

MEMO



DATE: May 14, 2024
TO: Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Members
FROM: Amelia Lane
RE: May 22, 2024 Meeting

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The Kansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) hold a meeting on **Wednesday, May 22nd at 2:00pm** at the Downtown Everygy Building, 818 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66618.

The agenda will include a discussion of the Kansas Water Authority's Strategic Planning efforts.

Enclosed are the materials for the May 22nd Meeting:

- Agenda
- Meeting Notes from the April 25th Meeting
- Press Release

If you cannot participate, or have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting, please contact me by telephone at (816) 589-6044 or by e-mail at amelia.lane@kwo.ks.gov.



MEETING AGENDA

DATE: Wednesday, May 22, 2024

TIME: 2:00 pm

AGENDA DETAILS

- I. Welcome/Introductions**
- II. Review of April 25th Meeting Notes**
- III. RAC Business**

LOCATION: Downtown Evergy Building, 818 S Kansas Ave.,
Topeka, Kansas 66618

- a. Discussion of KWA Strategic Planning - RAC
- b. KWO/KWA Updates
 - i. June 11th KWA Meeting Preparation
- c. RAC Member Updates & Regional Event Sharing

- IV. Messages to the KWA**
- V. Agency or Public Comments**
- VI. Upcoming Meetings**
 - a. **Next Kansas RAC meeting: July**
 - b. **Kansas Water Authority: June 11, 2024 – Manhattan, Kansas**
- VII. Adjourn**

*Public Comments are limited to 3-5 minutes and limited to issues related to regional goals, action plans or other water resource issues or concerns.



Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

2:00 pm, Thursday, April 25th, 2024

**Evergy Professional Development Building, 801 NE Hwy 24,
Topeka, Kansas 66618**

Members Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Darci Meese Chair	Lenexa, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	Yes
Adam Bauer, V-Chair	Milford, KS	WRAPS	2023	Yes
Marlene Bosworth	Sabetha, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2023	No
Bill Heatherman	Manhattan, KS	Public Utility	2025	Yes
Brad Bradley	Overland Park, KS	Fish and Wildlife	2025	No
Glenn Brunkow	Westmoreland, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2025	Yes
Sarah Hill-Nelson	Lawrence, KS	Industry/Commerce	2023	Yes
Leslie Holthaus	Beattie, KS	Conservation/Environment	2023	Yes
Daniel Howell	Frankfort, KS	Agriculture	2025	Yes
Sylvia Davis	Topeka, KS	Water Assurance District	2025	No
Melissa Michels	Alma, KS	Industry/Commerce	2025	Yes
Ian Fannin-Hughes	Overland Park, KS	Planning, Restoration and Protection	2025	Yes
Colin Stalter	Gardner, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2023	Yes

Others in attendance:

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Amelia Lane	KWO	Connie Owen	KWO
Katie Goff	KWO	Katie Tiestort	City of Topeka, WAD
Riley Vande Ven	KWO	Scott Satterthwaite	KDHE
Michael Beezhold	KDHE		

- I) **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 2:06pm. Each person in attendance proved a brief introduction.

- II) **Review of February 2nd meeting notes:** The meeting notes from the February 2nd Kansas RAC Meeting were review. Leslie Holthaus (Conservation/Environment) made a motion to approve the notes. Sarah Hill-Nelson (Industry/Commerce) seconded the motion and the notes were approved with no additions or changes.

- III) **RAC Business:**
 - a. **Discussion of KWA Strategic Planning:** Connie Owen (KWO) described the discussion that transpired at the April KWA meeting regarding the Strategic Planning efforts charged by Governor Kelly. She stated that the KWA had developed 3 overarching goals to drive the efforts

Membership: Darci Meese (Chair), Lenexa, KS; Adam Bauer (Vice Chair), Milford, KS; Brad Bradley, Overland Park, KS; Glenn Brunkow, Westmoreland, KS; Sarah Hill-Nelson, Lawrence, KS; Leslie Holthaus, Beattie, KS; Daniel Howell, Frankfort, KS; Marlene Bosworth, Sabetha, KS; Melissa Michels, Alma, KS; Ian Fannin-Hughes, Overland Park, KS; Sylvia Davis, Topeka, KS; Bill Heatherman, Manhattan, KS; Colin Stalter, Gardner, KS; **KWO Planner:** Amelia Lane, 785-296-0878: amelia.lane@kwo.ks.gov

moving forward. These goals cover water quality, the High Plains Aquifer and reservoir planning generally. Within these goals, with the help of agency partners, other stakeholder and local and RAC input, specific action items will be identified. She explained to the RAC what the process of collecting the local and RAC input will look like. Connie stated that local consult meetings, that will be open to the public, will take place first in the earlier part of the summer. Then, the RACs will have the opportunity to provide their input directly to the KWA in the later part of the summer. Connie said that this is a process that is being developed as it is happening, so there might be further changes to the process.

- b. Discussion of RAC Subcommittees:** The RAC decided to table this discussion until a later meeting.
- c. Legislative Update** – Amelia Lane (KWO) reviewed the memo from Victoria Asbury (KWO) regarding items of importance from the Legislature. The main item from the memo was the Governor’s proposed budget, which mirrors what the KWA proposed with minor changes. She highlighted the potential extra \$1 million that could go towards the HB2302 grant programs.
- d. BMP Directory Review** – Katie Goff (KWO) shared the newly published interactive BMP Directory site. This interactive site was developed using the BMP Directory originally formed by the Kansas RAC. The interactive site now includes statewide programs and will continue to expand as feedback is received. She explained to the RAC how it can be used and asked if RAC members had and immediate feedback on it.
- e. KWO/KWA Updates:** Amelia Lane informed the RAC of the progress for the first round of the HB 2302 Grant Programs. She mentioned that there is an interactive tool on the KWO website that provides further details on the applicants and projects funded in this grant cycle. Amelia shared that the KWO has two new hires, Riley VandeVen as a Regional Planner and Amy Green as an Administrative Specialist. She also brought up the 2 PAS Agreements discussed at the previous KWA meeting. The first being an agreement for the Coffeyville Resources low-head dam and the second being for an agreement with the USACE for reservoir sustainability and water quality.
 - **June 11th KWA Meeting Preparation:** The Kansas RAC Chair is set to provide a brief presentation to the KWA at their upcoming meeting in June. RAC members shared a few topics that should be highlighted in this presentation. Further discussion regarding this presentation will take place at the Kansas RAC’s next meeting in late May.
- f. RAC Member Updates & Regional Event Sharing:** Each RAC member shared current, important items regarding the RAC category they represent.

IV) Messages to the KWA: No messages were sent to the KWA at this time.

- V) **Agency or Public Comments:** Mike Beezhold (KDHE) shared that KAWS hired Bryan Sorensen as the new Milford WRAPS Coordinator. He also stated that KDHE is continuing their work with USGS in Soldier Creek to implement cover crops to benefit water quality.
- VI) **Upcoming Meetings:**
- a. Next Kansas RAC meeting: May 22nd
 - b. Next Kansas Water Authority meeting: June 11th – Manhattan, Kansas
- VII) **Adjourn:** Sarah Hill-Nelson made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Glen Brunkow (Agriculture) seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned with no further business at 4:16pm.



Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

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