

# MEMO



DATE: September 20, 2024  
TO: Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Members  
FROM: Amelia Lane  
RE: September 24, 2024 Meeting

900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404  
Topeka, KS 66612  
Phone: (785) 296-3185  
Fax: (785) 296-0878  
www.kwo.ks.gov

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The Kansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) hold a meeting on **Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm by Zoom.**

Topic: Kansas RAC meeting  
Time: Sep 24, 2024 01:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87206949532?pwd=mKeC9tSWhCJ6gaHaK8JwgmyamkGL0v.1>

Meeting ID: 872 0694 9532  
Passcode: 985839

The agenda will include a discussion of the Kansas Water Authority's Strategic Planning efforts, updates from the Kansas Water office and Regional Advisory Committee members.

Enclosed are the materials for the September 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting:

- Agenda
- Meeting Notes from the July 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:amelia.lane@kwo.ks.gov).



## MEETING AGENDA

**DATE:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024

**TIME:** 1:00 pm

### AGENDA DETAILS

- I. **Welcome/Introductions**
- II. **Review of July 17 Meeting Notes**
- III. **RAC Business**

**LOCATION:** Zoom

- a. KWA Strategic Planning Process Update/Official RAC Input
- b. KWO/KWA Updates
- 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: TBD**
- b. **Kansas Water Authority: October 16, 2024 - Northwest Kansas**

- VII. **Adjourn**

#### Join Zoom Meeting

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\*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.

8:30 am, Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Topeka Library, 1515 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66604

**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 | Yes     |
| Glenn Brunkow       | Westmoreland, KS  | Agriculture (cc)                     | 2025 | Yes     |
| Sarah Hill-Nelson   | Lawrence, KS      | Industry/Commerce                    | 2023 | Yes     |
| Leslie Holthaus     | Beattie, KS       | Conservation/Environment             | 2023 | No      |
| 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          | Lane Letourneau  | KDA-DWR      |
| Angela Anderson | KWO          | David Jones      | KDA-DOC      |
| Connie Owen     | KWO          | Jaime Wilson     | KDHE         |
| Amy Green       | KWO          | Michael Beezhold | KDHE         |
| Victoria Asbury | KWO          | Lucas Kowalewski | KDWP         |
| Nathan Westrup  | KDA-DWR      | Lorriane Lowrey  | KRWA         |
| Earl Lewis      | KDA-DWR      | Melissa Harvey   | K-State      |
| Cole Fine       | Water One    | Will Boyer       | K-State      |
| Erin Bailey     | WRAPS        | Charlie Sievert  | HDR          |

- I) **Welcome and Introductions:** Darci Meese (Chair) called the meeting to order at 8:33 am. She then called on each meeting attendee to provide a brief introduction.
- II) **Review of May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting notes:** RAC members reviewed the notes from the May 22<sup>nd</sup> RAC meeting. Dan Howell (Agriculture) made a motion to accept the notes with no additions or changes. Sarah Hill-Nelson (Industry/Commerce) seconded the motion. All RAC members voted to approve the May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting notes.

### III) RAC Business:

**a. Discussion of KWA Strategic Planning:** Connie Owen (KWO) led the RAC through the discussion of the Strategic Implementation process. She began with presenting slides on what information was shared at the recent Local Consult meetings in June. Connie shared that all 6 Local Consult meetings had higher than expected attendance. After Connie finished the presentation, she then brought up questions to help guide the RAC members through the next part of the discussion in order for the RAC to provide their input. RAC members expressed their thoughts on the Local Consult meeting and the Strategic Implementation Process, generally. Additionally, RAC members mentioned several specific issues such as, the need for coordinate efforts from all local, state and federal agencies to better leverage programs and for the State to utilize existing resources to reach a wider audience when conducting Local Consult meetings. Amelia Lane (KWO) took note of the key items and themes brought up by RAC members. At the end of the discussion, RAC members decided to formally vote on the message they would like to send onto the Kansas Water Authority and the Strategic Implementation Team. Sarah Hill Nelson (Industry/Commerce) made a motion to approve the RAC's message. Dan Howell (Agriculture) seconded the motion. All RAC members voted in favor. The RAC's message was approved with no further changes. Additionally, Amelia recorded all comments made by the RAC members and will package the discussion notes to be shared with the Kansas Water Authority and the Strategic Implementation team to provide further context. The Kansas RAC's message is as follows:

