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MEMO

DATE: January 14, 2022
TO: Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Members
FROM: Keadron Pearson
RE: January 20, 2021 GoTo Meeting and Conference Call

Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) will be having a GoTo Meeting and conference call on **January 20, 2022 at 9:00 AM (CST)**. Call-in details are below.

Join the meeting from your computer, table, or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/806575733>

Join by phone:

Dial: 1-408-650-3123
Access Code: 806-575-733

The main agenda items will be an update from KGS's Brownie Wilson on the status of the aqueduct within the region, an overview of the 6th Annual Playa Lakes Tour and Workshop recently held by Abe Lollar, and discussion on future outreach efforts by RAC members.

Enclosed are the materials for the January 20, 2022 Meeting:

- Agenda
- Meeting notes from the July 29, 2021 Meeting
- Upper Arkansas RAC Draft Goals & Actions Plan
- Upper Arkansas RAC Membership Table

If you cannot participate, or have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting, please contact me by telephone at (620) 765-7489 or by e-mail at Keadron.Pearson@kwo.ks.gov.



UPPER ARKANSAS
REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA

DATE: January 20, 2022
TIME: 9:00 AM (CST)
LOCATION: GoToMeeting Conference Call ([Meeting Materials](#))

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AGENDA DETAILS

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – RAC Chair/KWO Planner
- II. **Review of Agenda** – RAC Chair/Members
- III. **Review of July 2021 Meeting Notes** – RAC Chair/Members
- IV. **Regional Activities**
 - a. **Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) Aquifer Status Update Presentation** – Brownie Wilson
 - b. **6th Annual Playa Lakes Tour and Workshop Overview** – Abe Lollar
 - c. **Goals & Actions Plan and Educational Outreach Discussion** – RAC Chair/Members
 - i. *Local Resources Available*
 - ii. *Future Meeting Items*
 - iii. *Outreach*
 - iv. *Information Needed*
- V. **Updates**
 - a. **Kansas Water Authority** – KWO Planner
 - b. **Kansas Water Office** – KWO Planner
- VI. **Other Business-** RAC Chair
 - a. **Agency Reports**
 - b. **Public comments**
 - c. **Future Agenda Items from RAC Members**
 - d. **RAC Messages to the KWA**
 - e. **Future Meetings**
 - i. *Kansas Water Authority January 27*
 - ii. *GMD3 Board Meeting: February 9*
 - iii. *Winter Water Technology Expo, Garden City: February 3*

Note: underlined items are action items for RAC

Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

1:00 PM (CST), Thursday July 29, 2021

GoToMeeting Conference Call

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Kyle Nelson (Chair)	Holcomb, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	Yes
Joe Jury (Vice-Chair)	Ingalls, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	No
Kyle Averhoff	Garden City, KS	Dairy	2021	Yes
Hugh Brownlee	Syracuse, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	No
Roy Dixon	Garden City, KS	Agriculture Industry	2021	Yes
Titus Jaeger	Lakin, KS	Groundwater Irrigation	2023	No
Fred Jones	Garden City, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2021	Yes
Monte Morgan	Deerfield, KS	At Large Public 3	2021	Yes
Bill Simshauser	Lakin, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021	Yes
Hal Scheuerman	Deerfield, KS	Surface Water Irrigation	2021	No
Ray Slattery	Dodge City, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2023	Yes
Brant Peterson	Johnson, KS	Groundwater Management	2023	No
Jason Shamburg	Deerfield, KS	At Large Public 2	2023	Yes

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Kirk Tjelmeland	KWO
Matt Unruh	KWO
Connie Owen	KWO
Cara Hendricks	KWO
Steve Frost	KDA-DOC
Logan Smith	KDHE

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM by RAC Chair Kyle Nelson. All present provided self-introductions.
2. **Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. No changes requested by the RAC members.
3. **Review of April 2021 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes were reviewed. There were no changes requested by the RAC members.
4. **Updates**
 - a. **Kansas Water Authority (KWA):** Matt Unruh (KWO) informed the RAC of recent updates that had occurred at the KWA meeting.
 - b. **Kansas Water Officer (KWO):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an update on the recent membership drive and other agency changes that had occurred since the last RAC meeting.

