



Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

1:00 PM (CST), Monday, May 4, 2020

GoTo Webinar/Conference Call

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Mike Schultz (Chair)	Brewster, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	Yes
Shannon Kenyon (Vice-Chair)	Colby, KS	Groundwater Management	2023	Yes
Brian Baalman	Menlo, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2021	No
Adriaan (Ian) De Waal	St. Francis, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	No
Sue Evans	Colby, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	Yes
Gary Fisher	Atwood, KS	Local Government	2021	No
Tyson McGreer	Colby, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2021	No
Scott Ross	Atwood, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021	Yes
VACANT		Agriculture Industry	2023	N/A
VACANT		At Large Public 2	2023	N/A
VACANT		Conservation/Environment 2	2023	N/A
VACANT		Agriculture 2	2021	N/A

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Armando Zarco	KWO
Bobbi Luttjohann	KWO
Lauren Koons	KWO
Robert Aiken	KSU
Chelsea Erickson	KDA-DWR
Kevin Klag	KDWPT
Kent Askren	Kansas Farm Bureau
Monty Breneman	USDA- NRCS

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 1:06 P.M. (CST) by Chairman, Mike Shultz. All present provided self-introductions.
- Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. There were no adjustments or additions needed.
- Review of June 2019 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the June 2019 meeting were discuss. It was mentioned by Shannon Kenyon that there were two grammatical errors in the notes. The suggested corrections were to Page 3, Section 8 Agency and Public Input, Shannon Kenyon (GMD4) in the last sentence on the page that “Rob Akin” be changed to “Rob *Aiken*” and to Page 4 for same section in the second sentence that reads “Shannon can get Rob to come to the next meaning and explain the model in further detail...” be changed to “Shannon can get Rob to come to the next *meeting* and explain the model in further detail...”. Scott Ross motioned to approve the changes to the meeting notes, Shannon Kenyon seconded. The changes to the June 2019 meeting notes were approved.

Membership: Mike Schultz (Chair), Brewster, KS; Shannon Kenyon (Vice-Chair), Colby, KS; Brian Baalman, Menlo, KS; Gary Fisher, Atwood, KS; Tyson McGreer, Colby, KS; Adriaan (Ian) De Waal, St. Francis, KS; Sue Evans, Colby, KS; Scott Ross, Atwood, KS
KWO Planner: Keadron Pearson, 620-765-7489; keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov
 Armando Zarco, 620-765-7485; armando.zarco@kwo.ks.gov

4. Kansas Water Authority (KWA) & Legislative Update

- a. **January/April KWA Meeting:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave updates and feedback on the KWA meeting held in Topeka in January and the webinar meeting held in April.
- b. **Legislative Visits:** RAC Chair provided an assessment on the January 2020 Legislative Visits in Topeka.

5. Regional Activities

- a. **ET Model Presentation - Rob Aiken (KSU):** A presentation on an evapotranspiration model was given by Rob Aiken (KSU) that provided an overview and background on the topic followed by discussion and questions from committee members.
- b. **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 update Goals #1, #2, #3, and #4, and to remove Goal #5 and compose a new goal that focused on water quality. It was the consensus of the RAC members to postpone discussion on Action Plans for each goal until the next meeting to have time to review the updated goals. A draft of the revised goals will be provided to committee members.
- c. **Republican River Compact Agreement Stakeholder Group Update:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) provided an update to the committee on recent activity taken by the stakeholder group and shared graphs of approved cost-share applications for irrigation technology from eligible producers. For more information please visit [South Fork Republican River Basin Projects](#).
- d. **Water Quality Discussion:** The topic was discussed by the committee members. It was mentioned by the Chair of the growing concern in the area for the quality of water and of the need to find ways to maintain the recourse and educate the public on it.
- e. **RAC Outreach Discussion:** The topic was discussed by RAC members. The Chair stressed to the group the need for outreach from the committee. It was mentioned the use of social media as a source for helping to share the RAC's Goals and Actions and for letting individuals in the region know of any vacancies that are available within the committee.
- f. **Membership Status:** The Chair informed members of four vacancies on the committee for "Agriculture Industry", "At Large Public 2", "Conservation/Environment 2", and "Agriculture 2".
- g. **2020 RAC Meeting:** It was the consensus of the committee to try and set future meetings for the first Monday a month in which a meeting would need to take place. RAC members agreed to that the next meeting would be Monday, June 1, 2020, to continue discussion on Goals and Actions Plan.

6. Other Business

a. **Agency Reports:**

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Chelsea Erickson (KDA-DWR Stockton Field Office): Notified RAC committee of the Stockton Field Office working conditions in response to COVID-19. It was specified that office staff are still currently working from home but will soon begin doing field visits.

Shannon Kenyon (GMD4): Informed members of current programs and of starting a Master Irrigator Program to be offered by GMD4.

Monty Breneman (NRCS): Informed RAC of local programs being offered and projects taking place.

b. Public Comments: None

c. Questions and Future Agenda Items from RAC Members: None

d. Messages to the KWA: None

e. Future Meetings:

- i. GMD4 Board Meeting: May 6, CANCELLED
 - Regular monthly meetings moved to the first Wed of each month at 10 am (CST)
- ii. Kansas Water Authority Meeting: May 20, 2020
- iii. Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas: November 9-10, 2020; Wichita

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 P.M. (CST).