

Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

1:00 PM (CST), Monday, July 6, 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	No
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
Earl Lewis	KWO
Cara Hendricks	KWO
Steve Frost	KDA-DOC
Chelsea Erickson	KDA-DWR
Monty Breneman	USDA- NRCS

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 1:07 P.M. (CST) by Chairman, Mike Shultz. All present provided self-introductions. It was determined that a quorum of committee members was not present.
2. **Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. There were no adjustments or additions needed.
3. **Review of June 2020 Meeting Notes:** The previous meeting notes were reviewed.
4. **Updates**
 - a. **Kansas Water Authority (KWA) June Meeting:** Shannon Kenyon, Vice-Chair, gave a report to the committee on the feedback received by the KWA on the revised Goals & Actions Plan that was presented to the authority. Keadron Pearson (KWO) also informed the RAC of additional updates and information presented during the meeting.
 - b. **RAC Chairs Meeting:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an overview of information discussed during the meeting.

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

5. Regional Activities

- a. **Budget Discussion and Recommendations:** A presentation was given by Earl Lewis, KWO Director, 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 for consideration. A vote could not be taken due to a quorum of members not being present, however, it was the consensus of the committee members present to send the following recommendations:

The Upper Republican RAC supports the proposed budget and wishes to place emphasis on the following items that are important to fund in order to accomplish and carryout the goals and actions plan of the Upper Republican RAC. These items of interest include increased support for programs that provide education and outreach to the public, regional efforts that help promote water conservation and water quality, Water Technology Farms (KWO), Water Conservation Areas (KDA), Certified Irrigator Program (GMD 4), and Kansas Runs on Water (KWO).

- b. **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”. The committee was asked to continue to consider individuals for those vacancies.

6. Other Business

a. **Agency Reports:**

Chelsea Erickson (KDA-DWR Stockton Field Office): Notified the RAC of the Stockton Field Office’s current programs and events. Informed the group that their office is currently closed to the public. A re-open date is unknown at this time. They are also doing field inspections and taking applications.

Shannon Kenyon (GMD4): Informed members of current programs and of upcoming board meeting.

Monty Breneman (USDA-NRCS): Informed the committee that their office is currently closed to the public, but they will slowly be reopening by appointment only in the coming weeks.

Keadron Pearson (KWO): Gave an update to the RAC on the South Fork Republican River Compact Stakeholder group and of Water Technology Farms in the region.

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: July 8
 - Regular monthly meetings moved to the first Wed of each month at 10 am (CST)
- ii. Governor’s Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas: November 9-10, 2020; Wichita

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M. (CST).