



Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday January 16, 2018, 9:00 am
USD 409 Community Meeting Room, 626 Commercial,
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)	2021	Yes
Stephen Glaser	Atchison, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	No
Jeffrey Grossenbacher	Bern, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2019	Yes
Chris Griffin	Troy, KS	WRAPs	2021	Yes
Alan Kelley	White Cloud, KS	Iowa Tribe of Kansas and NB	2019	Yes
Joel Mahnken	Leavenworth, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2021	No
Brett Neibling (VC)	Highland, KS	Agriculture 2	2019	Yes
Darcy Nightingale	Hiawatha, KS	Agriculture Industry	2021	No
Bill Shroyer	Sabetha, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2019	No
Luke Terry	Robinson, KS	Fish and Wildlife	2021	No
Michelle Wirth	Kansas City, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2021	Yes,phone

Others in attendance:

Name	Town	Representing
Chris Beightel	Lawrence	KDA-DWR
Brett Bunger	Topeka	KDA-DWR
Travis Daneke	Topeka	KDHE-WRAPS
Margaret Chamas	Troy	KSRE/WRAPS
Ray Ladd	Atchison	AT Co. Extension
Nathan Nelson	Manhattan	KSU
Peter Tomlinson	Manhattan	KSU
Ginger Harper	Topeka	KWO
Kirk Tjelmeland	Topeka	KWO

- I) **Welcome and Introductions:** Carl started the meeting at 9:00 am with self-introductions from everyone in the room.
- II) **Public Comments:** There were none.
- III) **RAC Business:**
 - a. The November 16th meeting notes were reviewed accepted with no changes.
 - b. Carl mentioned a couple of highlights from the December 12th KWA meeting in McPherson: Surplus water report, Water Research Coordination Workgroup (lots of projects)-HABs group

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KWO Planner: Kirk Tjelmeland, 785-368-8149; Kirk.Tjelmeland@kwo.ks.gov

led by Ed Martinko (KBS), Irrigation group is being led by Dan Devlin (KSU) and the Streambank & Sedimentation group is being led by Rolfe Mandel (KGS). Neil asked if everyone had seen the streambank project just east of Meriden, lot of work to stabilize the creek and save the road. Carl also talked about the Annual Report to the Governor which is available [here](#).

- c. Michelle reported that there will be an Adaptive Management Meeting held in Nebraska City NE on February 6-8th and Greg Totske is the WaterOne representative that will be attending. Michelle asked the RAC to supply her with any comments related to the Biological Assessment by February 16th, the link is available [here](#).
- d. The Ag subcommittee had several things. Jeff mentioned Burt Griggs and some work he was doing on Modern Law, looking at first in time first in right. Brought up the Equus Bed recharge and the ASR plant by Wichita and effects that is having in that area. Also brought up other water issues: Cheyenne Bottoms wants more water which could lead to drying up some irrigation, Ogallala aquifer and the effects that use of no end guns might have, effects LIMA's are having and the water transfer with Hays.

IV) Update on edge of field monitoring at KSU: Dr. Nathan Nelson gave a presentation on the work that he has been conducting at KSU with funding help from a CIG. His presentation can be found [here](#). Dr. Nelson explained that they are working on a 30 acre field that has been divided into 18 independent watersheds with monitoring equipment on each field. The equipment can monitor timing and amount of runoff, sediment and nutrient loss. The project has been up and running for two years and takes 1 full time staff person and 1-3 part-time individuals. As for runoff in some cases the cover crops actually allowed more water to runoff, didn't peak as high but over a longer period. As expected cover crops showed a 70% decrease in sediment loss which translates into a reduction of loss in particulate Phosphorus. However there was a 65% increase in dissolved Phosphorus which they weren't expecting. Dr. Nelson also looked at production, soybeans in 2016 and corn in 2017 related to the cover crops. For 2016 production of soybeans (bu/ac) showed no statistical difference however for the 2017 corn crop grown in rotation with cover crops there was nearly a 40 bu/ac reduction. Also spring injected fertilizer produced similar results to fall broadcasting but decreased dissolved and total Phosphorus loss. The project is partially funded under a Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) and they will continue to collect data for 2018 and 2019. KSU is looking to do some larger fields and see if they can produce similar results. There was a considerable amount of discussion between the producers on the RAC and Dr. Nelson on how this could apply to soils and production implications in the Missouri Region. Jeff added there are grazing benefits to cover crops however there are drawbacks as well. Carl asked about Tile Outlet Terraces and how they fit in this because it is part of the RACs action plan. Dr. Nelson said there is not a lot of data out there but it looks like a settlement pond at the end of the outlet before it hits the stream shows positive effects. Dr. Nelson was asked how he would set up a Tile Outlet System and he said find a willing landowner, tiled fields in close proximity monitor for 2 or 3 years and then apply the treatments and monitor the differences between the control and treated fields for a couple of years. Jeff appreciated the professionalism that Dr. Nelson used when conducting this important research.

- V) **CIG Grant for Technology Farm in DP County:** Chris Griffin gave a little update on the DP Co. RCPP that was approved. Working with the DP Co. Road and Bridge this could have some significant impacts around the county, the negotiation phase will start soon. Chris went through a ppt explaining the Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) which can be found [here](#). The CIG priorities for 2018 are; Grazing lands, Organic Agriculture Systems and Soil Health. National applications are due by February 26 and the State applications are due sometime in March. Chris was looking for some ideas for the grant; water quality tech farm-single vs multi species cover crops, tile outlet terraces vs broad base terraces, use of nitrogen below the recommended rates and looking at surface and ground water quality. She welcomes any help with ideas for this.
- VI) **Legislative and Budget Update:** Ginger Harper, KWO, gave an update on the requested \$8 million transfer-Economic Development Initiatives Fund. (EDIF) and transfer from State General Fund (SGF). This is not going to happen, there was some support for it however it is not in the Governor's budget. The legislators did include \$1.2 million at the end of last session for streambank projects, bathymetric surveys and the Kansas Alluvium study. She was hoping there might be something similar at the end of this years' session. There needs to be a continued effort to educate legislators and the public on the needs for funding water issues.
- VII) **State of the Resource (SOTR) Document Discussion:** Tj, KWO, went through the latest version of the document and asked for any additions or suggestions to improve the document. This version wasn't made available prior to the meeting and will be sent out this afternoon. Tj went through the meeting dates and locations of the Conservation District meetings to make sure we had individuals there to answer questions: DP Co, January 22nd, LV Co. January 27th, NM Co. February 15th, WY Co. February 15th, BR CO February 20th and Atchison Co. February 22nd. Carl was going to try and make most of them.
- VIII) **Agency or Public Comments:** There were no general public at the meeting. Brett Bunger-KDA mentioned that the Iowa is looking at water issues. Chris mentioned the breakfast that the DP Conservation District is sponsoring with Shane New and Dale Strickler on February 21st, RSVP by February 15th.
- IX) **Other Issues: Healthy Watershed:** Chris and Tj talked about the funding opportunity to complete the watershed plan for the Independence-Sugar Watershed that the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) made available and the deadline to submit.
Top 3 water conservation measures: As part of the Vision Education piece these are needed for each region.
- X) **Upcoming Meeting:**
a. **KWA meeting January 23-24th Topeka, KS**
b. **Missouri RAC meeting March 27th 9-noon.**



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