

**Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting**  
 10:00 AM (CDT), Tuesday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
 GoToMeeting Conference Call

**Members in Attendance:**

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Kyle Nelson (Chair)	Holcomb, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	Yes
Joe Jury (Vice-Chair)	Ingalls, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	Yes
Kyle Averhoff	Garden City, KS	Dairy	2021	Yes
Hugh Brownlee	Syracuse, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	Yes
Roy Dixon	Garden City, KS	Agriculture Industry	2021	Yes
Titus Jaeger	Lakin, KS	Groundwater Irrigation	2023	Yes
Fred Jones	Garden City, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2021	Yes
Monte Morgan	Deerfield, KS	At Large Public 3	2021	Yes
Bill Simshauser	Lakin, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021	Yes
Hal Scheuerman	Deerfield, KS	Surface Water Irrigation	2021	No
Ray Slattery	Dodge City, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2023	No
Brant Peterson	Johnson, KS	Groundwater Management	2023	Yes
Jason Shamburg	Deerfield, KS	At Large Public 2	2023	Yes

**Others in attendance:**

Name	Agency
Armando Zarco	KWO
Earl Lewis	KWO
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Lauren Koons	KWO
Kevin Salter	KDA-DWR
Mike Meyer	KDA-DWR
Rachel Duran	KDA-DWR
Mark Rude	GMD3
Randy Hayzlett	Public Member
Sarah Spicer	Public Member

- Welcome and Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM by RAC Chair Kyle Nelson. Roll call was taken by Armando.
- Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. No changes requested by the RAC members.
- Review of September 2020 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes were reviewed. No changes requested by the RAC members.

### 4. Updates

- a. **John Martin Reservoir Account:** Kevin Salter provided an overview of a proposed pilot project in Colorado that would request to use 40,000 acre-feet of upstream of John Martin Reservoir for other means. This proposed project has yet to be submitted (or approved). RAC members made a request to Kevin for a presentation of the proposed project at their next meeting; Kevin stated he could provide the same Primer presentation that other agencies have already received.

### 5. Regional Activities

- a. **RAC Goals & Action Plans Update Recommendations:** There were two motions made at this meeting regarding the revision this RAC's Action Plan for the future. The RAC approved of a draft revised Action Plan and voted to forward on the KWA for review. Brant Peterson volunteered to present draft revised Action Plan to KWA at applicable meeting. *\*A copy of this revised Action Plan attached at end of notes.*
  - i. The first motion was as follows: Brant Peterson made the "Motion to move forward with one goal," and Kyle Averhoff seconded the motion
    1. In Favor- Brant Peterson, Kyle Averhoff, Joe Jury, Jason Shamburg, Titus Jaeger, & Monte Morgan
    2. Opposed- Bill Simshauser, Fred Jones, Roy Dixon, & Kyle Nelson
    3. *Motion Passed- 6 in favor, 4 opposed*
  - ii. The second motion was as follows: Titus Jaeger made the motion to "Accept the revised goal (per edits during meeting) as drafted to forward on the KWA for review," Roy Dixon seconded the motion.
    1. In Favor- Titus Jaeger, Roy Dixon, Bill Simshauser, Fred Jones, Monte Morgan, Kyle Averhoff, Jason Shamburg, & Brant Peterson
    2. Opposed- Kyle Nelson
    3. *Motion Passed- 8 in favor, 1 opposed*
      - *Note- Joe Jury was no longer attending meeting for this motion*

### 6. Other Business

- a. **Agency Reports-**
  - i. **KWO-** Earl Lewis mentioned the KWA meeting approaching on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October and that the KS Governor's water Conference is being held virtually this year and to register if possible
  - ii. **KDA-DWR-** Mike Meyer reported that a new Chief Engineer has been selected to fill the position and that it shall be Earl Lewis starting in November 2020.
  - iii. **GMD3-** Mark Rude wanted to remind everyone of the GMD3 board meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup>.
- b. **Public Comments-** No public comments were not provided.
- c. **Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** It was requested by RAC members to hold another meeting possibly at the start of the new year and to include the Primer presentation from Kevin Salter as an agenda item.
- d. **RAC Messages to the KWA:** No messages to submit to KWA at this time.
- e. **Future Meetings:**
  - i. GMD3 Board Meeting: October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 (Regularly every second Wed of the month at 9am)
  - ii. KWA Meeting: October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - iii. Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas: November 9-10, 2020 (virtual)
  - iv. KWO Winter Water Tech Expo: Garden City- February 5-6, 2021

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 AM.

## Upper Arkansas RAC- Draft Revised Action Plan (10/13/2020)

**Goal #1:** Establish a diversified, usable water supply by 2030, to motivate a vibrant growing economy with conservation-minded stewardship focused on increasing the life of the aquifer, reestablishing streamflow, and accelerating recharge; benefiting: economic prosperity, wildlife, habit, recreation, and all water users while protecting property rights and providing safe drinking water.

### Action Steps:

- 1) Develop alternative sources of supply by 2030
  - a) Collaborate and coordinate with local shareholders, stakeholders, policymakers, organizations, agencies, (i.e. GMD3, KWO, KDA, KDHE, Kansas Dept. of Commerce, and other State agencies) surrounding States, and federal agencies and authorities.
  - b) Research, study, and initiate any changes necessary to current or new statues, to develop and perfect new or existing water rights to serve as alternative sources of supply.
  - c) Initiate and lead a search for multi-state support for an interstate water transfer system.
  - d) Evaluate potential intrastate water transfers
  - e) Initiate and participate in research to determine the value an alternative source of supply would generate directly and indirectly for local, regional, state, & federal areas and agencies.
  - f) Develop a fact-based education initiative to inform Kansans and our neighbors how we can plan and prepare for tomorrows challenges related to the shortages or excess of water for everyone.
  - g) Support alternative sources of supply.
  - h) These may include greater streamflow of interstate rivers, an aqueduct from the Missouri River, and or pipelines from northern states.
- 2) Educate all water users on the importance of water saving, increased water use efficiencies, and the supporting data (SWLs, SWL change rates, conservation targets, etc.).
  - a) Support the educational efforts through the Kansas Runs on Water Campaign.
  - b) Support educational activities through the Conservation Districts such as (The Ark Water River Festival, Earth Day at The Zoo, Safety Days, Poster contests at the schools, The Bottom Line Conference, and other informational meetings or conferences) put on by the Conservation Districts.
  - c) The Water Authority supports these activities by funding the budget line item, Aid to Conservation Districts, to the full amount mandated by the Kansas State Legislature.
  - d) Support educational meetings hosted by the K-State Extension, the GMD3, and other agencies or organizations.
  - e) The Water Authorities continued support and funding for the irrigation technology farms.
  - f) Formalize a list to add to a calendar on the Water Authority, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, GMD3, and K-State Extension web sites to help inform landowners, producers, and the general public of events throughout the year.
- 3) Promote irrigation conservation
  - a) Support voluntary decreased water consumption in the Upper Arkansas RAC geographic area per the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) recommendations.
  - b) Encourage adoption of water conservation programs such as LEMA's and WCA's.
  - c) Support producer incentives through the KDA-DOC, KDHE, KDA-DWR, and other state agencies to reduce usage through proven technologies and best management practices.
    - i) These may include programs such as CREP, Playa Lake restoration, cost-share on reduced irrigation systems, cost-share on soil moisture probes, and other technologies that reduce water usage.
- 4) Promote conservation of municipal and industrial water use through incentives and education.
- 5) Recognizing distinct differences between domestic, irrigation, stockwater, municipal, industrial, and other types of beneficial use.