

MEMO



DATE: August 10, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Cara Hendricks
RE: RAC Involvement in the SWPF FY 2023 Budget Process

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During the month of July through the first week of August, all 14 of the Regional Advisory Committees (RAC) met to discuss recommendations to pass along from the regional level to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The feedback provided by each of the RACs is attached as follows.

Memo Attachments

<u>Regional Advisory Committee</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
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Information is provided for SWPF budget recommendation discussion purposes.

MEMO



DATE: July 27, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Keadron Pearson
RE: Cimarron RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation
Development Process

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On July 27, 2021, the Cimarron Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Bret Rooney (Groundwater Management) and seconded by Matt Higgins (Public Water Supply 2) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Cimarron RAC requests the Kansas Water Authority to seek to provide funding to programs and projects benefiting the region consistent with the revenue derived from the Cimarron Region. The following four items would be the first priority to receive additional funding for the region.

- a) Funds utilized for additional efforts towards conserving and extending the High Plains Aquifer, specifically by increasing funding expenditures within the Cimarron planning region.*
- b) Increased resources to implement water conservation educational programs and efforts within the Cimarron planning region.*
- c) Additional funding towards KDA-DOC water conservation technology efforts.*
- d) Promote collaboration with Cimarron RAC and other stakeholders on similar water resource issues impacting the region.”*

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

MEMO



DATE: August 3, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Sara Maguire
RE: Equus-Walnut RAC Input on KWA Budget
Recommendation Development Process

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On August 3, 2021, the Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process.

Although short of a quorum, the RAC member present decided to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

The Equus-Walnut RAC supports FY2023 budgeting to include promoting sustainable water resource management, Equus Beds contamination remediation, Water Technology Farms, and improved watershed practices.

MEMO



DATE: July 28, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Keadron Pearson
RE: Great Bend Prairie RAC Input on KWA Budget
Recommendation Development Process

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On July 28, 2021, the Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Berry Bortz (Agriculutre (cc)) and seconded by Stephanie Royer (At Large Public 2) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Great Bend Prairie RAC requests the Kanas Water Authority to seek to provide funding to programs and projects benefiting the region consistent with the revenue derived from the Great Bend Region. The following programs would be the first priority to receive additional funding for the region.

- a) Support for WTAP and CREP with increased funding*
- b) Support for local Conservation Districts and ensuring that they receive their full funding allocations*
- c) Water quality testing to address issues with chloride and nitrate concentrations*
- d) Support GMD5 Groundwater Model update*
- e) Continued support for research on alternative crops.”*

The Great Bend Prairie RAC requests feedback from the KWA Budget Committee addressing our budget recommendations.

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

MEMO



DATE: July 27, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Amelia Nill
RE: Kansas RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation
Development Process

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On July 27, 2021, the Kansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met in person and virtually. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. After discussion, the RAC decided to maintain their SFY 2022 budget recommendations with two additions. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Darci Meese (Public Water Supply) and seconded by Adam Bauer (WRAPS) and Rick Bean (At Large Public) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Kansas RAC feels these items are necessary, are the highest priorities for our RAC, and will be beneficial to the water resources of the state, as well as the people who reside in the Kansas Region:

- *Conservation BMPs in watersheds to reduce sedimentation and improve water quality (Kansas Reservoir Protection Initiative, Milford RCPP, streambank stabilization)*
- *Purchase of storage in Reservoirs (with the suggestion that an appeal be made to obtain a lump-sum payment for half or more of the cost, from the arrearage in the State Water Plan Fund now approaching \$80 million)*
- *Continued funding of experimental Water Injection Dredging (WID)*
- *Support of funding for Soil Health programs under KDA*
- *Support of funding for Nonpoint Source programs under KDHE and KDA”*

The motion was unanimously approved.

MEMO



DATE: August 3, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Angela Anderson
RE: Marais des Cygnes RAC Input on KWA Budget
Recommendation Development Process

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On August 3, 2021, the Marais des Cygnes Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Lyle Wobker (Agriculture 2) and seconded by Gary Armentrout (Public Water Supply 3) to a send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Marais des Cygnes RAC strongly recommends fully funding the state water plan fund. Extreme flooding events that continue to affect the region and the results of those floods warrant funding the goals and action plans of the MdC RAC. Funding the following budget items would address the priority goals and action items developed by our RAC:

- *Aid to Conservation Districts (KDA) – full funding as directed by Kansas statute*
- *Non-point Source Pollution (KDA)*
- *Non-point Source Program (KDHE)*
- *Soil Health (KDA)*
- *TMDL Initiatives (KDHE)*
- *Water Resources Cost Share (KDA)*
- *WRAPS Program (KDHE)*
- *Aquatic Nuisance Species (KDWP)”*

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

MEMO



DATE: August 4, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Kirk Tjelmeland
RE: Missouri RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation Development Process

