



# Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

**Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting**  
1:00pm, Thursday, June 7, 2018  
Grand River Dam Authority - Ecosystems and Education Center  
420 E HWY 28  
Langley, OK 74350

### Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Angela Anderson (Chair)	Allen, KS	WRAPS	2019	Yes
Jay Byers (Vice-Chair)	Pittsburg, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	Yes
Kent Bacon	Council Grove, KS	Ranching/Grazing	2019	Yes
Joe Buchanan	Council Grove, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2021	Yes
Phillip Cooper	Emporia, KS	Water Assurance District	2019	Yes
Wes Fleming	Burlington, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	Yes
Kate Grover	Iola, KS	Industry/Commerce	2021	Yes
Jeff Cantrell	Chanute, KS	Public Water Supply	2019	Yes
Brian Obermeyer	Cottonwood Falls, KS	Conservation/Environment	2019	Yes
Larry Paine	Hillsboro, KS	At Large Public	2019	No
Pat Sauble	Cedar Point, KS	Agriculture	2021	No
Lisa Suderman	Hillsboro, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2021	Yes
James Triplett	Pittsburg, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021	No

### Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Carl Metcalf	GLWAF
Adam Johnson	City of Tulsa
Darrell Townsend	GRDA-OK
Rich Zamor	GRDA-OK
Steve Nickolai	GRDA-OK
Matt Conrad	GRDA-OK
Courtney Pritchett	GRDA-OK
Dustin Browning	GRDA-OK
Ed Fite	GRDA-OK
Jamie Fluid	GRDA-OK
Laura Webb	EPA-Region 7
Caleb Fabrycky	KDA/DWR
Pamela Walker	Wilson Co. CD
Alan Sharp	KDHE
Andy Lyon	KDHE
Chris Janssen	KDHE
Gretchen Sasseureth	KSU
Bjaulio Ramirez	Wyandotte Nation
Janice Wilson	Wyandotte Nation
Matt Unruh	KWO
Bobbi Lutjohann	KWO

**Membership:** Angela Anderson, Chair, Allen, KS; Jay Byers, Vice-Chair, Pittsburg, KS; Kent Bacon, Council Grove, KS; Joe Buchanan, Council Grove, KS; Jeff Cantrell, Chanute, K; Philip Cooper, Emporia, KS; Wes Fleming, Burlington, KS; Kate Grover, Iola, KS; Brian Obermeyer, Cottonwood Falls, KS; Larry Paine, Hillsboro, KS; Pat Sauble, Cedar Point, KS; Lisa Suderman, Hillsboro, KS; James Triplett, Pittsburg, KS  
**KWO Planner:** Bobbi Lutjohann, 785-296-3185; [bobbi.luttjohann@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:bobbi.luttjohann@kwo.ks.gov)

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson, Angela Anderson. All present provided self-introductions. Angela thanked everyone for attending and also thanked the GRDA for hosting the RAC and providing the meeting location, lunch, and tour. Dr. Darrell Townsend (GRDA) welcomed everyone and gave brief history and overview of GRDA.
- Review of the March Meeting Notes:** The minutes from the March meeting were discussed. There were no corrections or additions.
- Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) and Interstate Coordination:** Bobbi Luttjohann (KWO) reported on the conference call that was held on May 11, 2018 with the USACE, GRDA, KDHE, KBS, and USGS. As part of the call, those involved discussed conducting studies for the Neosho Region to study HABs, their impacts, and possible solutions. The USACE explained they could look at doing a Marion Lake focused study under the Handshake Program, possibly using FY2018. Then they stated a separate larger study could be completed that covers the entire Neosho Region using FY2019.
- Water Quality Technology Farm (WQTF) Planning and Progress –** Wes Fleming (Industry/Commerce), Angela Anderson (Chair & WRAPS), Andy Lyon (KDHE) & Bobbi Luttjohann (KWO) discussed the creation of a WQTF in the Neosho Region. A presentation was giving of what has been accomplished and what the next steps are. Maps showing the current proposed locations were shown and handed out. Bobbi stated that the KWO and KSU will be meeting June 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss the proposed locations to see if these properties are appropriate as WQTFs, what parameters will be studied/tested, and when KSU can ground-truth these areas. As progress is made the RAC will be updated. It was proposed that the Fall RAC meeting be held in Lyon or Coffey County so a tour of a WQTF site could be conducted before or after the RAC meeting.
- State of the Resource (SOTR) Document:** Matt Unruh (KWO) reported that the SOTR documents have been drafted and are being reviewed. As the process moves forward the RACs will be updated.
- Budget Updates:** Bobbi Luttjohann (KWO) reported that at the last KWA meeting it was discussed that the RACs will now be a part of the budget review process. Once the KWA Budget Committee has provided its recommendations, the RACs will review these recommendations and provide feedback. This feedback will be discussed at a July RAC meeting. This meeting can either be conducted in person or via conference call. Follow-up for scheduling the July RAC meeting will be provided as soon as the KWA Budget Committee has met and reviewed the budget.
- Questions and Future Issues from Members:**

