



Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

9:00 AM (CST), Tuesday, February 9, 2021

GoTo Webinar/Conference Call

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Frank Mercurio (Chair)	Scott City, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2023	Yes
Farrin Watt (Vice-Chair)	Leoti, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2021	Yes
Kyle Spencer	Scott City, KS	Groundwater Management	2021	Yes
Alicia Allen	Tribune, KS	Irrigation	2023	Yes
Perry Nowak	Scott City, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	No
Louis "Bo" Parkinson	Scott City, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	Yes
Stephen Mangan	Tribune, KS	Agriculture Industry	2023	Yes
Landon Frank	Scott City, KS	Financial	2021	No
VACANT	VACANT	At Large Public (cc)	2021	N/A

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Kirk Tjelmeland	KWO
Gary Koons	KWO
Angela Anderson	KWO
Sara Maguire	KWO
Mike Meyer	KDA-DWR

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 9:03 A.M. (CST) by Chairman, Frank Mercurio. All present provided self-introductions.
- 2. Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. There were no adjustments or additions needed.
- 3. Review of August 2020 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the August 2020 meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
- 4. Updates**
 - a. Kansas Water Authority (KWA):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) informed the RAC of recent updates that had occurred to the KWA.
 - b. Kansas Water Office (KWO):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an update on personnel and agency changes that had occurred since the last RAC meeting.
 - c. Legislative:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) notified the RAC of recent activities that have been talked about with the House Committee on Water, as well as, informed them of updates to the State Water Plan Budget.
- 5. Regional Activities**

Membership: Frank Mercurio (Chair), Scott City, KS; Farrin Watt (Vice-Chair), Leoti, KS; Kyle Spencer, Scott City, KS; Alicia Allen, Tribune, KS; Perry Nowak, Scott City, KS; Louis "Bo" Parkinson, Scott City, KS; Landon Frank, Scott City, KS

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

- a. **Kansas Water Plan Update:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) shared with the RAC the progress that there had been on the Kansas Water Plan Update. The group was shown where they could find draft sections of the Water Plan that had been presented to the KWA and other pertinent information on the KWO web page.
- b. **Wichita County LEMA Update:** Kyle Spencer (GMD1 Manager) presented to the committee an update on the recent Wichita County LEMA that had been approved. He discussed with the members were GMD1 currently was in the implantation process of the LEMA and shared of other areas in consideration for future LEMA's within the region.
- c. **Goals & Actions Plan Discussion:** RAC members discussed ways start carrying out their Goals & Actions Plan and initial steps that can be taken. They also talked about information that would be helpful to have presented to committee at future meetings. It was requested to have Brownie Wilson (KGS) present at the next RAC meeting to give an update on the depletion of the aquifer within the Upper Smoky Hill Region. It was agreed upon for members of the RAC to help encourage members of their communities to consider LEMA's. The final topic mentioned was to work with municipalities to better conserve water and ways they might do it.
- d. **Membership Status:** The Chair informed members of one vacancy on the RAC for "At Large Public (cc)".

6. Other Business

a. **Agency Reports:**

Mike Meyer (KDA-DWA Garden City Field Office): Reminded the RAC of the March 1st deadline to submit annual water reports. He also gave a report on the current water levels based on recent measurements taken throughout the region.

Kyle Spencer (GMD1): Provided an overview to the RAC of current programs and services being offers. It was mentioned that GMD1 will soon be offering a cost-share for the TAPP H2O to producers in the region.

b. **Public Comments:** None

c. **Questions and Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** It was requested that the next RAC meeting be in early April.

d. **Messages to the KWA:** None

e. **Future Meetings:**

- i. GMD1 Board Meeting: February 17
 - Regular monthly meetings held the third Wednesday of each month at 8 am (CST)
- ii. Water in Kansas Webinar Series; FEWtures Project: Economic Feasibility of Ammonia Production and Water Treatment Using Locally Produced Wind Energy; February 11
- iii. Governor's Water Conference: November 16-18

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 A.M (CST).