

Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

1:00p.m.

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Woodson County Ambulance Service

114 N Main

Yates Center, KS

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Jay Byers (Chair)	Pittsburg, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	Yes
Wes Fleming (Vice-Chair)	Burlington, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	Yes
Angela Anderson	Allen, KS	WRAPS	2023	Yes
Kent Bacon	Council Grove, KS	Ranching/Grazing	2023	Yes
Joe Buchanan	Council Grove, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2021	No
Phillip Cooper	Emporia, KS	Water Assurance District	2023	Yes
Jeff Cantrell	Chanute, KS	Public Water Supply	2023	Yes
Kate Grover	Iola, KS	Industry/Commerce	2021	Yes
Brian Obermeyer	Cottonwood Falls, KS	Conservation/Environment	2023	No
Lisa Suderman	Hillsboro, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2021	Yes
James Triplett	Pittsburg, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021	Yes

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Julie Carey	USACE
Monty Barnett	Woodson County Commission
Terry Medley	KDA-DWR
Caleb Fabrycky	KDA-DWR (Parsons)
Bobbi Lutjohann	KWO

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:00p.m. by Chairperson, Jay Byers. All present provided self-introductions. Jay thanked everyone for attending the meeting and Kate Grover for suggesting the meeting location.
Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO) announced later in the year she will be stepping down as the Neosho RAC planner and a new planner will take over.
- Review of June Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the June meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
- KWA December Meeting Report: Jay Byers (Chair & At Large Public)** reported on the December KWA meeting held in Salina. Jay reported on the items that were discussed at the meeting including PWS Committee, Reservoir Sedimentation, Marketing Water Contracts, Grant Updates, Equus Bed Chloride Plume Project, Arbuckle Study, the Performance-Based Budget Task Force, and the RAC Messages and Membership.
- Conservation District Annual Meeting Update: Bobbi (KWO)** reported that the Excel Spreadsheet that was sent out to RAC members gave the list of the dates and locations of all Conservation District Annual Meetings that were

being held in 2020. Bobbi stated that if anyone could attend the meetings it would be beneficial for both the Conservation Districts and the RACs. If anyone attends or present at the meetings please let Bobbi know so she can record the meetings attended and pass that information onto KDA-DOC.

5. **RAC Goals and Action Plan Discussion: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO)** discussed the plan for the upcoming year as it pertained to the KWP. Bobbi reported that the KWO would be updating the KWP this year and revision of goals and actions would be incorporated into this revision. The spring RAC meeting will include discussion of goal and action plan changes.
6. **Review of Budget Process for 2020: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO)** reported on what was discussed at the KWA meeting in reference to the Performance-Based Budget Task Force. Bobbi noted the purpose and goals of the task force. She then went over how the budget process and recommendations would be managed through the RAC process. Bobbi stated that at the spring RAC meeting a review of the budget, including revenue, expenditures, and definition of line items would be conducted. She then reported that the June RAC meeting would be the time for RAC budget recommendations.
7. **Legislative Visits Overview: Bobbi Lutjohann (KWO)** reported that on January 28th the KWO will be conducting Legislative visits at the Capitol. KWA members and RAC Chairs will be invited to participate in the visits, along with additional RAC members if needed. On January 22nd at 2pm there will be a webinar to discuss the Legislative Visits logistics.

1. Questions and Future Issues from Members:

Jim Triplett (Conservation & Environment): asked about coordination between WRAPS and Conservation Districts. Lisa Suderman (Agriculture) noted the previous lack of WRAPS coordinators in her areas and how Conservation Districts have been able to help out in those areas.

Lisa Suderman (Agriculture): reported that at the Marion County CD Annual meeting coming up on February 22nd, a presentation on the Trails Across Marion County would be given. Lisa then asked about the spill that occurred on the Neosho near Humboldt and Iola. Jeff Cantrell (Public Water Supply) reported that there were two alerts issued and that the City of Chanute had issued a water warning due to low water in their tower. After communicating with KDHE the City found out they could again pump water. Jeff noted that better communication during events like this is needed.

Jay Byers (Chair & At Large Public): reported that the City of Pittsburg is building new WWTP and coordinating with KDHE. Together they are trying to create a nutrient crediting system to reduce nutrient loading upstream and reduce costs to the City. Jay noted that the City is working on the design this year.

2. Agency and Public Input:

Terry Medley (KDA DWR): reported that the Topeka Field Office is relocating to Winding Road behind Sports Academy in Topeka. They are currently at Forbes Field in Topeka. The move should be completed by March 16th. He also reported that Chief Engineer, David Barfield is retiring in March. Terry then noted that the Osage Discovery Meeting and Lower Neosho Discovery Meeting will be held soon. There is also an Open House in April to review flood data and the Dam Safety Conference is March 11th at Washburn University in Topeka.

Caleb Fabrycky (KDA-DWR: Parsons): reported that the 2019 WUR have gone out and are due on March 1st. Reports can be done online for free or by paper for a \$20 fee.

Julie Carey (USACE): stated it was good to be back from Washington DC. Julie reported that the USACE is issuing contracts for repair work around reservoirs due to flooding. She also noted that she is working with the Environmental Stewardship Budget to try and secure funds for streambank stabilization. Julie also mentioned that the USACE is spending funds to update the Master Plans for Elk, Marion, Council Grove, and Eldorado reservoirs. The USACE will have open houses and public meetings for comment on the Plans.

3. Future Meetings:

Legislative Visits Webinar: January 22nd at 2pm

HAB Conference: January 22nd & 23rd at Washburn University in Topeka

Kansas Water Authority: January 28th (Legislative Visits) and 29th (KWA Meeting) Topeka, KS

Neosho RAC: The next meeting will be held in late March or early April. A doodle poll will be sent out to pick the best date.