

Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 3, 2021, 1:00 pm
In Person/Virtual Meeting

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Carl Johnson	Leavenworth, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2023	Yes
John Bishop	Atchison, KS	Recreation	2023	Yes
Neil Coufal	Troy, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	No
Stephen Glaser	Atchison, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	No
Jeffrey Grossenbacher	Bern, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	Yes
Chris Griffin (Chair)	Troy, KS	WRAPs	2021	Yes
Lisa Montgomery	Reserve, KS	Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri in KS & NE	2023	No
Joel Mahnken (VC)	Leavenworth, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2021	Yes
Brett Neibling	Highland, KS	Agriculture 2	2023	Yes
Mike Stec	Atchison, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2023	No
Luke Terry	Robinson, KS	Fish and Wildlife	2021	No
Michelle Wirth	Kansas City, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2021	Yes
Vacant		Agriculture Industry	2021	No

Others in attendance:

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Dave Jones	KDA-DOC	Gary Satter	Glacial Hills RC&D
Craig Weltig	USACE	Cara Hendricks	KWO
Chris Stephen	KDWP	Chris Jansen	KDHE
Katie Tietz	KDA-DWR	Kirk Tjelmeland	KWO

- I) **Welcome/Introduction:** Tj started the meeting at 1:10 pm by running through the people in the room and then the folks on the GoTo meeting and there was no one calling in.
- II) **RAC Business:**
 - a. **Review of June 9th and 23rd KWA meetings:** Tj asked Cara to go over the highlights from these meetings. The agenda for the June 9th meeting was displayed and Cara explained the main items of the meeting were: discussion of setting the water marketing rate, Kansas Water Plan Update, Reservoir Sediment Management and several cooperative agreements with the USGS. The agenda for the June 23rd meeting was displayed and Cara mentioned there a portion of the meeting dedicated to the Public Water Supply Committee with Water Marketing Applications from the cities of Hillsboro and Independence and Connie gave an update on the Kansas Water Plan.

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- b. **Review of April 22nd RAC meeting notes:** Joel (Vice-Chair) stated managing the meeting in Chris' absence. Review of the April 22nd meeting notes: Joel asked if everyone had read the notes and if there were any edits or corrections. Hearing none, Carl moved the notes be approved as written and Michelle seconded it. There was no additional discussion and the notes were approved unanimously.
- c. **Missouri River Subcommittee:** Michelle mentioned that with the drought conditions forecasted the northern portion of the river basin, Gavins Point releases are expected to be reduced to 12,500 cfs. The water suppliers along the river could struggle to pull water at this value especially with the bed degradation that has occurred. MRPWSA members are working with the USACE to increase the winter release. She mentioned a meeting that MOARC and WaterOne had participated in with Connie Owen, Director of KWO, in attendance related to possible low water conditions. MRRIC is still meeting virtually but they need to meet in person to conduct some business and there is a good deal of concern about a low pulse and what that will do to the system.
- d. **Ag Subcommittee:** Brett mentioned he had participated in a tour of the counties in the Region and the crops looked good despite some adverse growing conditions. He also mentioned that the Iowa tribe is expanding its hemp production and that the Tribe is looking to move some commodities through the port of White Cloud.
- e. **Education Subcommittee:** John mentioned there is another statewide meeting scheduled next week for this group but he didn't have an agenda yet and Tj didn't either. Once that is received it can be sent out to the group.

III) **FY 2022 State Water Plan Fund (SWPF) Update – KWO:** Cara Hendricks, Assistant Director of KWO, led the discussion with a PowerPoint located [here](#). Using the PowerPoint, she highlighted the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF) appropriations for FY 2022, budget categories, how the money is spent in the Missouri Region, how the Goals and Action Plans fit in the process and the KWA Budget Committee recommendations for FY 2023. Cara talked a bit about the \$8 million transfer and what has happened to those dollars the last couple of years. Cara also described the programs that are funded through the SWPF and which agency they are operated by and if recommendations were increased or decreased from FY 2022. Michelle asked where money for the Kansas River Reservoir Flood and Sediment Study (KRRFSS) comes from, Cara answered the KWO A&E fund. Michelle also asked about the Drinking Water Protection Fund and Chris, from KDHE, provided the response. The one new line item is Soil Health with Dave Jones, from KDA, explained this is to enhance education and outreach efforts on Soil Health practices. The last slide of the presentation was up the RAC's previous year's budget recommendation memo as a reminder of the programs supported in the past.

IV) **FY 2023 Budget Recommendations – KWO:** Tj put up a copy of last year's memo in a bulleted format which made it easier to read. There was a considerable amount of discussion and ultimately the RAC approved this message to be sent to the KWA budget committee, *"The Missouri RAC supports the*

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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.

- IV) **Update on Levee upgrade near Elwood - USACE:** Craig Weltig led this discussion while showing a PowerPoint presentation located [here](#). He talked about the levee and its history starting with the 1993 overtopping and the actions that had been accomplished to get to this point. The levee work had been broken down to 6 specific contracts, 3 of which have been completed, one to be completed in 2022 and two that will start in 2022. He provided information on Impervious and Random fill and where and why that is placed on the levee. Craig explained sandboils and how they can lead to a levee breach if not contained with sandbags. The use of relief wells is also a part of this project between Browning Lake and the Missouri River however these require more maintenance than a seepage berm. He also discussed the problem with getting sufficient borrow material for the levee raise and Carl asked about quality of material. Craig said they had done borings and found some suitable material. One of the proposed borrow areas was on some property with a Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) that the NRCS administers and after a lengthy evaluation period the USACE has been allowed to use the top 18" of soil from the borrow area. Alternate sites were located to provide the rest of the material however, increased hauling distances will increase the cost of construction. There was a short video located [here](#) that ended the presentation and provides some great visual images.
- V) **Cover Crop Coach Program – Glacial Hills RC&D:** Gary Satter will be scheduled for the next meeting.
- VI) **RAC Membership:** This discussion will be scheduled for the next meeting.
- VII) **Other Issues or Agency Updates:** Everyone but Katie Tietzort, KDA-DWR, had dropped off the call so she will talk about water transfers at the next RAC meeting.
- VIII) **Public Comments:** There were none.

IX) Messages to the Kansas Water Authority: There were none.

X) Upcoming Meetings:

- a. KWA Meeting, Garden City, August 17th 9 am, in person/virtual
- b. House Water Committee, Garden City, August 17-18th, in person/virtual
- c. Next Missouri RAC meeting late October or early November (TBD) in person/virtual
- d. Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.