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On August 3, 2021, the Missouri Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met in person and virtually. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by John Bishop (Recreation) and seconded by Michelle Wirth (Public Water Supply 2) to a send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Missouri RAC supports the proposed budget and would like to highlight the following priorities that are important to fund in order to accomplish and carryout the goals and action plans of the Missouri RAC. These items include:

- *Fully fund Conservation Districts to statutorily authorized level (DOC)*
- *Allocate (\$20,000) of the Water Vision Education fund to directly assist the Missouri RAC and partners with educational events (KWO)*
- *TMDL Initiatives (Increase TMDL monitoring to every 3 years) within the Missouri Region (KDHE)*
- *BMP Implementation (KWO)*
- *Non-Point Source Pollution (KDA)*
- *WRAPS Program (KDHE)*
- *Riparian and Wetland including streambank stabilization for the Missouri Region (KDA)*
- *Water Injection Dredging (KWO)*
- *Streamgaging (KWO)*
- *Missouri RAC supports planning initiatives that will mitigate flooding issues as addressed through USACE funding of the Public Assistance to States (PAS) (KWO).”*

The Missouri RAC requests feedback from the KWA Budget Committee addressing our budget recommendations.

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

MEMO



DATE: July 28, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Angela Anderson
RE: Neosho RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation Development Process

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On July 28, 2021, the Neosho Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Kate Grover (Industry/Commerce) and seconded by Lisa Suderman (WRAPS) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Neosho RAC supports the proposed budget and would like to highlight the following priorities under the following ranked categories that are important to fund in order to accomplish and carryout the goals and action plans of the Neosho RAC.

1. Sediment/Nutrient Reduction

- *Sediment Management & Reduction Technologies (KWO)
- * Streambank Stabilization (KDA)
- * Non-Point Source Pollution (KDA)
- *BMP Implementation (KWO)
- * WRAPS Program (KDHE)
- * Riparian and Wetland (KDA)

2 Aquatic Nuisance Species Program (KDWP) – *To be included for consideration as a State Water Plan Fund budget recipient rather than fee assessment through KDWP*

3. Flood Mitigation (KWO)

- * FIRO
- * Basin storage evaluation

4. Education

- * Water Vision Education (KWO)
- * PACE Demonstration Farms (KWO)

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

MEMO



DATE: July 27, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Sara Maguire
RE: Red Hills RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation
Development Process

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On July 27, 2021, the Red Hills Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process.

Although short of a quorum, the RAC members came to a consensus to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

The Red Hills RAC supports SFY 2023 budgeting to include conservation practices through DOC, stream gaging for improved understanding of the region's baseflow, continued support of the produced water pilot study, funds to move the lake project forward, and identifying a state program to assist with Red Cedar control.

MEMO



DATE: August 4, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Keadron Pearson
RE: Smoky Hill-Saline RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation Development Process

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On August 4, 2021, the Smoky Hill-Saline Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Brad Shogren (Irrigation) and seconded by Dan Baffa (Conservation/Environment (cc)) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Smoky Hill-Saline RAC supports the proposed budget and would like to highlight the following priorities that are important to fund in order to accomplish and carryout the goals and actions plan of the Smoky Hill-Saline RAC. These items include:

- a) Full restoration of the \$8 million from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF) and State General Fund (SGF) transfers*
- b) Water Resources Cost-Share (KDA) and Streambank Stabilization (KDA) that help promote water quality*
- c) Support for local Conservation Districts and ensuring that they receive their full funding allocations*
- d) Funding for Direct Potable Use to do research and to set up a small-scale pilot program through KDHE Technical Assistance, KWO Technical Assistance, or Water Quality Research.*
- e) Increased support for programs that provide education and outreach to the public, and Kansas Runs on Water (KWO).*
- f) Recommend the KWA seeks legislative change to KSA 82a-2101. The two uses are: “(A) Not less than 15% shall be used to provide on-site technical assistance for public water supply systems, as defined in K.S.A. 65-162a, and amendments thereto, to aid such systems in conforming to responsible management practices and complying with regulations of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and rules and regulations of the department of health and environment; and (B) the remainder shall be used to renovate and protect lakes which are used directly as a source of water for such public water supply systems, so long as where appropriate, watershed restoration and protection practices are planned or in place.”*

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

MEMO



DATE: July 29, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Amelia Nill
RE: Solomon-Republican RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation Development Process

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On July 29, 2021, the Solomon-Republican Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met in person and virtually. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. After discussion, the RAC decided to maintain their SFY 2022 budget recommendations with three new additions. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Don Hellwig (Agriculture) and seconded by Robbin Dibble (At Large Public) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Solomon-Republican RAC supports these budget items knowing they are necessary and will benefit the water resources of the state, as well as the Solomon-Republican Region:

- *Continued funding of Vision Education Strategy*
- *Continued funding of the Milford Lake Watershed RCPP*
- *Continued funding of the Harmful Algae Bloom Pilot*
- *Continued funding of Nonpoint Source Pollution programs*
- *Continued funding of Water Resource Cost Share*
- *Increased funding for Streambank Stabilization and other measures to address additional sources of erosion and sediment, including roadways and ditches*
- *Support for research of funding for streamgauge above the Almena Irrigation District diversion dam on Prairie Dog Creek on Road E7 Norton County, Kansas*
- *Continued funding for aid to conservation districts”*

The motion was unanimously approved.

