

Smoky Hill-Saline Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

12:00 PM (CST), Wednesday, August 4, 2020

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Member Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Bevin Law (Chair)	Longford, KS	Conservation	2021	Yes
Holly Dickman (Vice-Chair)	Hays, KS	Large Public Water Supply	2023	Yes
Daniel Baffa	Salina, KS	Conservation/Environment	2021	Yes
Tom Lutgen	Salina, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	No
Chris Meyer	Sylvan Grove, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	No
Tim Sanders	Chapman, KS	Agriculture 2	2021	Yes
Timothy Scheck	Russell, KS	Industry/Commerce 2	2021	No
Baron Shively	McPherson, KS	Conservation/Environment 2	2023	Yes
Brad Shogren	Lindsborg, KS	Irrigation	2021	Yes
Martha Tasker	Salina, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2023	Yes
Jon Quinday	Russell, KS	At Large Public 2	2023	Yes
VACANT	VACANT	At Large Public (cc)	2021	N/A
VACANT	VACANT	Small Public Water Supply	2023	N/A

Others in attendance:

Name	Affiliation
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Matt Unruh	KWO
Kirk Tjelmeland	KWO
Dave Jones	KDA-DOC
Jeff Crispin	City of Hays
Vanessa Salazar	KDWP
Jennifer Nichols	KDHE

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 12:03 A.M. (CST) by Chairman, Bevin Law. All present provided self-introductions.
2. **Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. There were no adjustments or additions needed.
3. **Review of April 2021 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the previous meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
4. **Updates:**
 - a. **Kansas Water Authority (KWA):** Matt Unruh (KWO) informed the RAC of recent updates that had occurred at the KWA meeting.
 - b. **Kansas Water Officer (KWO):** Keadron Pearson (KWO) gave an update on the recent membership drive and other agency changes that had occurred since the last RAC meeting.
5. **Regional Activities:**

Membership: Bevin Law, Chair, Longford, KS; Holly Dickman, Vice-Chair, Hays, KS; Daniel Baffa, Salina, KS; John Leiker, Ellis, KS; Tom Lutgen, Salina, KS; Chris Meyer, Sylvan Grove, KS; Tim Sanders, Chapman, KS; Timothy Scheck, Russell, KS; Baron Shively, McPherson, KS; Brad Shogren, Lindsborg, KS; Martha Tasker, Salina, KS; Jon Quinday, Russell, KS.

KWO Planner: Keadron Pearson, 620-765-7489, keadron.pearson@kwo.ks.gov

- a. **Budget Discussion & Recommendations:** A presentation was given by Matt Unruh (KWO) over the State Water Plan Fund that included budget information specific to the region. The presentation was followed by discussion from RAC members on areas of interest that they wish to pass on as budget recommendations to the KWA budget committee for consideration. A motion was made by Brad Shogren and seconded by Dan Baffa to send the following Budget Recommendation Message to the KWA Budget Committee:

“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.

6. **Other Business:**

- a. **Agency Reports –**
Jennifer Nichols (KDHE): reported that there will be a Kansas Environmental Conference the following week and the they are doing waste water testing to look at and compare to Covid case numbers.
- b. **Public Comments –** None
- c. **Questions and Future Agenda Items from RAC Members –** It was requested to have the next meeting the last week in September or the first one in October and that Keadron Pearson will send out a doodle poll to get the date set. It was also asked to have on the agenda for the next meeting a discussion on ways to promote membership of younger members and to also a discussion on direct potable reuse.
- d. **Messages to the KWA –** None
- e. **Future Meeting –**
 - i. Kansas Water Authority: August 17
 - ii. Governor’s Water Conference: November 16-18

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 P.M. (CST).