

**Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting**  
 1:00 PM (CST), Thursday November 19<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	No
Kyle Averhoff	Garden City, KS	Dairy	2021	Yes
Hugh Brownlee	Syracuse, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	No
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	No
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	Yes
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
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Lauren Koons	KWO
Gary Koons	KWO
Kevin Salter	KDA-DWR
Mike Meyer	KDA-DWR
Jeff Lanterman	KDA-DWR
Greg Graff	Public Member
Randy Hayzlett	Public Member

- Welcome and Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM 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 October 2020 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes were reviewed. No changes requested by the RAC members.

#### 4. Updates

- a. **Kansas Water Authority Mtg 10/26/20:** Armando debriefed on the agenda items from recent KWA meeting. Presentations and materials can be found on KWO's KWA webpage.

#### 5. Regional Activities

- a. **RAC Goals & Action Plans Update Recommendations:** Brant Peterson debriefed on the draft revised Upper Arkansas Action Plan comments from the KWA members at the recent KWA meeting. Discussion was had by RAC members on the comments and further edits were suggested on their draft action plan. There was a motion made at this meeting regarding the revision this RAC's Action Plan for the future. The motion passed and will be submitted to the KWA for future review. *\*A copy of this revised Action Plan attached at end of notes.*
  - i. The motion was as follows: Brant Peterson makes a motion to accept changes to UA RAC Action Plan as edited during meeting to include additional edit suggestion from Monte Morgan. Roy Dixon seconded the motion.
    1. In Favor- Bill Simshauser, Monte Morgan, Roy Dixon, Kyle Averhoff, Jason Shamburg, Ray Slattery, Titus Jaeger, & Brant Peterson,
    2. Opposed- Kyle Nelson
    3. *Motion Passed- 8 in favor, 1 opposed*

#### 6. Other Business

- a. **Agency Reports-**
  - i. **KWO-** Armando noted that Earl Lewis has become the Chief Engineer for KDA-DWR and that Cara Hendricks is Acting KWO Director until the Governor appoints an official Director. He also noted that KWO is still working remotely but are conducting business as usual.
  - ii. **KDA-DWR-** Mike Meyer reported that the Garden City DWR office is still closed to walks-ins but appointments can be made if necessary. Kevin Salter also added that the ARCA Annual Meeting will be held Dec. 8-9 virtually this year and to contact him for more meeting details.
- b. **Public Comments-** Randy Hayzlett wanted to remind the RAC members that KWA has meeting coming up in December. Gregg Graff let the RAC Members know that the second LEMA Hearing for the proposed Wichita County LEMA will be Friday November 20<sup>th</sup> and can be accessible virtually if preferred.
- c. **Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** It was requested by RAC members to hold another meeting possibly in January or February 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. KACD 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention: November 22-24, 2020
  - ii. KWA Meetings: December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 @ 1PM
  - iii. ARCA Annual Meeting: December 8-9, 2020
  - iv. GMD3 Board Meeting: Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 9AM (Regularly every second Wed of the month at 9am)
  - v. KWA Meetings: December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 9AM
  - vi. KWO Winter Water Tech Expo: Garden City- February 5-6, 2021

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.

## Upper Arkansas RAC- Draft Revised Action Plan (11/19/2020)

**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 in the Arkansas River, and accelerating recharge; benefiting: economic prosperity, wildlife, habitat, 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 statutes, to develop and perfect new or existing water rights to serve as alternative sources of supply.
  - c) Explore 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 or engineered solutions such as an aqueduct or pipelines from alternate sources of supply.
- 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 Water Plan Funding.
  - d) Support educational meetings hosted by the K-State Extension, the GMD3, and other agencies or organizations.
  - e) Encourage the Kansas Water Authority's 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.