Membership: Kyle Nelson (Chair), Holcomb, KS; Joe Jury (Vice-Chair), Ingalls, KS; Kyle Averhoff, Garden City, KS; Hugh Brownlee, Syracuse, KS; Roy Dixon, Garden City, KS; Titus Jaeger, Lakin, KS; Fred Jones, Garden City, KS; Monte Morgan, Deerfield, KS; Bill Simshauser, Lakin, KS; Hal Scheuerman, Deerfield, KS; Ray Slattery, Dodge City, KS; Brant Peterson, Johnson, KS; Jason Shamburg, Deerfield, KS

KWO Planners: Keadron Pearson, 620-765-7489, keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov

5. Regional Activities

- a. **Budget Discussion & Recommendations:** A presentation was given by Matt Unruh (KWO) over the State Water Plan Fund that included budget information specific to the region. The presentation was followed by discussion from RAC members on areas of interest that they wish to pass on as budget recommendations to the KWA budget committee for consideration. A motion was made by Roy Dixon and seconded by Bill Simshauser to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA Budget Committee:

“The Upper Arkansas RAC requests the KWA to seek to provide funding to programs and projects benefiting the region consistent with the revenue derived from the Upper Arkansas Region. The following programs would be the first priority to receive additional funding for the region.

- a) *Supporting CREP funding as indicated by SWPF FY23 Budget Request and reallocation of acreage from counties that are close to their limit.*
- b) *Continue supporting KDA-DOC funding increase as indicated by SWPF FY23 Budget Request to fully fund aid to conservation districts.*
- c) *Fund the monitoring of the Colorado Multi-User Account Pilot Project in John Martin Reservoir Proposal by KDA within the interstate water issues.*
- d) *Increased funding to KDHE to put towards water reclamation efforts specifically within the Upper Arkansas Region.”*

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

6. Other Business

- a. **Agency Reports:** None
- b. **Public Comments:** None
- c. **Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** None
- d. **RAC Messages to the KWA:** None
- e. **Future Meetings:**
 - i. GMD3 Board Meeting: August 11
 - ii. KWA Meeting: August 17
 - iii. Governor’s Water Conference: November 16-18

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 PM.

Upper Arkansas RAC- Draft Revised Action Plan (11/19/2020)

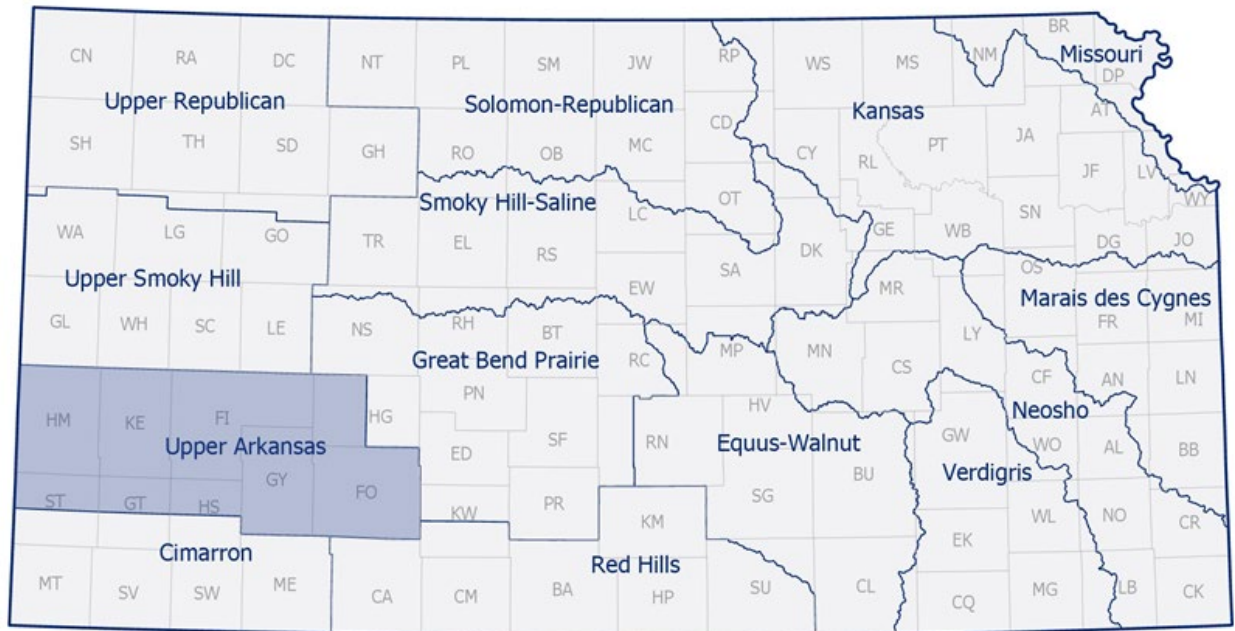
Goal #1: Establish a diversified, usable water supply by 2030, to motivate a vibrant growing economy with conservation-minded stewardship focused on increasing the life of the aquifer, reestablishing streamflow in the Arkansas River, and accelerating recharge; benefiting: economic prosperity, wildlife, habitat, recreation, and all water users while protecting property rights and providing safe drinking water.

