



Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

7:00 AM (CST), Friday, July 24, 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
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
VACANT	VACANT	Financial	2021	N/A
VACANT	VACANT	At Large Public (cc)	2021	N/A
VACANT	VACANT	Agriculture Industry	2023	N/A

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Bobbi Luttjohann	KWO
Cara Hendricks	KWO
Armando Zarco	KWO
Mike Meyer	KDA-DWR
Steve Frost	KDS-DOC
Greg Graff	GMD 1
Stephen Mangan	N/A
Landon Frank	N/A

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 7:01 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 2020 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the June meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
- Updates**
 - Kansas Water Authority (KWA) June Meeting:** Keadron Pearson (KWO) informed the RAC of updates and information presented during the meeting.
 - RAC Chairs Meeting:** Frank Mercurio, Chair, gave an overview of information discussed during the meeting.
- 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

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

- a. **Approval of RAC Goals & Actions Plans Update Recommendations:** Members reviewed revisions made to the RAC Goals & Actions Plan made during the previous meeting. A motion was made by Farrin Watt to accept the updated Goals & Actions Plan as presented to be sent to the KWA for approval. The motion was seconded by Alicia Allen. There was no discussion. The motion passed.
- b. **Budget Discussion and Recommendations:** A presentation was given by Cara Hendricks, KWO Assistant 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 motion was made by Alicia Allen and seconded by Bo Parkinson to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

The Upper Smoky Hill RAC supports the proposed budget and would like to highlight the following priorities that are important to fund in order to accomplish and carryout the goals and actions plan of the Upper Smoky Hill RAC. These items include Local Enhanced Management Areas (LEMA) (KDA), Water Conservations Areas (KDA), Subbasin Water Resources Management Programs (KDA), Water Technology Farms (KWO), support for Regional Conservation Partnership Programs (NRCS), Water Transition Assistance Program (KDA), support the development of a Certified Irrigator Program (GMD 4), increased support for programs that provide research, education, and outreach to the public, and Kansas Runs on Water (KWO).

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

- c. **Membership Status and Participation:** The Chair informed members of three vacancies on the committee for “At Large Public (cc)”, “Agriculture Industry”, and “Financial” and that there were currently two pending applications to fill two of those categories.

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. It was mentioned that they are only allowing limited staff members in the office at a time and that the remaining staff are still working from home. Office doors are still closed to the public at this time. They are also doing field work in the region.

Kyle Spencer (GMD1): Provided an overview and update to the RAC of current programs and services being offered. It was mentioned that they had scheduled the public hearing date for the Wichita County LEMA and that they are going to be providing support to GMD4 in the development of their Certified Irrigator Program.

b. **Public Comments:** None

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

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

e. **Future Meetings:**

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

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- i. GMD1 Board Meeting: August 19
 - Regular monthly meetings held the third Wednesday of each month at 8 am (CST)
- ii. Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas: November 9-10, 2020; Wichita
- iii. KWO Winter Water Tech Expo: February 2021

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 A.M (CST).