

# Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

**Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting 9:00 AM (CDT), Friday March 31, 2023**  
 Hybrid Meeting

**Members in Attendance:**

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Roy Dixon (Chair)	Garden City, KS	Agriculture Industry	2025	Yes
Fred Jones (Vice-Chair)	Garden City, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2025	Yes
Kyle Averhoff	Garden City, KS	Dairy	2025	Yes
Hugh Brownlee	Syracuse, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2025	No
Titus Jaeger	Lakin, KS	Groundwater Irrigation	2023	Yes
Monte Morgan	Deerfield, KS	Surface Water Irrigation	2025	Yes
Bill Simshauser	Lakin, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2025	Yes
Abram Lollar	Garden City, KS	At Large Public 3	2025	Yes
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	No
Kyle Nelson	Holcomb, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	Yes
Joe Jury	Ingalls, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	Yes

**Others in attendance:**

Name	Name	Name	Name
Keadron Pearson KWO	Zach Gale	Chris Beightel	
Kirk Tjelmeland	Troy Dumbler	Jason Norquest	
Kevin Salter	Trevor Ahring	Mark Rude	
Rachel Duran	Katie Acree		
Gary Bolt	Randy Hazlett		

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM by RAC Chair Roy Dixon. All present provided self-introductions.
2. **Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. No changes were made.
3. **Review of February 2023 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes were reviewed. There were no changes requested by the RAC members. The motion was made by Bill Simshauser to approve the notes as written. Joe Jury seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.
4. **Regional Activities**
  - a. **Review of Draft Message:** Bill Simshauser presented a draft message to the RAC for consideration. He explained that he composed this message as an option to help address the issue of declining aquifer and that he wanted to share with the group to get their input on it. After discussion from members of the RAC, Bill expressed that he like to take some of the ideas and information he received from members present and redraft the message and represent it at the next meeting. The motion was made by Brant

**Membership:** Kyle Nelson (Chair), Holcomb, KS; Joe Jury (Vice-Chair), Ingalls, KS; Kyle Averhoff; Garden City, KS; Hugh Brownlee, Syracuse, KS; Roy Dixon, Garden City, KS; Titus Jaeger, Lakin, KS; Fred Jones, Garden City, KS; Monte Morgan, Deerfield, KS; Bill Simshauser, Lakin, KS; Abram Lollar, Garden City, KS; Ray Slattery, Dodge City, KS; Brant Peterson, Johnson, KS; Jason Shamburg, Deerfield, KS  
**KWO Planners:** Keadron Pearson, 620-765-7489, [keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov)

Peterson to table the message until the next meeting to allow Bill time to redraft the message. The motion was seconded by Bill Simshauser. No discussion was had and the motion passed unanimously.

### 5. Presentations

- a. **Update on Pilot Project for Multi-Purpose Account in John Martin Reservoir:** Kevin Salter (KDA-DWR) and Rachel Duran (KDA-DWR) gave an update on the John Martin Reservoir Multi-Purpose Account Pilot Project. The presentation was followed by questions and discussion from RAC members.
- b. **Formation of the Upper Arkansas River Watershed Group:** Trevor Ahring (GMD3) presented on his work in forming the Upper Arkansas River Watershed Group using funds received from a Bureau of Reclamation Grant. The presentation was followed by questions and discussion by members of the RAC.

### 6. Updates

- a. **January KWA/RAC Member Legislative Visits:** Fred Jones gave a report on his recent trip to Topeka to visit with members of the state legislature along with members of the KWA to inform and seek support for the Kansas Water Plan Fund. The report was followed by discussion from members of the RAC.
- b. **Kansas Water Office (KWO):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an update on the recent agency changes that had occurred since the last RAC meeting.
- c. **Kansas Legislature & Kansas Water Authority (KWA):** Victoria Potts (KWO Manager, Policy & Governmental Affairs) gave an in-depth report on recent events that had taken place with the Kansas Legislature and Kansas Water Authority. She also presented updated information available on the KWO website that showed where any bill pertaining to water issues is being tracked so that individuals could easily access information about them. The report was followed by discussion from members of the RAC.

### 7. Other Business

#### a. **Agency Reports:**

Mark Rude (GMD3): Mark reported on recent GMD3 meetings and activities.

Kevin Salter (KDA-DWR): Reported on their office's current open positions.

Rachel Duran (KDA-DWR): Reported on receiving information for the HI model run from Colorado on the status at the state line.

#### b. **Public Comments:** None

#### c. **Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** None

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

#### e. **Future Meetings:**

i. GMD3 Board Meeting: April 12

ii. Kansas Water Authority: April 19

**The motion to adjourn was made by Joe Jury and seconded by Bill Simshauser. No discussion was had and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.**