

# MEMO



DATE: July 13, 2016  
TO: Equus-Walnut RAC and Agency Advisors  
FROM: Matt Unruh, Kansas Water Office  
RE: July 20, 2016 Meeting

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The next meeting for the Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) is scheduled for **10:00 am Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at the Harvey County Health Department, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 215 South Pine Street, Newton, KS.**

The main items of discussion at the meeting will focus on action plan development for the Equus-Walnut Regional Goals associated with the Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas.

Enclosed please find:

- Agenda
- Press Release
- March 2016 Draft Meeting Notes
- Approved Vision Regional Goals for Equus-Walnut Region

Please let me know if you cannot attend, or have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting please contact, me at [matt.unruh@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:matt.unruh@kwo.ks.gov); or toll-free at (888) KAN-WATE(R).

**Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee**  
**10:00 a.m., July 20, 2016**  
**Harvey County Health Department**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**215 South Pine Street, Newton, KS**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of March 2016 Meeting Notes**
- 4. Regional Activities and Other Updates**
  - a. May KWA Update
  - b. Blue Ribbon Funding Taskforce Update
  - c. Regional Goal Action Plan Development Discussion
    - i. Discussion on Completed Action Plans – August KWA Meeting
    - ii. Discussion on Action Plans still in progress
- 5. Other Business**
  - a. Agency reports not previously discussed and public comments
  - b. Questions and Future Issues from Members
  - c. Messages to the Kansas Water Authority
  - d. Future Meetings:
    - i. Kansas Water Authority: August 31-September 1, 2016; Emporia, KS
    - ii. Equus-Walnut RAC: TBD
- 6. Adjourn**

*Note: underlined items are action items for RAC*

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Tracy Streeter, Director



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Sam Brownback, Governor

For Immediate Release:  
July 7, 2016

For More Information:  
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**Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee Meeting in Newton**  
*July 20, 10 a.m. at the Harvey County Health Department*

The Kansas Water Office's (KWO) Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) will hold a meeting to discuss current water issues affecting the basin as well as the state.

The meeting will be held Wednesday, July 20 at 10 a.m., in the Harvey County Health Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, 215 South Pine Street in Newton, Kansas. The main focus of the meeting will be continued action plan development for the Equus-Walnut regional water supply goals.

The agenda and meeting materials will be available at [www.kwo.org](http://www.kwo.org) or you may request copies by calling (785) 296-3185 or toll-free at (888) KAN-WATER (526-9283).

If accommodations are needed for a person with disabilities, please notify the Kansas Water Office at 900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404, Topeka, KS 66611-1249 or call (785) 296-3185 at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Note to Editor: The Americans with Disabilities Act, (42 U.S.C. 12101) requires the Kansas Water Office to print the reasonable accommodations messages.

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*As the state's water office, KWO conducts water planning, policy coordination and water marketing as well as facilitates public input throughout the state.*

*The agency prepares the KANSAS WATER PLAN, a plan for water resources development, management and conservation. KWO also reviews all water laws and makes recommendations to the Governor and Legislature for needed legislation.*



# Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

**Equus-Walnut Regional Advisory Committee Meeting**  
9:00 a.m., March 11, 2016  
Harvey County Health Department  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
215 South Pine Street, Newton, Kansas

**Members Attendance:**

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Steve Hieger (Chair)	Wichita, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	Yes
Roger Black	Arkansas, City, KS	Watershed Protection	2019	Yes
Kurt Bookout	El Dorado, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2017	Yes
Dan Haines	Leon, KS	Conservation/Environment 2	2019	Yes
Bob Seiler	Valley Center, KS	Groundwater Management	2019	Yes
Don Koci	Hutchinson, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2017	Yes
Jesse McCurry	Colwich, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2017	No
Brian Meier	Wichita, KS	Industry/Commerce 2	2017	Yes
Denise Noonan Middleton	Burden, KS	Agriculture 2	2019	Yes
Joseph Pajor	Wichita, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019	Yes
Lewjene Schneider	Maize, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2017	Yes
Russell Tomevi	Winfield, KS	Integrated Planning	2019	No
Byron Warta	Newton, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2017	Yes

