



Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

9:00 A.M. (CST), Thursday, February 20, 2020

Lee Richardson Zoo
Finnup Center for Education
312 E Finnup Dr
Garden City, KS 67846

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
Ted Boersma	Cimarron, KS	Dairy	2021	No
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	Yes
Ray Slattery	Dodge City, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2023	No
Brant Peterson	Johnson, KS	Groundwater Management	2023	Yes
VACANT	VACANT	At Large Public 2	2023	N/A

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Armando Zarco	KWO
Bobbi, Luttjohann	KWO
Kevin Salter	KDA-DWR
Jason Norquest	GMD3
Mark Rude	GMD3

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 9:01 A.M. by Chairman, Kyle Nelson. All present provided self-introductions.
2. **Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. There were no adjustments or additions needed.
3. **Review of June 2019 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the June 2019 meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
4. **Kansas Water Authority (KWA) & Legislative Update:**
 - a. **January KWA Meetings:** RAC Chair gave updates and feedback on the KWA meeting held in Topeka.

Membership: Kyle Nelson (Chair), Holcomb, KS; Joe Jury (Vice-Chair), Ingalls, KS; Ted Boersma, Cimarron, 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

KWO Planners: Armando Zarco, 620-765-7485, armando.zarco@kwo.ks.gov
Keadron Pearson, 620-765-7489, keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov

- b. **Legislative Visits:** RAC Chair provided an assessment on the January 2020 Legislative Visits in Topeka.
- c. **State Budget Updates:** RAC Chair informed members of discussions had with other RAC Chairs on the use of water plan funds in the state during the RAC Chair meeting held in Topeka, KS. Armando Zarco (KWO) announced that there would be a webinar in April that would provide an overview for the budget and give updates. All RAC members in the state are invited to participate and provide feedback and discussion.

5. Regional Activities:

- a. **Membership Status:** Armando Zarco (KWO) informed members of one vacancy on the committee for “At Large Public 2”.
- b. **2020 RAC Meetings:** It was the consensus of the RAC that they continue to hold future meetings at the Lee Richardson Zoo, Finnup Center for Education in Garden City, KS. Future meeting for 2020 were requested to be held in early June, August, and November. The Chair expressed that for future meetings the committee should emphasize only agenda items that pertain to the KWO Memorandum of Internal Policy for Regional Advisory Committees.
- c. **Amazon-Great Eastern Ditch Flume Discussion:** Kevin Salter (KDA-DWR) provided an overview and background the topic followed by discussion from committee members.
- d. **Senate Bill 329:** The topic was discussed by the committee members.
- e. **Chief Engineer – 3 Member Board Discussion:** The topic was discussed by the committee members.
- f. **Optional Break:** The Chair called for a break of the meeting at 10:17 A.M. The meeting reconvened at 10:29 A.M.
- g. **RAC Goals & Actions Plans Update Recommendations:** Members reviewed the current RAC Goals & Actions Plans. After discussion was had, it was agreed by the committee to have current Goals #2, #3, and #4 of the plans taken out and to focus on having two goals total. It was agreed that the current Goal #1 needed to be updated and that another new goal would be compiled regarding an alternate source of water supply. Committee Member, Brant Peterson, volunteered to undertake the task of writing the draft Goal & Actions Plans for the new goal. It was the consensus of the RAC members for the other Goal & Actions Plan to be drafted by Armando Zarco (KWO) based on feedback and discussion had during the meeting. A draft of the revised Goals & Actions Plans will be provided and discussed at future RAC meetings.

6. Other Business:

- a. **Agency Reports:**
Kevin Salter (KDA-DWR Garden City Field Office): Nothing to report.

Mark Rude (GMD3): Committee members were presented with a Revised Groundwater Management Program draft proposal for their review. The RAC was reminded of the upcoming GMD3 annual meeting.

Keadron Pearson (KWO): Notified RAC members of a Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Funding Opportunity through the Bureau of Reclamation.

- b. **Public Comments:**
 - Bill Simshauser (RAC member): Informed the committee of the upcoming Salt Cedar/Tamarisk Management and Control Workshop in March.
- c. **Questions and Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** Committee members requested to have Brownie Wilson (KGS) present at the next RAC meeting to give an update of the status of the aquifer declines within the Upper Arkansas RAC.
- d. **Messages to the KWA:** No messages to submit to KWA at this time.
- e. **Future Meetings:**
 - i. GMD3 Annual Meeting: March 11 at 9am; Ulysses
 - ii. GMD3 Board Meeting: March 11 following Annual Meeting
 - Regularly every second Wed of the month at 9am
 - iii. Upper Arkansas & Cimarron Regions Public Input Meeting: March 11; Ulysses
 - iv. Salt Cedar/Tamarisk Management and Control Workshop: March 19; Hamilton Co
 - v. 3I Farm Show: March 19-21; Dodge City
 - vi. Ogallala Aquifer Summit: March 31; Amarillo, TX
 - vii. Kansas Water Authority: April 14, 2020; Hutchinson
 - viii. Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas: November 9-10, 2020; Wichita

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 A.M. (CST).