

# MEMO



DATE: June 15, 2017  
TO: Great Bend Prairie RAC and Agency Advisors  
FROM: Matt Unruh, Kansas Water Office  
RE: June 27, 2017 Meeting

901 S. Kansas Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66612  
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[www.kwo.org](http://www.kwo.org)

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The next meeting for the Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) is scheduled for **10:00 am Tuesday, June 27, 2017, at the City Administration Building, City Council Chambers, 201 W. Main Street in Lyons, Kansas.**

Items of discussion at the meeting will include the upcoming Central Kansas Lower Quality Water Summit, Feed Wheat Action Plan Implementation Update, Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Conservation FY18 County Allocations, and property value information for irrigated cropland from the Kansas Department of Revenue

Enclosed please find:

- Agenda
- Press Release
- February 2017 Draft Meeting Notes

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).

**Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee**  
**10:00 a.m., June 27, 2017**  
**City Administration Building**  
**Conference Room**  
**201 W. Main Street, Lyons, KS**  
**AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of February 2017 Meeting Notes**
- 4. KWA Update**
- 5. Regional Activities**
  - a. Update on Lower Quality Water Summit
  - b. KCC Oil & Gas Advisory Committee Meeting Update
  - c. Feed Wheat Update
  - d. KDA – Division of Conservation FY18 County Allocations
- 6. Reduced Water Use and Property Values (Roger Hamm, Kansas Department of Revenue)**
- 7. Other Business**
  - a. Agency reports not previously discussed and public comments
  - b. RAC Membership
    - i. Expiring Terms
    - ii. Vice Chair Position
  - c. Questions and Future Issues from Members
  - d. Messages to the Kansas Water Authority
  - e. Future Meetings:
    - i. Kansas Water Authority: May 17-18, 2017; Garden City
    - ii. Great Bend Prairie RAC: TBD
  - f. Great Bend Prairie RAC Planner Update
- 8. Adjourn**

*Note: underlined items are action items for RAC*



900 SW Jackson Street  
Topeka, KS 66612

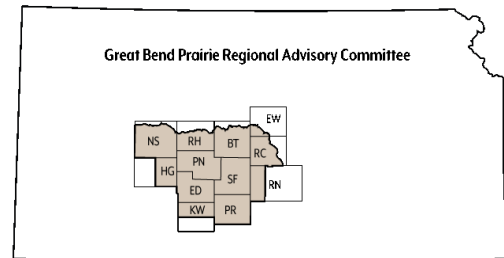
Tracy Streeeter, Director

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Sam Brownback, Governor

For Immediate Release:  
June 19, 2017

For More Information:  
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## **Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee Meeting in Lyons** *June 27, 10 a.m. at the City Council Chambers*

The Kansas Water Office's (KWO) Great Bend Prairie 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 Tuesday, June 27, 10 a.m., at the City Administration Building – City Council Chambers at 201 W. Main Street in Lyons, Kansas. Items of discussion at the meeting will include the upcoming Central Kansas Lower Quality Water Summit, Feed Wheat Action Plan Implementation Update, Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Conservation FY18 County Allocations, and property value information for irrigated cropland from the Kansas Department of Revenue.

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.*



# Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

**Great Bend Prairie Regional Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**10:00 a.m., February 13, 2017**  
**Big Bend GMD #5 Office**  
**125 S. Main Street, Stafford, KS**

## Members Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Berry Bortz (Chair)	Preston, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2019	Yes
Jay Dill	Kinsley, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2017	Yes
Daniel Filbert	Macksville, KS	Agriculture 2	2017	Yes
Orrin Feril	Stafford, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2017	Yes
John Haas	Larned, KS	At Large Public 2	2019	No
Jeremiah Hobbs	LaCrosse, KS	Watershed Protection	2019	Yes
Jeff Holste	Burdett, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2017	Yes
Lane Massey	Larned, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2017	No
Keith Miller	Barton Co., KS	Agriculture 3	2019	Yes
Roger Mohr	Albert, KS	Groundwater Irrigation	2019	No
John Sweet	Lyons, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019	Yes
Tom Turner	St. John, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2017	Yes
Taggart Wall	Sterling, KS	Public Water Supply 4	2017	No