**Jay Byers (Vice Chair & At-Large Public) and Angela Anderson (Chair & WRAPS)** reported on the need to bring together potential funding sources to the next RAC meeting, as well as landowners involved in the WQTF. Jay continued on with mentioning that the City of Pittsburg has utilized what are called Impact Investors. The Impact Investors invest with individuals or groups in environmental projects that have a strong analytical component to show proof the project worked. This investment helps reduce the risk of the project. At the end of the project the investors are paid back. Jay noted that he had mentioned the RACs WQTF to some investors and that they are interested and would like to meet with the RAC.

**Brian Obermeyer (Conservation/Environment)** reported that The Nature Conservancy (TNC) will be partnering with the KDWP&T to sample fresh water mussel sites that have not been sampled since 1994. Brian

mentioned that there will be ESU students helping with this effort. He then stated that he will notify the RAC members when sampling will occur so that they can help out if they wish to. Brian noted that no mussel harvesting has occurred in Neosho for the past few years, so that is helping with mussel populations. He also noted that the Neosho Region is now infested with Zebra mussels, which is new since that last sampling in 1994. Brian also reported that the TNC may possibly relocate the Topeka Shiner into stock ponds on the reserve. Doing this may take pressure off of the fish. This project has not yet been initiated, but will be in next few years.

**Angela Anderson (Chair & WRAPS)** reported that The Symphony in the Flint Hills will be June 9<sup>th</sup>. She stated that tickets were still for sale. Angela also reported that this year the theme for the Symphony was focusing on water. To check out more about that and to get tickets visit the website: <http://www.symphonyintheflinthills.org/>

### 8. Agency and Public Input:

Caleb Fabrycky (KDA-DWR) reported that the DWR will be holding a Cottonwood Neosho Water Management Information Meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am to 12pm at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Learning Center near Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant located near New Strawn, KS. The meeting will have presentations from DWR, USACE, USGS, and KWO.

Andy Lyon (KDHE) reported that KAWS will be holding a soil health workshop on July 9<sup>th</sup> in Iola and on July 10<sup>th</sup> in Parson. Andy stated that the NRCS will presenting along with Regional Health Specialists from other states. He then reported that there will be another soil health workshop on July 24<sup>th</sup> in Waverly.

Carl Metcalf (GLWAF) reported that they began partnering last year with GRDA on a study to kick off work under the grant they received to look at load reductions achieved. That work is now being summarized. With this work completed it can assist Kansas in reworking their 9-Element plans for WRAPS and procuring funding.

Rich Zamor (GRDA) reported that GRDA has started their HAB study on Horse Creek. He noted that there have been no blooms yet, but blooms typically begin mid-to-late June. He then reported that GRDA has been out every other day testing for toxins, using DNA filters to test for fecal source tracking and algae, and testing for total dissolved solids and total nutrients. GRDA is also working with OU to do rating curves on smaller tributaries.

Gretchen Sasseureth (KSU) reported that the KSU Extension held soil health workshops this past winter and will be trying to schedule summer sessions soon. Gretchen also reported that they will be participating in the 4-States Farm Show in July.

### 9. Future Meetings:

Kansas Water Authority: August 22, 2018, Manhattan, KS

Neosho RAC: The next meeting will be held in July once the Budget Committee finalizes

recommendations. At this time this meeting will be a conference call. A doodle poll will be sent out to pick date.

A doodle poll will also be sent out to schedule the Fall meeting.