

## Minutes

### KANSAS WATER AUTHORITY

December 13, 2023

In-Person Meeting

Concordia, KS

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Dawn Buehler called the **December 13, 2023**, Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meeting to order at **9:06 a.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dawn Buehler, Michael Armstrong, John Bailey, Lynn Goossen, Jeremiah Hobbs, Gary Janzen, Pete Loecke, Carolyn McGinn, Allen Roth, Allan Soetaert, Jean Steiner, David Stroberg

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Randy Hayzlett

#### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

**PRESENT:** Ryan Hoffman, Earl Lewis, Scott Ishman, Susan Metzger, Sara Baer, Leo Henning, Kayla Savage, Connie Owen

#### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

**ABSENT:** Brad Loveless, Steve Frost, Mike Beam

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**Motion No. 12-13-01** It was moved by Lynn Goossen and seconded by Allen Roth to approve the October 18, 2023, Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Kansas Water Authority. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

#### KWA PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE:

John Bailey reported for the Public Water Supply Committee. Richard Rockel then presented Surplus Water Report and gave a drought update.

#### *Surplus Water Report*

**Motion No. 12-13-02** It was moved by Mike Armstrong and seconded by Pete Locke to approve the Surplus Water available in the Water Marketing Program Lakes for Calendar year 2024 report and to authorize the Kansas Water Office Director to enter into surplus water supply contracts for water defined to be surplus by the report. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

John Bailey then presented on Long Range Drought Planning and Regionalization.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for questions and discussion. The members spoke about regionalization. Topics of discussion within this open discussion included: water suppliers having emergency connections for supply; employing a person to reach out to suppliers about rural water district opportunities; expenses and potential funding requests associated with regionalization-related efforts; requiring a 40 year water plan for water supply; water availability supporting development in smaller communities; groundwater sources and the short and long term viability of these sources; flood water capture; and the role of the Governor's Water Subcabinet.

## ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE:

Matt Unruh & Victoria Asbury presented the 2024 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature.

Dawn Buehler opened the floor for discussion. The members spoke about edits and additions they would like to see in the report. Some of those items being: updating and subscribing images, adding an acronym library, table of contents page, an updated to legislators on where funding goes, adding more QR codes, perhaps adding a section on dam safety, water transfer act, and adding a one page that gives legislators and brief highlight of the report itself

*Approval of the 2024 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislators*

### Motion No. 12-13-03

It was moved by Allan Soetaert and seconded by Michael Armstrong for the Kansas Water Authority to approve the 2024 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature with final editorial discretion given to the Kansas Water Office. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** Information found in meeting materials.

## EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MONITORING UPDATE:

Dave Bollenback gave an updated on the current status of the Equus Beds Groundwater Monitoring. Dawn Buehler opened it up for questions and discussion.

## HOUSE BILL 2303 GRANT PROGRAMS:

Victoria Asbury gave presentation on the current status and process of House Bill 2302.

## DAM SAFETY PROGRAM UPDATES

Terry Medley gave an updated on the proposed updated to the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Dam Safety program to including a proposal to bring back State dam safety inspections. Additional information found within meeting materials.

## KWA EX-OFFICIO AGENCY UPDATES:

Ryan Hoffman gave an update for the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Sara Baer gave an update for the Kansas Biological Survey.

Earl Lewis gave an update for the Division of Water Resources.

Susan Metzger gave an update for Kansas State University.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Connie Owen reported for the Kansas Water Office.


## NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

## ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Allan Soetaert and seconded by Peter Loecke to adjourn. **Motion carried with no dissenting votes.** The meeting was adjourned at **2:39 p.m.**

  
Dawn Buehler, Chair

  
Connie Owen, Secretary