MEMO



DATE: July 29, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Keadron Pearson
RE: Upper Arkansas RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation Development Process

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On July 29, 2021, the Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Roy Dixon (Agriculture Industry) and seconded by Bill Simshauer (Conservation/Environment (cc)) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Upper Arkansas RAC requests the KWA to seek to provide funding to programs and projects benefiting the region consistent with the revenue derived from the Upper Arkansas Region. The following programs would be the first priority to receive additional funding for the region.

- a) Supporting CREP funding as indicated by SWPF FY23 Budget Request and reallocation of acreage from counties that are close to their limit.*
- b) Continue supporting KDA-DOC funding increase as indicated by SWPF FY23 Budget Request to fully fund aid to conservation districts.*
- c) Fund the monitoring of the Colorado Multi-User Account Pilot Project in John Martin Reservoir Proposal by KDA within the interstate water issues.*
- d) Increased funding to KDHE to put towards water reclamation efforts specifically within the Upper Arkansas Region.”*

The Upper Arkansas RAC requests feedback from the KWA Budget Committee addressing our budget recommendations.

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

MEMO



DATE: July 28, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Keadron Pearson
RE: Upper Republican RAC Input on KWA Budget
Recommendation Development Process

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On July 28, 2021, the Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. No action was taken by the RAC due to a quorum of members not being present at the meeting, however those in attendance wanted to send the following budget recommendations to the KWA Budget Committee for consideration:

It was the consensus of the committee members present to send the following Budget Recommendations to the KWA:

“The Upper Republican RAC supports the proposed budget and wishes to place emphasis on the following items that are important to fund in order to accomplish and carryout the goals and actions plan of the Upper Republican RAC. These items of interest include increased support for programs that provide education and outreach to the public, regional efforts that help promote water conservation and water quality, Water Technology Farms (KWO), Water Conservation Areas (KDA), Certified Irrigator Program (GMD 4), and Kansas Runs on Water (KWO).”

MEMO



DATE: August 3, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Keadron Pearson
RE: Upper Smoky Hill RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation Development Process

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On August 3, 2021, the Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Virtual Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by Alicia Allen (Irrigation) and seconded by Stephen Mangan (Agriculture Industry) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Upper Smoky Hill RAC supports the proposed budget and would like to highlight the following priorities that are important to fund in order to accomplish and carryout the goals and actions plan of the Upper Smoky Hill RAC, specifically programs and technologies that educate and promote the importance of water conservation. These items include:

- a) Increased support for programs that provide research, education, and outreach to the public, and Kansas Runs on Water (KWO), specifically targeted towards producers*
- b) Full restoration of the \$8 million allotment to the Kansas State Water Plan*
- c) Local Enhanced Management Areas (LEMA) (KDA)*
- d) Water Conservations Areas (KDA)*
- e) Sub-basin Water Resources Management Programs (KDA)*
- f) Water Technology Farms (KWO)*
- g) Drinking Water Protection Program (KDHE)*
- h) Support for Regional Conservation Partnership Programs (NRCS) and other federal programs*
- i) Water Transition Assistance Program (KDA)*
- j) Support the development of a Certified Irrigator Program (GMD 4)”*

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.

MEMO



DATE: July 26, 2021
TO: Kansas Water Authority Budget Committee
FROM: Angela Anderson
RE: Verdigris RAC Input on KWA Budget Recommendation Development Process

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On July 26, 2021, the Verdigris Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) met via GoTo Meeting. Among the agenda items at the meeting were discussions of budget recommendations to pass along from the RAC to the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) Budget Committee for their consideration during the SFY 2023 budget recommendation development process. The following action was taken by the RAC at the meeting to formalize their budget input recommendations to deliver to the KWA Budget Committee:

A motion was made by John Ditmore (Industry/Commerce) and seconded by Bob Culbertson (Conservation/Environment) to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA:

“The Verdigris RAC supports the budget and would like to highlight the following priorities that are important to fund in order to accomplish and carryout the goals and action plans of the Verdigris RAC. They are listed below in no particular order of priority.

- *Sediment Management through WID, BMPs and programs such as KRPI (KWO)*
- *Assessment and Evaluation to optimize reservoir operations using FIRO and structures that improve efficiencies during dry periods. (KWO) – an increase in level of funding is supported*
- *Stream gaging (KWO)*
- *Watershed dam construction (KDA)*
- *Aid to conservation districts (KDA)*
- *Water Resource cost share – an increase in level of funding is supported*
- **Support funding of the Aquatic Nuisance Species program through the Kansas Dept. Wildlife Parks (KDWP)*

There was no discussion and unanimous approval was given.