Action Steps:

- 1) Develop alternative sources of supply by 2030
 - a) Collaborate and coordinate with local shareholders, stakeholders, policymakers, organizations, agencies, (i.e. GMD3, KWO, KDA, KDHE, Kansas Dept. of Commerce, and other State agencies) surrounding States, and federal agencies and authorities.
 - b) Research, study, and initiate any changes necessary to current or new statutes, to develop and perfect new or existing water rights to serve as alternative sources of supply.
 - c) Explore multi-state support for an interstate water transfer system.
 - d) Evaluate potential intrastate water transfers
 - e) Initiate and participate in research to determine the value an alternative source of supply would generate directly and indirectly for local, regional, state, & federal areas and agencies.
 - f) Develop a fact-based education initiative to inform Kansans and our neighbors how we can plan and prepare for tomorrows challenges related to the shortages or excess of water for everyone.
 - g) Support alternative sources of supply.
 - h) These may include greater streamflow of interstate rivers or engineered solutions such as an aqueduct or pipelines from alternate sources of supply.
- 2) Educate all water users on the importance of water saving, increased water use efficiencies, and the supporting data (SWLs, SWL change rates, conservation targets, etc.).
 - a) Support the educational efforts through the Kansas Runs on Water Campaign.
 - b) Support educational activities through the Conservation Districts such as (The Ark Water River Festival, Earth Day at The Zoo, Safety Days, Poster contests at the schools, The Bottom Line Conference, and other informational meetings or conferences) put on by the Conservation Districts.
 - c) The Water Authority supports these activities by funding the budget line item, Aid to Conservation Districts, to the full amount mandated by the Kansas Water Plan Funding.
 - d) Support educational meetings hosted by the K-State Extension, the GMD3, and other agencies or organizations.
 - e) Encourage the Kansas Water Authority's continued support and funding for the irrigation technology farms.
 - f) Formalize a list to add to a calendar on the Water Authority, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, GMD3, and K-State Extension web sites to help inform landowners, producers, and the general public of events throughout the year.
- 3) Promote irrigation conservation
 - a) Support voluntary decreased water consumption in the Upper Arkansas RAC geographic area per the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) recommendations.
 - b) Encourage adoption of water conservation programs such as LEMA's and WCA's.
 - c) Support producer incentives through the KDA-DOC, KDHE, KDA-DWR, and other state agencies to reduce usage through proven technologies and best management practices.
 - i) These may include programs such as CREP, Playa Lake restoration, cost-share on reduced irrigation systems, cost-share on soil moisture probes, and other technologies that reduce water usage.
- 4) Promote conservation of municipal and industrial water use through incentives and education.
- 5) Recognizing distinct differences between domestic, irrigation, stockwater, municipal, industrial, and other types of beneficial use.



Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee



Members with Current Terms			
Name	City	Category	Term
Roy Dixon (Chair)	Garden City, KS	Agriculture Industry	2025
Fred Jones (Vice-chair)	Garden City, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2025
Brant Peterson	Johnson, KS	Groundwater Management	2023
Jason Shamburg	Deerfield, KS	At Large Public 2	2023
Joe Jury	Ingalls, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023
Kyle Nelson	Holcomb, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023
Ray Slattery	Dodge City, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2023
Titus Jaeger	Lakin, KS	Groundwater Irrigation	2023
Bill Simshauser	Lakin, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2025
Hugh Brownlee	Syracuse, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2025
Kyle Averhoff	Garden City, KS	Dairy	2025
Monte Morgan	Deerfield, KS	Surface Water Irrigation	2025
Abram Lollar	Garden City, KS	At Large Public 3	2025