



**UPPER ARKANSAS
REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA**

DATE: June 9th, 2020
TIME: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM (CDT)
LOCATION: **GoToMeeting Conference Call** ([Meeting Materials](#))
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/454561005>
You can also dial in using your phone:
United States: +1 (646) 749-3122
Access Code: 454-561-005

AGENDA DETAILS

- I. Welcome and Roll Call-** RAC Chair
- II. Review of Agenda-** RAC Chair/Members
- III. Review of February 2020 Meeting Notes-** RAC Chair/Members
- IV. Updates**
 - a. **Kansas Water Authority-** RAC Chair/KWO Planner
 - b. **State Budget Updates-** KWO Planner
 - i. *July RAC Meeting Recommended*
 - c. **KGS Ogallala Update-** Brownie Wilson (KGS)
- V. Regional Activities**
 - a. **RAC Goals & Actions Plans Update Recommendations-** RAC Chair/Members
 - i. *Deadline: August 2020*
 - b. **Missouri Floodwater Transfer Proof-of-Concept (POC) Discussion-** RAC Chair/Members
- VI. Other Business-** RAC Chair
 - a. **Agency Reports**
 - b. **Public comments**
 - c. **Future Agenda Items from RAC Members**
 - d. **RAC Messages to the KWA**
 - e. **Future Meetings**
 - i. **GMD3 Board Meeting:** June 10th, 2020 (Regularly every second Wed of the month at 9am)
 - ii. **Bottom Line Conference:** August 12-13; Kearny County Fairgrounds
 - iii. **Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas:** November 9-10, 2020; Wichita
 - iv. **KWO Winter Water Tech Expo:** February 2021

Note: underlined items are action items for RAC

Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

9:00 A.M. (CST), Thursday, February 20, 2020

Lee Richardson Zoo
Finnup Center for Education
312 E Finnup Dr
Garden City, KS 67846

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Kyle Nelson (Chair)	Holcomb, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2023	Yes
Joe Jury (Vice-Chair)	Ingalls, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2023	No
Ted Boersma	Cimarron, KS	Dairy	2021	No
Hugh Brownlee	Syracuse, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2021	No
Roy Dixon	Garden City, KS	Agriculture Industry	2021	Yes
Titus Jaeger	Lakin, KS	Groundwater Irrigation	2023	No
Fred Jones	Garden City, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2021	Yes
Monte Morgan	Deerfield, KS	At Large Public 3	2021	Yes
Bill Simshauser	Lakin, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2021	Yes
Hal Scheuerman	Deerfield, KS	Surface Water Irrigation	2021	Yes
Ray Slattery	Dodge City, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2023	No
Brant Peterson	Johnson, KS	Groundwater Management	2023	Yes
VACANT	VACANT	At Large Public 2	2023	N/A

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Armando Zarco	KWO
Bobbi, Luttjohann	KWO
Kevin Salter	KDA-DWR
Jason Norquest	GMD3
Mark Rude	GMD3

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 9:01 A.M. by Chairman, Kyle Nelson. All present provided self-introductions.
- Review of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. There were no adjustments or additions needed.
- Review of June 2019 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes from the June 2019 meeting were discussed. There were no additions or corrections.
- Kansas Water Authority (KWA) & Legislative Update:**
 - January KWA Meetings:** RAC Chair gave updates and feedback on the KWA meeting held in Topeka.

Upper Arkansas Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

- b. **Legislative Visits:** RAC Chair provided an assessment on the January 2020 Legislative Visits in Topeka.
- c. **State Budget Updates:** RAC Chair informed members of discussions had with other RAC Chairs on the use of water plan funds in the state during the RAC Chair meeting held in Topeka, KS. Armando Zarco (KWO) announced that there would be a webinar in April that would provide an overview for the budget and give updates. All RAC members in the state are invited to participate and provide feedback and discussion.