**Others in attendance:**

Name	Affiliation
Jeff Lanterman	KDA-DWR
Megan Green	KDA-DOC
Jeff Lanterman	KDA-DWR
Calvin Kissick	KWA & GMD2
Scott Macey	City of Wichita
David Bollenback	KCC
Rich Basore	KDHE
Anna Smith	PEC
Tim Boese	GMD 2
Ron Graber	KSU
Isaac Broeckelman	Upper Timber Creek/Grouse Silver Creek WRAPS
Lisa French	Cheney Lake Watershed
Gina Bell	Harvey County
Chad Milligan	SCS Aquaterra
Matt Unruh	KWO

**Membership:** Steve Hieger, Chair, Wichita, KS; Roger Black, Arkansas City, KS; Kurt Bookout, El Dorado, KS; Dan Haines, Leon, KS; Don Koci, Hutchinson, KS; Jesse McCurry, Colwich, KS; Denise Noonan Middleton, Burden, KS; Joe Pajor, Wichita, KS; Lewjene Schneider, Maize, KS; Bob Seiler, Valley Center, KS; Russell Tomevi, Winfield, KS; Byron Warta, Newton, KS - KS;  
**KWO Planner:** Matt Unruh, 785-296-3185; [matt.unruh@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:matt.unruh@kwo.ks.gov)

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Chair Steve Hieger welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. Everyone present provided introductions of themselves.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Byron Warta made the motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Don Koci. Motion carried.
3. **Approval of January 2016 Meeting Notes:** Byron Warta made the motion to approve the January 2016 meeting notes as presented, seconded by Denise Middleton. Motion carried.
4. **Regional Activities and Other Updates**
  - a. **January 2016 KWA Meeting & Legislative Visits:** Byron Warta, appointed RAC representative for the Equus-Walnut RAC, provided an update on the January 2016 KWA meeting and the Legislative visits which took place. Byron mentioned the value he's seen over the years in educating state senators and representatives on the water resource issues of Kansas. Byron also discussed the Action Plan updates which were provided by several RACs during the KWA meeting.
  - b. **Regional Implementation: Groundwater Management District #2 Presentation:** Tim Boese, Groundwater Management District #2 Manager, gave a presentation on a variety of items involving GMD2. This presentation is available for download on the Kansas Water Office webpage at [http://www.kwo.org/RACs/Webinars/ppt\\_EW\\_GMD2\\_Presentation\\_031116\\_mu.pdf](http://www.kwo.org/RACs/Webinars/ppt_EW_GMD2_Presentation_031116_mu.pdf).
  - c. **Regional Goal Action Plans:** Due to time constraints, no discussion took place on Regional Goal Action Plan development.
5. **Other Business**
  - a. **Agency reports on items not previously discussed & public comments:**

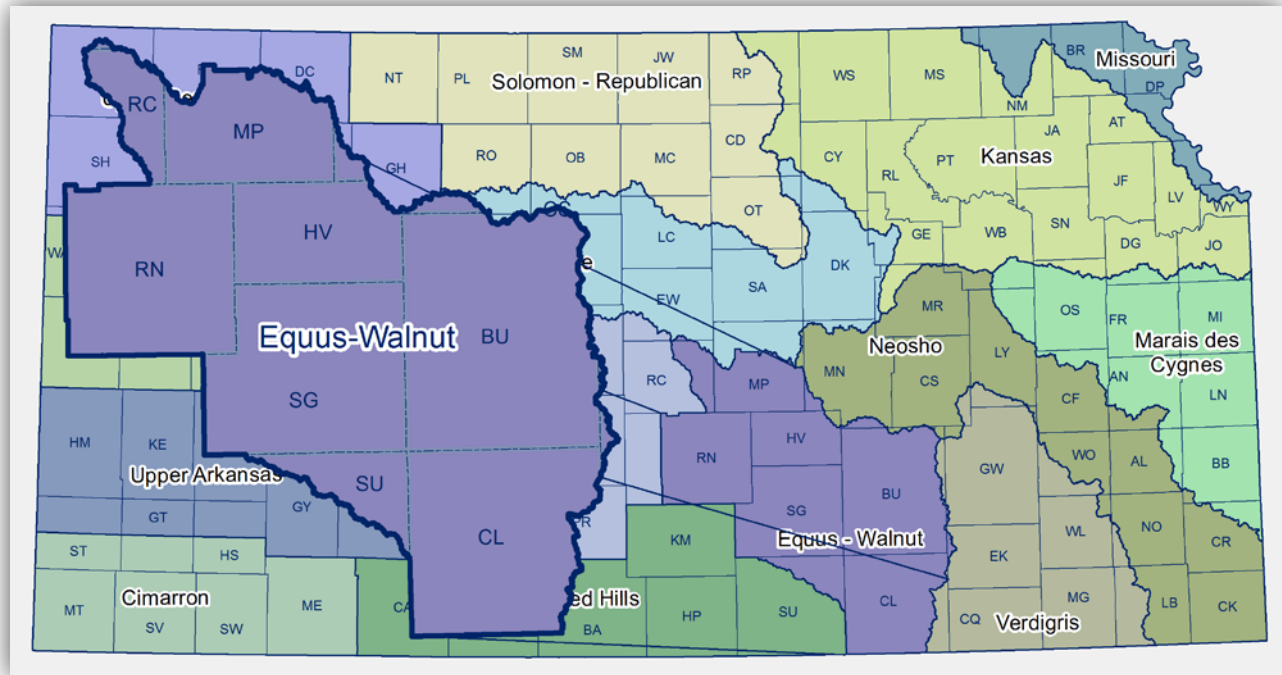
KDA-DWR: Chief Engineer David Barfield provided an update on the status of the proposed regulation change for K.A.R. 5-12-1 Aquifer storage and recovery. He also discussed integrated stockwatering irrigation water rights, lengthening term permits for water conservation and integrated operations, defining the years to establish water use history, and consumptive use.

