

# Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

## Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

1:00 pm November 3, 2022  
Cowskin Creek Water Quality Reclamation Facility  
4182 N 135th Street West  
Maize, KS 6710  
Virtual Option Available

### Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Brian Meier (Chair)	Wichita, KS	Industry/Commerce 2	2025	Yes
Russell Tomevi (Vice Chair)	Winfield, KS	Integrated Planning	2023	Yes
Denise Noonan Middleton	Burden, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	No
Libby Albers	Newton, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2023	Yes
David Bogner	Mt. Hope, KS	Groundwater Management	2023	Yes
Chad Milligan	Derby, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2023	Yes
Don Henry	Wichita, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	Yes
Steve Hieger	Wichita, KS	Industry/ Commerce (cc)	2023	No
Brett Perry	Andover, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2025	No
Josh Bedel	McPherson, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2025	Yes
Richard Basore	Sedgwick, KS	Agriculture 2	2025	Yes
Tim Boese	Halstead, KS	Conservation/ Environment 2	2025	Yes

### Others in Attendance:

Name	Affiliation
David Bollenback	Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC)
Allison Herring	Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
Ron Graber	KDHE
Katie Acree	KDHE
Greg Weninger	N/A
Terry Jacob	N/A
Ruth Jacob	Citizens for the Conservation of the Equus Beds
William Showalter	N/A
Jamie Belden	Cowskin Creek Water Quality Reclamation Facility
Sara Crawley	Kansas Water Office (KWO)

**Welcome and Roll Call:** Brian Meier called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

**Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of Agenda:** RAC members approved the agenda as written.

**Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of Meeting Minutes:** RAC members approved the June 2022 Meeting Minutes as written.

### Kansas Water Office Updates

#### a. Statewide Updates

- i. **Kansas Water Plan:** Sara Crawley of KWO announced the completion of the Kansas Water Plan.

**Membership:** Brian Meier, Chair, Wichita, KS; Russell Tomevi, Vice Chair, Winfield, KS; Denise Noonan Middleton, Burden, KS; Libby Albers, Newton, KS; David Bogner, Mt. Hope, KS; Chad Milligan, Derby, KS; Roger Black, Arkansas City, KS; Don Henry, Wichita, KS; Steve Hieger, Wichita, KS; Brett Perry, Andover, KS; Josh Bedel, McPherson, KS; Richard Basore, Sedgwick, KS; Tim Boese, Halstead, KS  
KWO Planner: Sara Crawley, 785-296-0867; [sara.crawley@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:sara.crawley@kwo.ks.gov)

- ii. **Kansas Water Authority Update:** Sara summarized the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting held on October 19, 2022.

b. **Regional Updates**

- i. **Open Discussion from Members:** Brian Meier opened discussion about funding for items such as drought maintenance, dredging, and dams. Follow-up questions included inquiries about categorization of funding, as well as the extent of certain projects needing funding.

Discussion continued with talk of GMD2 well plans, scheduled to be completed spring of 2023, and questions regarding how those wells are monitored.

c. **Agency Updates**

- i. David Bollenback of KCC echoed updates mentioned earlier in the meeting, discussing wells scheduled to be drilled East of Burton.
- ii. Allison Herring of KDHE discussed budget, covering topics such as nondiscrimination, lead lines, and water quality.
- iii. Ron Graber of KDHE discussed producers' concerns for blue/green algae and Allison added information about the EPA filling several positions.
- iv. Don Henry explained the phases of drought response for the city to the group, although no action is being taken at this time.

**Regional Activities**

- a. **Review Goals III and IV:** The committee opened discussion regarding their first two sets of goals and action plans.
- i. **Goal III:** Implement watershed protection measures to improve the reliability and health of surface water resources in the region.
    1. Ron wondered if we are making measurable water quality improvements. The group agreed that, although tough to quantify, our resources have grown, thanks to the City of Wichita.
  - ii. **Goal IV:** Allocate necessary resources to accurately locate, characterize, prioritize and remediate contamination sites within the Equus-Beds Aquifer.
    1. Tim Boese mentioned that this goal is something he is currently working on and that most of the chloride problem areas have been identified at this point.

**Other Business**

- a. **Public comments:** None.
- b. **Questions and Future Issues from RAC Members:** None.
- c. **Meetings**
  - i. **Governor's Water Conference:** The Water Conference is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in Manhattan.
  - ii. **Equus-Walnut RAC:** The next RAC meeting will be scheduled around January 2023.
  - iii. **KWA:** The next KWA meeting is scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup> in Colby, KS.

**Tour of the Cowskin Creek Water Quality Reclamation Facility**

- a. Jamie Belden gave a presentation about the Cowskin Creek Water Quality Reclamation Facility, followed by a tour of the property.

**Adjourn:** Brian adjourned the meeting at 2:50 pm.