5. Regional Activities:

- a. **Membership Status:** Armando Zarco (KWO) informed members of one vacancy on the committee for “At Large Public 2”.
- b. **2020 RAC Meetings:** It was the consensus of the RAC that they continue to hold future meetings at the Lee Richardson Zoo, Finnup Center for Education in Garden City, KS. Future meeting for 2020 were requested to be held in early June, August, and November. The Chair expressed that for future meetings the committee should emphasize only agenda items that pertain to the KWO Memorandum of Internal Policy for Regional Advisory Committees.
- c. **Amazon-Great Eastern Ditch Flume Discussion:** Kevin Salter (KDA-DWR) provided an overview and background the topic followed by discussion from committee members.
- d. **Senate Bill 329:** The topic was discussed by the committee members.
- e. **Chief Engineer – 3 Member Board Discussion:** The topic was discussed by the committee members.
- f. **Optional Break:** The Chair called for a break of the meeting at 10:17 A.M. The meeting reconvened at 10:29 A.M.
- g. **RAC Goals & Actions Plans Update Recommendations:** Members reviewed the current RAC Goals & Actions Plans. After discussion was had, it was agreed by the committee to have current Goals #2, #3, and #4 of the plans taken out and to focus on having two goals total. It was agreed that the current Goal #1 needed to be updated and that another new goal would be compiled regarding an alternate source of water supply. Committee Member, Brant Peterson, volunteered to undertake the task of writing the draft Goal & Actions Plans for the new goal. It was the consensus of the RAC members for the other Goal & Actions Plan to be drafted by Armando Zarco (KWO) based on feedback and discussion had during the meeting. A draft of the revised Goals & Actions Plans will be provided and discussed at future RAC meetings.

6. Other Business:

- a. **Agency Reports:**
 - Kevin Salter (KDA-DWR Garden City Field Office): Nothing to report.
 - Mark Rude (GMD3): Committee members were presented with a Revised Groundwater Management Program draft proposal for their review. The RAC was reminded of the upcoming GMD3 annual meeting.
 - Keadron Pearson (KWO): Notified RAC members of a Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Funding Opportunity through the Bureau of Reclamation.

- b. **Public Comments:**
Bill Simshauser (RAC member): Informed the committee of the upcoming Salt Cedar/Tamarisk Management and Control Workshop in March.
- c. **Questions and Future Agenda Items from RAC Members:** Committee members requested to have Brownie Wilson (KGS) present at the next RAC meeting to give an update of the status of the aquifer declines within the Upper Arkansas RAC.
- d. **Messages to the KWA:** No messages to submit to KWA at this time.
- e. **Future Meetings:**
 - i. GMD3 Annual Meeting: March 11 at 9am; Ulysses
 - ii. GMD3 Board Meeting: March 11 following Annual Meeting
 - Regularly every second Wed of the month at 9am
 - iii. Upper Arkansas & Cimarron Regions Public Input Meeting: March 11; Ulysses
 - iv. Salt Cedar/Tamarisk Management and Control Workshop: March 19; Hamilton Co
 - v. 3I Farm Show: March 19-21; Dodge City
 - vi. Ogallala Aquifer Summit: March 31; Amarillo, TX
 - vii. Kansas Water Authority: April 14, 2020; Hutchinson
 - viii. Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas: November 9-10, 2020; Wichita

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 A.M. (CST).

Upper Arkansas RAC Draft Revised Goals & Actions Steps

Update Recommendations (May 2020)

GOAL Statement

Establish a sustainable water supply within the Ogallala Aquifer, within 10 years, to maintain a viable source of water for human consumption, agricultural use, municipal use, and industrial use.

Action Steps

- Determine the amount of water pumped reduction needed to sustain the Ogallala Aquifer.
 - Consult water scientists, university studies, and or other information available.
- Educate all water users on the importance of water saving and increased water use efficiencies.
 - Support educational activities through the Conservation Districts such as (The Ark Water River Festival, Earth Day at The Zoo, Safety Days, Poster contests at the schools, The Bottom Line Conference,) and other informational meetings or conferences put on by Conservation District.
 - The Water Authority supports these activities by funding the budget line item, Aid to Conservation Districts, to the full amount mandated by the Kansas State Legislature.
 - Support educational meetings hosted by the K-State Extension, the GMD3
 - and other agencies or organizations.
 - The Water Authorities continued support and funding for the irrigation
 - technology farms.
- Promote irrigation conservation.
 - Encourage adoption of water conservation areas such as LEMA's and
 - WCA's.
 - Provide incentives to reduce usage through proven technologies and best
 - management practices.
- Promote conservation of municipal water use through incentives and education.
- Promote conservation of industrial water use through incentives and education.

GOAL Statement

Source and secure alternative source of water supply and storage for Kansas by 2025. This source of fresh water is first and foremost designated for Kansans to replace existing low quality or low quantity water sources, restore stream flows and groundwater recharge, and expand recreational opportunities beyond 2050. Furthermore, to be used as a revenue source for excess water to be transported across and outside the state to other water users.

Action Steps

- Research, study, and initiate any changes necessary to current or new statutes to develop and perfect a new water right to serve as alternative source of supply.
- Initiate and lead a search for multi-state support for an interstate water transfer system.
- Initiate and participate in research to determine the value an alternative source of supply would generate directly and indirectly for local, regional, state, & federal areas and agencies.
- Develop a fact-based education initiative to inform Kansans and our neighbors how we can prepare for tomorrow's challenges related to the shortages or excess of water for everyone.