



# Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting  
April 3, 2017, 9:00 am  
USD 409 Meeting Room  
Atchison, Kansas

## Members Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Carl Johnson (Chair)	Leavenworth, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2019	Yes
John Bishop	Atchison, KS	Recreation	2019	Yes
Neil Coufal	Troy, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2017	Yes
Stephen Glaser	Atchison, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	No
Jeffrey Grossenbacher	Bern, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2019	Yes
Carol Hughes	Seneca, KS	WRAPs	2017	Yes
Alan Kelley	White Cloud, KS	Iowa Tribe of Kansas and NB	2019	Yes
Joel Mahnken	Leavenworth, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2017	Yes
Brett Neibling	Highland, KS	Agriculture 2	2019	No
Darcy Nightingale	Hiawatha, KS	Agriculture Industry	2017	No
Bill Shroyer	Sabetha, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2019	No
Luke Terry	Robinson, KS	Fish and Wildlife	2017	Yes
Michelle Wirth	Kansas City, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2017	Yes

## Others in attendance:

Name	Town	Representing
Alan Larson	Effingham	Atchison Co Conservation District
Rebecca Thacker	St. Joe	MO-KAN
Chris Griffin	Troy	DP Co Conservation District
Judy Wegener-Stevens	Troy	DP Co Conservation District
Gary Satter		Glacial Hills RC&D and Missouri River WRAPS
Margaret Chemas		DP Co. K-State Extension
Kelli Baker		Atchison Co Conservation District
Brett Bunger	Topeka	KDA-DWR
Aaron Deters	Topeka	Ks Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
Travis Daneke	Topeka	KDHE-WRAPS
Chris Beightel	Manhattan	KDA-DWR
Kirk Tjelmeland	Topeka	Kansas Water Office

## Welcome and Introductions:

Carl started the meeting right at 9 am and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

## Public Comments:

There were none.

## Review of February 14, 2017 Meeting Notes:

There were no corrections or additions to the notes as submitted, they were approved.

**Membership:** Carl Johnson, Chair, Leavenworth, KS; John Bishop, Atchison, KS; Neil Coufal, Troy, KS; Stephen Glaser, Atchison, KS; Jeffery Grossenbacher, Bern, KS; Carol Hughes, Seneca, KS; Alan Kelley, White Cloud, KS; Joel Mahnken, Leavenworth, KS; Brett Neibling, Highland, KS; Darcy Nightingale, Hiawatha, KS; Bill Shroyer, Sabetha, KS; Luke Terry, Robinson, KS; Michelle Wirth, Kansas City, KS  
**KWO Planner:** Kirk Tjelmeland, 785-368-8149; [Kirk.Tjelmeland@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:Kirk.Tjelmeland@kwo.ks.gov)

### **DP Co. Conservation District RCPP Proposal:**

Chris Griffin gave a power point presentation on a RCPP proposal she is working on. The RCPP is directly tied to the MO RAC's Goal #2 and specifically to several action items including: Prevent sedimentation by using existing cost-share programs through the Kansas Department of Ag, Division of Conservation (DoC), KDHE, and NRCS to fund conservation practices in the Missouri region. The proposal would locate sites in DP Co. and use settling basins to help prevent field erosion from causing damage to County roads while helping to reduce sediment and nutrient loading into streams. DP Co. has agreed to partner at \$50,000/year and there was a request to have the KWO put in \$10,000/year. John moved and Carol seconded that the MO RAC should request the KWO to support this RCPP at the requested level and a discussion ensued about funding. The presentation is available on the RAC page of KWO.org.

### **Update on KGS Phase 1:**

Tj gave a 3 slide power point on the most recent information supplied by Jordi at KGS. KGS has approximately 2,000 test wells they are using to generate bedrock topography in the Missouri region. Once this is mapped KGS can use this and other factors to evaluate water availability. A third slide showed nitrate levels in the region, Jordi did mention this was older data. Jeff said he used a well that was over the "blue baby" level, 10 mg/l. The presentation is available on the RAC page of KWO.org.