KDA-DOC: Megan Green mentioned the Division of Conservation's willingness to help out however needed during the Action Plan development process.
  - b. **Questions and Future Issues from Members:** Bob Seiler commented on the amount of available water in El Dorado Lake and wanted to make sure this water resource was incorporated into Action Plans developed for the Equus-Walnut region.
  - c. **Messages to the Kansas Water Authority:** No messages were provided to the KWA.
  - d. **Future Meetings:**
    - i. Kansas Water Authority: May 18-19; Oakley, KS (*Buffalo Bill Cultural Center, 3082 US Highway 83*)
    - ii. Equus-Walnut RAC: TBD via Doodle Poll
6. **Adjourn:** Bob Seiler made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Don Koci. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 11:50 am. A tour of the City of Wichita ASR followed adjournment of the meeting.

# Equus-Walnut Regional Planning Area

## Guiding Principle

The Equus-Walnut Regional Goal Leadership Team recognizes that education at all levels is the highest priority for long-term success. Proper and adequate funding for educational resources is essential to ensure success in achieving the water supply goals for this region. An overarching goal is that every Kansan in the region should know the water resources in the region, the dangers potentially impacting the resource, and the value of and the actions necessary to protect it. The Goal Leadership Team supports promoting good stewardship, conservation and improved efficiency, balanced with economic growth, as tools towards achieving the goals described below.



- 1. Achieve and maintain sustainable balance of groundwater withdrawals with annual recharge in the Equus Beds Aquifer by 2020. Ensure safe yield and recharge rate calculations in the Equus Beds Aquifer are accurate through a district wide, integrated groundwater and surface water model by 2018.**
2. Each public water supplier in the region will develop a long term water supply plan and revise every five years to meet their individual forecasted needs. Water suppliers should consider alternative uses of non-potable water and existing water supplies before developing any new water supply projects.
3. Implement and maintain watershed protection activities to maintain regional reservoir storage capacity for an additional 100 years beyond the design life.
4. Maintain or reduce the rate of sedimentation and nutrient loading through the encouragement of best management practices (BMPs) on 50% of the high priority acres in the watershed above water supply reservoirs. Ensure practices are sustained and maintained for the long-term and priorities are reassessed every five years.
5. Allocate necessary resources (\$1-5 million) within five years to identify and prioritize current contamination issues impacting the Equus Beds Aquifer and develop a plan to manage and mitigate the contamination. Review existing studies and emerging technologies to develop a new conceptual plan with estimated costs. Begin implementation of the plan within 10 years of completing the study.
6. While focused on the preservation of our water resources agricultural water users will double the value of irrigation-based production over the next 50 years. Coordinate with public/private research and development programs to develop and promote less water and nutrient intensive crops. Provide incentives for operators to implement irrigation efficiency improvements immediately. Increase efforts to implement water conserving agricultural production practices utilizing no-till methods, cover cropping systems and a rangeland cedar tree management program.
7. Encourage municipal, commercial, and industrial users of water to increase the efficiency of net water use by reducing the volume of water used per unit of measure by 5% per decade. Provide incentives for users to implement water efficiency improvements.