

Kansas Water Authority Meeting
Hybrid (In-Person/Zoom)
9:00 a.m. – June 9, 2021
Agenda

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>KWA Advice</i>	<i>KWA Decision</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
9:00 am	Call to Order/Roll Call	Dawn Buehler	--	--	--
9:05 am	Approval of Meeting Minutes	Dawn Buehler			
	May 18, 2021 Meeting (Conference Call/Zoom)			X	2
9:10 am	PWS Committee Update	Nathan Westrup	X		
	Water Marketing Rate Setting Discussion/Preview		X		
9:20 am	RAC Membership Drive Update	Matt Unruh	X		
9:30 am	Legislative Update				
	Water Infrastructure Funding - Draft message to Gov./Legis.	Connie Owen		X	
	House Water Committee Interim Summer Session Update	Matt Unruh	X		
9:40 am	Vision/Kansas Water Plan Update				
	Remaining Schedule & Overview of Public Comment Process	Kirk Tjelmeland	X		*
10:00 am	Federal Updates	Matt Unruh	X		
10:15 am	U.S. Corps of Engineers Informational Presentation				
	Reservoir Sediment Management	John Shelley	X		
10:35 am	Federal Cooperative Agreements (USGS)	Josh Olson		X	
	Streamgaging Network	Josh Olson		X	4
	Kansas River Water Quality Monitoring	Josh Olson		X	4
	Neosho River Sediment Monitoring	Josh Olson		X	4
	WQ Monitoring on Republican River at Clay Center	Josh Olson		X	5
	HABs in Rivers Study	Josh Olson		X	5
10:50 am	KWA Member Discussion	Dawn Buehler	X		
	Ex-Officio Roundtable Introductions				
11:30 am	Director's Report	Connie Owen	X		
11:40 am	Agency Updates				
11:55 am	New Business				
12:00 pm	Adjourn				

Upcoming Kansas Water Authority Meetings: June 23, 2021

Minutes

KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY Topeka, Kansas

May 18, 2021

Conference Call

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Dawn Buehler called the **May 18, 2021**, Kansas Water Authority conference call to order at **9:00** a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Buehler, Mike Armstrong, John Bailey, Randy Hayzlett, Jeremiah Hobbs, Chris Ladwig, Carolyn McGinn, Allen Roth, Allan Soetaert, Jean Steiner, David Stroberg

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lynn Goossen, Alan King

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

PRESENT: Andrew French, Dan Devlin, Earl Lewis, Brad Loveless, Sara Baer, Tom Stiles, Mike Beam, Andrew Lyon, Kayla Savage, Connie Owen

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

ABSENT: Rolfe Mandel

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion No. 05-18-01 It was moved by **Jeremiah Hobbs** and seconded by **Allan Soetaert** to approve the April 26, 2021 Minutes for the Regular Meetings of the Kansas Water Authority as presented. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

KWA Public Water Supply Committee Update:

Water Marketing Program Bonding Initiative:

Motion No. 05-18-02 It was moved by **Allan Soetaert** and seconded by **Randy Hayzlett** to propose the KWA support a resolution to encourage the Governor and legislature to seek newly available federal funding for water infrastructure including WID. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

Legislative & Budget Update:

House Water Committee Update

Matt Unruh gave an update.

Vision/Kansas Water Plan Update:

Review and Approval of Guiding Principle Sections:

Motion No. 05-18-03 It was moved by **John Bailey** and seconded by **Jean Steiner** to approve the five Guiding Principle sections as presented. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

KWA Member Roundtable Introductions:

All present KWA board members gave a presentation about themselves and their background.

Director's Report:

Connie Owen gave a drought update.

Agency Updates:

Earl Lewis gave an update for Division of Water Resources.

Andrew Lyon gave an update for Division of Conservation.

Andrew French gave an update for the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Tom Stiles gave an update for Kansas Department of Health & Environment.

ADJOURNMENT

The KWA adjourned at 11:04 am.

MEMO



DATE: June 4, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority
FROM: Josh Olson
RE: Federal Cooperative Agreements – Streamgaging,
Kansas River Water Quality Monitoring, Neosho
River Sediment Monitoring, Monitoring on
Republican River at Clay Center above Milford Lake,
HABs in Rivers Study
(USGS)

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There are five potential agreements between the KWO and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) for review and consideration by the Kansas Water Authority (KWA). Approval by the KWA, under KSA 74-2622, is required before the Kansas Water Office (KWO) enters into agreements with the federal government.

Streamgaging Network (USGS)

The USGS, in cooperation with the KWO and other cooperators, maintains streamgages across the state. Under this Joint Funding Agreement (JFA), funding for the streamgaging program will be provided for SFY 2022. Streamgages provide near real-time information about stream and river conditions. This information is used daily by numerous local, state and federal agencies and research entities to plan, protect and conserve water resources.

