



# Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

## Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

7:00 AM (CST), Tuesday, May 5, 2020

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
Shelly Turner	Healy, KS	Financial	2021	No
Alicia Allen	Tribune, KS	Irrigation	2023	Yes
Perry Nowak	Scott City, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	No
VACANT	VACANT	At Large Public (cc)	2021	N/A
VACANT	VACANT	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	N/A
VACANT	VACANT	Agriculture Industry	2023	N/A

### Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Armando Zarco	KWO
Bobbi Luttjohann	KWO
Lauren Koons	KWO
Mike Meyer	KDA-DWA
Brownie Wilson	KGS

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 7:07 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 June 2019 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the June 2019 meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
- Kansas Water Authority (KWO) & Legislative Update**
  - 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.
  - Legislative Visits:** RAC Chair provided an assessment on the January 2020 Legislative Visits in Topeka.
- Regional Activities**

**Membership:** Frank Mercurio (Chair), Scott City, KS; Farrin Watt (Vice-Chair), Leoti, KS; Kyle Spencer, Scott City, KS; Shelly Turner, Healy, KS; Alicia Allen, Tribune, KS; Perry Nowak, Scott City, KS  
**KWO Planner:** Keadron Pearson, 620-765-7489, [keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov)  
 Armando Zarco, 620-765-7485; [armando.zarco@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:armando.zarco@kwo.ks.gov)

- a. **Upper Smoky Hill Region Aquifer Depletion Update – Brownie Wilson (KGS):** A presentation on the current state of the High Plains Aquifer within the region was given followed by discussion and questions from committee members.
- b. **Proposed LEMA Update – Kyle Spencer (GMD1 Manager):** The committee was informed that the Wichita County LEMA within GMD1 had been approved by the Chief Engineer. They hope to set up a time for public hearings in the coming months.
- c. **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 Goal #1 and to remove Goal #2 and combine it with Goal #1. It was the consensus of the RAC members to postpone discussion on Goals #3, #4, and #5 until the next meeting to have time to review information further.
- d. **Membership Status:** The Chair informed members of three vacancies on the committee for “At Large Public (cc)”, “Public Water Supply (cc)”, and “Agriculture Industry”.
- e. **2020 RAC Meetings:** It was the consensus of the committee to try and set future meetings for the first part of August and November if needed. It was also agreed that providing the option to join the meeting virtually would be helpful. RAC members agreed to that the next meeting would be Tuesday, June 2, 2020, to continue discussion on Goals and Actions Plan.

### 6. Other Business

#### a. Agency Reports:

Mike Meyer (KDA-DWA Garden City Field Office): Notified RAC committee of the Garden City Field Office working conditions in response to COVID-19. It was mentioned that they are only allowing two staff members in the office at a time. These conditions will continue through the month of May and will receive further guidance in June.

Brownie Wilson (KGS): Informed RAC of agency’s current working conditions in response to COVID-19.

Kyle Spencer (GMD1): Notified committee members of upcoming GMD1 meeting and of current programs and activities.

#### b. Public Comments: None

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

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

#### e. Future Meetings:

- i. GMD1 Board Meeting: May 20
  - Regular monthly meetings held the third Wednesday of each month at 8 am (CST)
- ii. Kansas Water Authority Meeting: May 20, 2020



## Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

iii. Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas: November 9-10, 2020; Wichita

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 A.M (CST).

**Membership:** Frank Mercurio (Chair), Scott City, KS; Farrin Watt (Vice-Chair), Leoti, KS; Kyle Spencer, Scott City, KS; Shelly Turner, Healy, KS; Alicia Allen, Tribune, KS; Perry Nowak, Scott City, KS  
**KWO Planner:** Keadron Pearson, 620-765-7489, [keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov)  
Armando Zarco, 620-765-7485; [armando.zarco@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:armando.zarco@kwo.ks.gov)