fish and Wildlife	2017	Yes
Michelle Wirth	Kansas City, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2017	Yes

Others in attendance:

Name	Town	Representing
Katie Burke	Manhattan	DoC
Dave Jones	Manhattan	DoC
Chris Griffin	Troy	DP Co Conservation District
Judy Wegener-Stevens	Troy	DP Co Conservation District
Susan Stover	Lawrence	KGS
Jordi Batlle	Lawrence	KGS
Don Whittmore	Lawrence	KGS
Brett Bunger	Topeka	KDA-DWR
John R. Eplee	Atchison	KS House of Rep. 63 District
Travis Daneke	Topeka	KDHE-WRAPS
Jake Geiger	Robinson	
Andrea Brookfield	Lawrence	KGS
Kirk Tjelmeland	Topeka	Kansas Water Office

Welcome and Introductions:

Carl started the meeting at 9 am with a quick rundown of the \$1.2 million that was moved from the State General Fund to the State Water Plan Fund: \$1 million for Streambank Stabilization, \$100,000 for bathymetric surveys and \$100,000 for Kansas River Alluvial Aquifer well network observation.

Membership: Carl Johnson, Chair, Leavenworth, KS; John Bishop, Atchison, KS; Neil Coufal, Troy, KS; Stephen Glaser, Atchison, KS; Jeffery Grossenbacher, Bern, KS; Carol Hughes, Seneca, KS; Alan Kelley, White Cloud, KS; Joel Mahnken, Leavenworth, KS; Brett Neibling, Highland, KS; Darcy Nightingale, Hiawatha, KS; Bill Shroyer, Sabetha, KS; Luke Terry, Robinson, KS; Michelle Wirth, Kansas City, KS
KWO Planner: Kirk Tjelmeland, 785-368-8149; Kirk.Tjelmeland@kwo.ks.gov

Public Comments:

There were none.

New Vice-Chair – Brett Neibling: Carl introduced Brett as the new Missouri Vice-Chair. This position should have been filled some time ago however the KWO didn't push this, allowing the Committee to focus on Action Plans.

Review of February 14, 2017 Meeting Notes: The meeting notes from reviewed and approved with no changes, Neil moved and John seconded.

Review of May 17-18th KWA Meeting: Carl mentioned about the tour that they had gone on the effort that is being put into water savings in that part of the state through technology advances. He also visited about the other RAC's speaking at the Meeting.

Missouri River Sub-Committee Update: Michelle stated, Corps received 450 comments and 200 form letters (mostly from Standing Rock Sioux Tribe), 7 from county governments, 14 from municipalities, and 51 from NGO's. Responses to comments will be included in the appendix of the final EIS issued next year. Their goal is to finish processing comments this fall. At the August MRRIC meeting, a geographic breakdown of comments will be supplied as well as breakdown of "big themes" in those comments. US Fish and Wildlife (FWS) and Department of the Interior are focused on the Biological Opinion and did not support any alternative stating that not enough was considered in creating the alternatives. FWS seems to be focusing on developing a new Biological Opinion by March of 2018.

Adaptive Management Plan Implementation is the next phase and action items are going to be formed to focus on Birds, Fish, and Human Considerations. Greg Totzke from WaterOne has applied to be on the Fish panel.

Update on Healthy Watershed Meetings: Carl described the three meetings, St. Joe and Parkville, which had taken place so far with help from Chris Griffin and Tj. There is a meeting this evening, 22nd, where both groups will meet and start work on the Independence-Sugar Creek plan. It was assume there will be multiple meetings after this one since the plan could be as complicated as the 9-element plans used in Kansas. There is no Missouri money that will be spent in Kansas.

Update on KGS Phase I Groundwater Study: Mr. Jordi Batlle-Aguilar from the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) gave a presentation on the current ground water condition in the Missouri Region, which directly addresses Priority Goals #1 & 3. The final report is due to the KWO this week will be available on their website. Jordi mentioned there is a good deal of information out there is was just a matter of collecting, analyzing and digitizing it. Some of the information was detailed and useful and some of it wasn't. There were 4,437 wells found in the region however only 2,011 had the detailed information that was needed. Jordi displayed a map that was computer generated showing the depth to bedrock derived from the driller's logs and added layers to show the amount of unconsolidated material (sand & gravel) that could hold water. The missing information knows the level of water in this unconsolidated material and that is the information that phase II of this project would provide. There is one well in the region that KGS has installed and is monitoring water depths with. The region appears to be covered with pockets of water that may or may not be interconnected.



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The other portion of Jordi's report focused on nitrate levels in the ground water and he displayed a map showing where 370 nitrate concentrations were found. The maximum allowable level of nitrates in drinking water is 10 mg/l, 90 wells tested at 20 mg/l with the highest being 128 mg/l. A good deal of the sampling took place in Nemaha County. Please review final report for more detailed information. A scope of work for Phase II was requested by the RAC, this should be available by the September 14th RAC meeting.

Legislative Fact Finding Tour: Ms. Susan Stover (KGS) gave a short presentation on what the Kansas Field Conference (Legislative Tour) history and 2017 tour activities. The mission of the Conference is to educate those that participate on the resources of the region and provide factual information. This is the 23 year of the tour with sponsorship from: KGS, KWO, KDOT and KDWP. The tour will start in Lawrence on September 11 and return back to Lawrence on the 13th with presentations about the: Kansas River, WaterOne facilities, Leavenworth History, MGP from Atchison, Missouri River boat tour, Benedictine Bottoms tour, proposed reservoir for Kansas Aqueduct and water quality and quantity in our Region with Alan Kelley participating.

DoC Funding: Mr. Dave Jones gave a quick update on the FY 2018 County Cost-Share Allocations. Dave outlined the steps for program and mentioned there is a \$10,000 maximum. The Conservation Districts (CD) provides a 2 week signup with local advertising. NRCS assists with filtering through applications however it is up to the CD to rank projects and approve applications. The State Conservation Commission approved \$75,835 (NPS) and \$87,826 (WR DNA) for Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Leavenworth, Marshall, Nemaha and Wyandotte Counties however not all of this money falls within the Missouri Region. A power point is available to further clarify the information.

DoC Interactive map: Ms. Katie Burke presented the map that DoC and KWO has been working on, not completed yet. The map shows HUC 12's in different colors for different items: dollars spent on practices, sediment reduction and various nutrient reductions. They will also be looking at water quality and DP CD will be helping collect some of the data.

DP Conservation District RCPP: Ms. Chris Griffin read through the executive summary of the RCPP they have submitted. They should know the week of June 26th if the proposal has made it to the next stage if so the full proposal will be submitted in August. Her proposal has the major sponsorship of DP County and is for protection of roads while helping to reduce soil loss.

MO RAC Talking points: Carl went through a list of talking points for the August KWA meeting in Pittsburg. Carl wanted to make sure that we don't miss anything the RAC has been involved with. John suggested that Tj contact Margaret and see if there is anything that she feels should be added to the points. Joel suggested that we move the EIS comments up to goal #2.

Agency Reports: There were none.

Next Meeting:

KWA Meeting, Pittsburg (August 16th – 17th)

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MO RAC Meeting: (Sept 14th)

Governor's Water Conference, Manhattan (November 8th-9th)

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