### **Discussion on Draft EIS Comments:**

The sub-committee of Michelle, Alan and Joel went through the 2 pages of comments explaining and soliciting comments on each bullet point. Alternative 3 was the preferred option presented by the USACE and the sub-committee concurred with that as well. Michelle pointed out the flaws behind the reasoning on the water supply issues generated by different flow conditions and that 14.7 days of no water wouldn't work. Alan spoke about MRRIC, a group of 70 or more individuals, was over 80% in support of Alternative 3. John asked about the tonnage of materials moved up the river and Alan said there was not much above St. Joe, [KC Port](#) lists 25 million tons through their port. Jeff would like to see a bullet point added to the document protecting landowner's rights along the Missouri River. It was moved by John to accept the draft as written with an amendment for landowner's rights, Jeff seconded the motion. Michelle will work with Jeff to produce the landowner bullet point. Draft will be sent back out to the RAC for review and the final submitted to the USACE and the KWO.

### **Legislative Fact Finding Tour:**

Alan has been in contact with Susan Stover (KGS) about the legislative tour in September. A bus full of interested legislators visit different areas of the state and the Missouri Region will have their opportunity to shine later this year. Jeff wanted to know if she was in favor of the "big ditch" Alan said she wasn't in favor of the aqueduct. This tour is to simply educate the legislators on the uniqueness, values and issues of this region.

### **Healthy Watershed, a DNR Program:**

Rebecca Thacker, of MO-KAN, gave a short overview of the Healthy Watershed Program for the Independence-Sugar Creek Watershed. This watershed straddles the Kansas and Missouri border with MO DNR funding only available in MO however MO-KAN is still soliciting input from the Kansas side. This is a three meeting series with a couple of the RAC members attending the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The remaining meetings will



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be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup> in St. Joe and Parkville. Rebecca would like everyone to take the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TKCDJDF> and provide your valuable input. Carl mentioned this is very similar to the KS WRAPS program and that a Missouri WRAPS plan has been sent to MO-KAN for their review. The presentation is available on the RAC page of KWO.org.

