In the coming weeks, the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) will begin the process of developing the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF) FY 2023 budget recommendations. As part of that process, the Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) will be provided an opportunity to submit feedback on how the SWPF budget recommendations support the specific goals and action plans developed by the RACs. This feedback is crucial to ensuring that funding continues to be focused on the critical water resource issues identified through the state water planning process.

Similar to last year, a RAC Informational Budget Webinar is planned to be provided to RAC members later this month. Information provided during the webinar will include a review of the SWPF FY 2023 budget development timeline, with specific attention given to the involvement of the RACs in the process. The webinar will also include a brief background/overview of the SWPF, as well as a review of the FY 2021 and FY 2022 SWPF appropriations.

Provided below is an estimated timeline for key steps in the FY 2023 KWA SWPF budget process. This process and timeline will be reviewed by the KWA at the upcoming April KWA meeting.

April
- RAC Informational Budget Webinar
- RAC members follow up with KWO Planner regarding any questions/information from webinar

May
- Agencies develop funding requests/recommendations for KWA Budget Committee

June
- KWA Budget Committee develops draft SWPF budget recommendations

June/July
- RACs review draft SWPF budget recommendations and provide feedback (memo)

July/August
- KWA Budget Committee finalizes SWPF budget recommendations to full KWA
- Full KWA acts on recommendations

September
- KWA SWPF budget recommendations are submitted as part of administration budget process

Information provided during the upcoming informational budget webinar, as well as the information recently provided to the RACs as memo updates regarding the status of the SWPF FY 2021 & FY 2022 budget/appropriations should allow the RACs to start looking at the currently-funded projects/programs and how they line up with their specific regional goals and action plans.

Efforts by KWO staff will continue to be made to provide information to the RACs in advance of the summer meetings (June-July), at which time the RACs will be asked to provide feedback to the KWA regarding the FY 2023 SWPF budget recommendations.