The expected non-federal contribution to cover the part of costs necessary to continue operations in SFY 2022 is \$413,580 from the SWPF. As a portion of the administration and enforcement costs to the public water supply program, Water Assurance Districts pay for the streamgages that monitor flow in the Assurance Districts, and Water Marketing will pay for streamgages that monitor flow within marketing customer areas. These equal two gages per WAD and Marketing Program. Final agreement will be determined after further discussions with USGS.

Kansas River Water Quality Monitoring (USGS)

Through a JFA, the USGS, KWO, KDHE, and the Nature Conservancy, along with the cities of Manhattan, Topeka, Lawrence, Olathe, and Water District No. 1 of Johnson County have participated in the Water Quality Monitoring agreement to characterize the sources, frequency and causes of cyanobacteria and associated toxins and taste-and-odor compounds in the Kansas River. Previous contracts have included the operation of water-quality monitors on the Kansas River at De Soto, Wamego, and Topeka, routine sample collection at these three sites over a range of hydrologic conditions, event-based sample collection at reservoir outflows, and development of statistical relationships between collected samples and sensor values. This cooperative study is also evaluating the opportunity for an advanced notification system with sufficient lead time to alert water suppliers that use the Kansas River as a source of water supply of changing water quality conditions that may affect treatment processes or cause cyanobacteria-related toxin and taste-and-odor events.

The final scope and agreement for this year's monitoring will be determined after further discussions with the overall group and USGS. The expected KWO contribution to the project in SFY 2022 is \$30,000.

Neosho River Sediment Monitoring (USGS)

Through a JFA, the KWO and USGS will operate and maintain two water quality monitors on the Neosho River at Neosho Rapids and Burlington. Historically, this monitoring network has been used to support the evaluation of the efficacy of streambank stabilization efforts on the Upper Neosho and Cottonwood Rivers. The two remaining monitors will be used to evaluate turbidity conditions upstream and downstream of John Redmond Reservoir, as well as the overall

sediment load entering the reservoir.

The expected non-federal contribution to cover the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program is \$42,600 from the KWO in SFY 2022. Final agreement will be determined after further discussions with USGS.

Continuous and Discrete Water-Quality Monitoring on Republican River at Clay Center (USGS)

Through a JFA, the KWO and USGS will collect water-quality, nutrient, and sediment data at the established streamflow station on the Republican River at Clay Center, Kansas. This data will provide an understanding of baseline suspended-sediment, nutrient, and water-quality conditions on the Republican River at Clay Center, the primary inflow into Milford Lake and closest streamgaging site not to experience backwater conditions from the lake. This will allow for better understanding of sediment and nutrient concentrations, and characterization of water-quality conditions entering Milford Lake. This agreement helps to expand the monitoring network currently supported by the USGS, KWO, KDHE and communities along the Kansas River as part of the overall Kansas River Water Quality Monitoring study, and also supports monitoring efforts associated with the Milford RCPP project.

The proposed agreement is for a multi-year study. For Year 4 (SFY 22), the following major tasks are proposed:

- Operate and maintain water-quality monitoring at existing USGS streamflow station at Clay Center to measure temperature, specific conductance, pH, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity.
- Collect, process and review biweekly (May – Oct) and monthly (Nov – Apr) sediment and nutrient samples (18 total) on the Republican River at Clay Center

The expected non-federal contribution to cover the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program is \$85,345 from the KWO in SFY 2022. Final agreement will be determined after further discussions with USGS.

HABS in Rivers Study (USGS)

Through a JFA, the USGS, in collaboration with other cooperators, will be investigating the occurrence of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) and algal toxins in slow-moving streams, wetlands, and oxbows above Perry and Milford Reservoirs and in the floodplain of the lower Kansas River and its tributaries downstream of dams. The first two years of the study will focus on analysis of the temporal and spatial relations and hydrologic, water-quality and meteorological conditions of potentially toxic cyanobacteria bloom formation locations, transport of blooms downstream, and subsequent bloom development in reservoirs and large rivers. Additionally, the study will evaluate the use of satellite imagery for identifying potentially toxic cyanobacteria blooms in slow-moving streams, wetlands, and oxbows, with a goal of improving the utility of satellite imagery to monitor the occurrence of HABs and algal toxins in near-real time and assist with developing predictive models of HAB occurrence. The study will culminate in a publication of the study findings.

The expected KWO contribution to the project in SFY 2022 is \$16,000. Final agreement will be determined after further discussions with USGS.

The Kansas Water Office recommends the KWA give approval to the Director to enter into agreements with the U.S. Geological Survey for the Streamgaging Network, Kansas River Water Quality Monitoring, Neosho River Sediment Monitoring, Monitoring on Republican River at Clay Center above Milford Lake, and HABS in Rivers Study.