### **Plan for 2017 RAC activities – Implementing the Action Plans:**

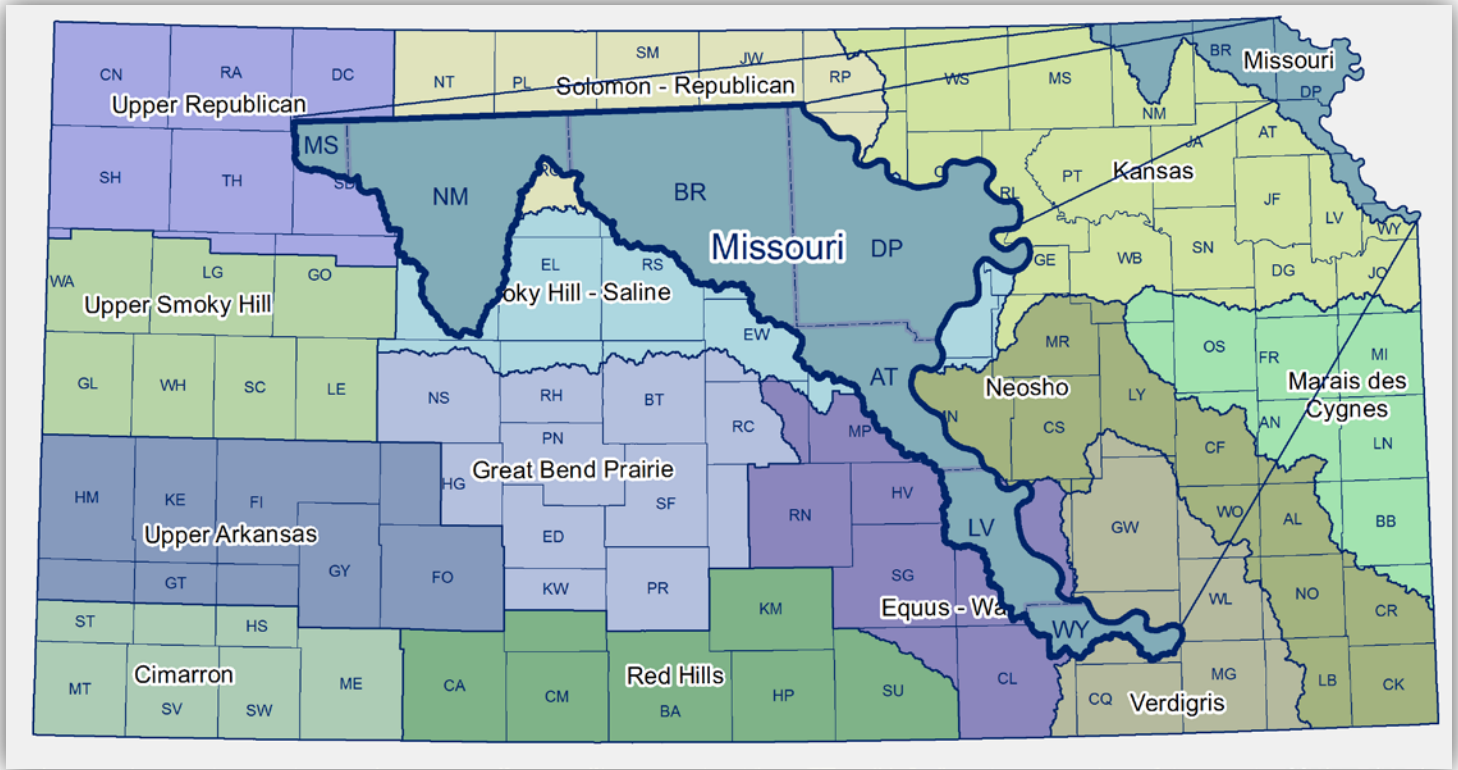
Carl presented a power point of the MO RAC Action Plan and where he thought the committee was headed. The discussion ranged from Jeff's comments relating to sound science being used to evaluate tile outlet terraces, Michelle talking about "Smart Watering Program and Alan talking about nitrates. Jeff also brought up the sagging farm economy and the unlikely hood of landowners investing in BMP's like cover crops. He stated there are a lot of projects out there on not enough money to fund them all, need some creative financing. Carl's presentation will be sent out the RAC to help improve his presentation at the August KWA meeting in Pittsburg on how the Action Plan is going.

### **Next Meeting:**

KWA Meeting: May 17-18, 2017, Garden City, KS

RAC Meeting: June 22, 2017- 9:00 am, USD 409 Meeting Room 626 Commercial, Atchison, KS

KWA Meeting: August 16-17, 2017, Pittsburg, KS



February 14, 2017, Atchison, Kansas



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Brett Neibling	Highland, KS	Agriculture 2	2019	Yes
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**Others in attendance:**

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Alan Larson	Atchison	Atchison Co Conservation District
Larry Purcell	Atchison	KDA, Division of Water Resources
Chris Griffin	Troy	DP Co Conservation District
Judy Wegener-Stevens	Troy	DP Co Conservation District
Gary Satter		Glacial Hills RC&D and Missouri River WRAPs
Ethel Campbell		Atchison District Conservation Board
Goldie Boldridge-Brown		Atchison County Conservation District
Troy Munsch	Salina	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Margaret Chemas		K-State Extension
Kelli Baker		Atchison Co Conservation District
Brett Bunger	Topeka	KDA-DWR
Kirk Thompson		Ks Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
Jake Geiger	Robinson	Self
Christina Ostrander	Kansas City	US Army Corp of Engineers
Chuck Vollmer		Agriculture
Ray Scherer	St Jo News	Press
Kirk Tjelmeland	Topeka	Kansas Water Office
Margaret Fast	Topeka	KWO

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Carl asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

