



# Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

## Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

8:00 AM (CST), Tuesday, April 6, 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	Yes
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	Yes
VACANT	VACANT	At Large Public (cc)	2021	N/A

### Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Kirk Tjelmeland	KWO
Lauren Koons	KWO
Mike Meyer	KDA-DWR
Dan Wells	KDHE
Brownie Wilson	KGS

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 8:05 A.M. (CST) by Chairman, Frank Mercurio. All present provided self-introductions.
- Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. There were no adjustments or additions needed.
- Review of February 2021 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the February 2021 meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
- Updates**
  - Kansas Water Authority (KWA):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) informed the RAC of recent updates that had occurred to the KWA.
  - Kansas Water Office (KWO):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an update on personnel and agency changes that had occurred since the last RAC meeting.
  - Legislative:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an overview on the House Committee on Water and provided an update on what has been occurring with the State Water Plan Budget.
- 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](mailto:keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov)

- a. **Upper Smoky Hill Region Aquifer Depletion Update by Brownie Wilson (KGS):** Brownie Wilson (KGS) gave an updated on the Upper Smoky Hill Region Aquifer depletion. The presentation was followed by questioned from RAC members and discussion.
- b. **Wichita County LEMA Update:** Kyle Spencer (GMD1 Manager) presented to the committee an update on the recent Wichita County LEMA. He informed the group that the Chief Engineer had issued an approval for the LEMA and that notification letters had been sent out to water right owners. It was mentioned that things were moving forward and they were working to implement the LEMA. They are also currently reviewing appeals on allocations that have been received. The presentation was followed by questioned from RAC members and discussion.
- c. **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): Expressed support towards GMD1 on LEMA efforts. Mentioned that they are working on meter repairs in the region and making sure they are all in working order and are getting water use records.

Kyle Spencer (GMD1): Provided an overview to the RAC of current programs and services being offers. It was mentioned that GMD1 is working to offering a cost-share for the TAPP H2O to producers in the region. He also reported that future LEMA planning is still on going by the GMD1 Board.

Dan Wells (KDHE): Reported that they are partnering with Fort Hays State University to do a mineralization study in the Northwestern county of the state. He also mentioned that the city of Dighton had recently enrolled in the Drinking Water Protection Program and they are encouraging more communities to participate.

#### b. **Public Comments:** None

#### c. **Questions and Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** It was requested to have the next RAC meeting in late July or early August

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

#### e. **Future Meetings:**

- i. GMD1 Board Meeting: April 21
- ii. Governor’s Water Conference: November 16-18

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 A.M (CST).