*The Kansas RAC supports & applauds the Strategic Implementation Process for gaining tangible input and generating consensus regarding priorities for water management in Kansas. We encourage more outreach to the general public through social media and through leveraging municipalities, utilities, local governments, school districts and associations to publicize the next round of local consult meetings and virtual engagement and solicitation of input.*

*The Kansas RAC encourages the Kansas Water Authority to consider the following items as the Authority develops recommendations for the Governor and Legislature:*

- *Continued coordination of state-wide education regarding water issues in Kansas*
- *A streamlined approach to coordinate agency programs*
- *Consideration for the full spectrum of tools, including effective implementation of reasonable regulation*
- *Emphasis on nature-based solutions in pursuit of sustainable water infrastructure*

- b. **KWO/KWA Updates:** There were no KWO/KWA updates mentioned at this meeting.
  - c. **RAC Member Updates & Regional Event Sharing:** No RAC member updates or regional events were shared at this meeting.
- IV) **Messages to the KWA:** No other messages were sent to the Kansas Water Authority at this time.
- V) **Agency or Public Comments:** Lorraine Lowry (KRWA) shared that she appreciated the RAC's discussion today.
- VI) **Upcoming Meetings:**
- a. **Next Kansas RAC meeting: September/October**
  - b. **Next Kansas Water Authority meeting: August 21<sup>st</sup> – Wichita, Kansas**
- VII) **Adjourn:** Sarah Hill-Nelson (Industry/Commerce) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Howell (Agriculture) seconded the motion. The RAC members voted to adjourn the meeting with no further business at 10:31 am.



## Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

**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](mailto:amelia.lane@kwo.ks.gov)

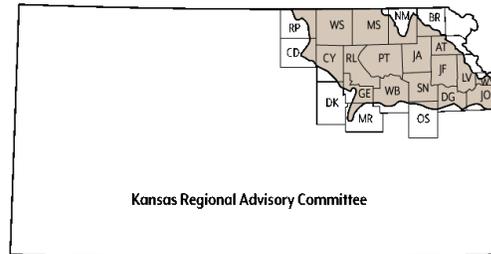


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Connie Owen, Director

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Laura Kelly, Governor

Meeting Notice:  
September 20, 2024

For More Information:  
Kristin Kaipust  
(785) 296-3185, [kwo-info@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:kwo-info@kwo.ks.gov)



**Kansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting**  
*Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. by Zoom.*

The Kansas Water Office's (KWO) Kansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) will have a meeting to discuss current water issues affecting the region as well as the state.

The RAC will convene at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, September 24 *by Zoom*. The agenda will include a discussion of the Kansas Water Authority's Strategic Planning efforts, updates from the Kansas Water office and Regional Advisory Committee members.

The agenda and meeting materials can be found when available at [kwo.ks.gov](http://kwo.ks.gov) or you may request copies by calling (785) 296-3185 or toll-free at (888) KAN-WATER (526-9283).

If accommodations are needed for a person with disabilities, please notify the Kansas Water Office at 900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404, Topeka, KS 66611-1249 or call (785) 296-3185 at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Note to Editor: The Americans with Disabilities Act, (42 U.S.C. 12101) requires the Kansas Water Office to print the reasonable accommodations messages.

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*As the state's water office, KWO conducts water planning, policy coordination and water marketing as well as facilitates public input throughout the state.*

*The agency prepares the KANSAS WATER PLAN, a plan for water resources development, management and conservation.*

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