**Membership:** Carl Johnson, Chair, Leavenworth, KS; John Bishop, Atchison, KS; Neil Coufal, Troy, KS; Stephen Glaser, Atchison, KS; Jeffery Grossenbacher, Bern, KS; Carol Hughes, Seneca, KS; Alan Kelley, White Cloud, KS; Joel Mahnken, Leavenworth, KS; Brett Neibling, Highland, KS; Darcy Nightingale, Hiawatha, KS; Bill Shroyer, Sabetha, KS; Luke Terry, Robinson, KS; Michelle Wirth, Kansas City, KS  
**KWO Planner:** Margaret Fast, 785-296-3185; [margaret.fast@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:margaret.fast@kwo.ks.gov)



## Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

### **Review of Sept 22, 2016 Meeting Notes:**

The notes were accepted as sent.

### **Public Comments:**

There were none.

### **Report from November, 2016 Governor's Conference and January Kansas Water Authority meeting:**

Carl Johnson mentioned the legislative visits went well with legislators understanding the need to fund the State Water Plan but also knowing the State's current budget situation. Carl also reported on items discussed at the KWA meeting: the Smoky Hill Access District-water from Kanopolis Reservoir; Quivira National Wildlife Refuge and the water impairment it is suffering; John Redmond dredging; Kickapoo water rights and water transfers-Hays.

### **RAC Operations:**

Carl explained the Chair and Vice-Chair positions of the RAC are two-year terms, ending August, 2017. They are appointments by the Chairperson of the KWA. A vice-chair is in the process of being appointed. Carl encouraged individuals to step up if asked to fill the position.

A Missouri River Issues Sub-Committee of the RAC has been established consisting of three members: Michelle Wirth, Alan Kelley and Joel Mahnken.

### **Presentation on Action Plan Item - Tile outlet terrace systems:**

Ted Peltier, University of Kansas, presented a series of slides that showed the constructed wetlands in Douglas County and gave an idea as to what they expected to see from the constructed wetlands at the end of a tile system. The nutrient outcome was slightly different than what they expected for 2014-2015 and what they plan to do different for 2017-2018. An exchange of good questions followed. The presentation is available on the RAC page of KWO.org.

### **Presentation on Action Plan Item – Progress on KGS report:**

Margaret Fast (KWO) stated that KGS has been compiling data and that we are expecting a final report in late May. The scope of work had been included in the progress report with the mailing materials.

### **Update on Missouri River Bed Degradation Study – KC District COE:**

Christy Ostrander gave a series of slides that talked about the study history, movement of the head-cut, destruction of infrastructure and possible alternative actions. Since none of alternatives showed measurable results, a technical paper will be prepared. Several questions followed dealing with the movement and damage of the incising that is taking place. The presentation is available on the RAC page of KWO.org.

### **Overview of Draft Missouri River Recover Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – KC District COE:**

Christy Ostrander presented a couple of slides that laid out the reasoning behind the Draft Missouri River Recovery Management Plan and the EIS. She encouraged the committee to attend the meeting on February 15<sup>th</sup> in Kansas City and said that the public comment period is open until April 24, 2017. Links to the executive summary and lots of other information are available at: <http://moriverrecovery.usace.army.mil/mrrp/f?p=136:1:0:::>

**Plan for 2017 RAC activities – Implementing the Action Plans** – Carl lead this lengthy discussion on where the RAC is headed with the Action Plans and which items the Committee should tackle and which should be left to others. Also several ideas were presented on how often the Committee should meet; on that note, quarterly before the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) meetings was suggested.

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### Next Meeting

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KWA Meeting: May 17-18, 2017, Garden City, KS

**Membership:** Carl Johnson, Chair, Leavenworth, KS; John Bishop, Atchison, KS; Neil Coufal, Troy, KS; Stephen Glaser, Atchison, KS; Jeffery Grossenbacher, Bern, KS; Carol Hughes, Seneca, KS; Alan Kelley, White Cloud, KS; Joel Mahnken, Leavenworth, KS; Brett Neibling, Highland, KS; Darcy Nightingale, Hiawatha, KS; Bill Shroyer, Sabetha, KS; Luke Terry, Robinson, KS; Michelle Wirth, Kansas City, KS  
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