## Others in attendance:

Name	Affiliation
Jeff Lanterman	KDA-DWR
Brian Kluger	USGS
Sheldon Hightower	NRCS
Rita Schartz	NRCS
Erin Batman	NRCS
Matt Unruh	KWO

- Welcome and Introductions:** Chair Berry Bortz welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. Everyone present provided introductions of themselves.
- Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of Agenda:** Verbal concurrence of approval was given on the agenda as presented.
- Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Approval of October 2016 Meeting Notes:** Orrin Feril made the motion to approve the October 2016 meeting notes, seconded by Keith Miller. The motion carried and the meeting notes were approved as presented.

**Membership:** Berry Bortz, Chair, Preston, KS; Jay Dill, Kinsley, KS; Daniel Filbert, Macksville, KS; Orrin Feril, Stafford, KS; John Haas, Larned, KS; Jeremiah Hobbs, La Crosse, KS; Jeff Holste, Burdett, KS; Lane Massey, Larned, KS; Keith Miller, Barton County; Roger Mohr, Albert, KS; John Sweet, Lyons, KS; Tom Turner, St. John, KS; Taggart Wall, Sterling, KS  
**KWO Planner:** Matt Unruh. 785-296-3185 [matt.unruh@kwo.ks.gov](mailto:matt.unruh@kwo.ks.gov)

## 4. Regional Activities and Other Updates

- a. January KWA Update: Chair Berry Bortz and Matt Unruh (KWO) provided an update of the January 2017 KWA meeting which took place in Topeka. On January 24, KWA and RAC members participated in meetings with legislators to provide briefings on Regional Goal Action Plans, the John Redmond Reservoir Dredging Project, other Reservoir-related activities, Ogallala-High Plains Aquifer activities, Statewide water resources education and outreach, water reuse and low quality water, the State Water Plan Fund & Budget, and the Blue Ribbon Funding Task Force.

On January 25, the John Redmond Reservoir Dredging Project, the Quivira Impairment, a NSF Grant on Produced Water at KU, and hydrosuction technology for reservoir sedimentation were all discussed.

- b. Regional Goal Action Plan Implementation Discussion: The RAC and others in attendance discussed topics relating to implementation of the Regional Goal Action Plans for the Great Bend Prairie. Discussion on the Action Plans focused on the following:

- Goal 1: Desire to get information on appropriated vs annual water use from 1993 to current. Orrin Ferel made the motion, seconded by Keith Miller, to request from KDA – DWR on the township level the average water use and appropriation from 1993 to 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

There was also interest expressed to get safe yield information for the planning region as well. Tom Turner made the motion, seconded by Keith Miller, to request from KDA – DWR on the township level safe yield data for the planning region. Motion carried with 1 vote in opposition.

- Goal 3: A number of the surrounding RACs have Action Plans associated with sources of lower quality or contaminated water. There was interest expressed by the RAC to have a joint meeting among the Red Hills, Equus-Walnut and potentially the Smoky Hill-Saline to discuss the topic in greater detail and explore the opportunity for collaboration among the participating RACs.
  - Goal 5: In order to evaluate this Action Plan it first needs to be determined the area of each watershed district currently controlled by watershed structures as well the area to be controlled by planned structures.
- c. Quivira Impairment and Hays Transfer Discussion: Orrin Ferel provided an update on the status of the Quivira Impairment. He mentioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had rejected GMD5's initial proposal of 1,500 acre-ft/15 cfs wellfield to deliver water to various locations within Quivira. GMD5 continues to work to develop a plan acceptable to USFWS.

On the Hays Transfer, Orrin mentioned that there was nothing new to report and that a response was still being waited on from DWR regarding the next step in the process as well as holding of a water transfer hearing.

## 5. Other Business

- a. Agency reports on items not previously discussed: None provided.

- b. RAC Membership: Matt Unruh discussed members with 2017 expiring terms and the potential process for RAC membership to be utilized. It was also discussed that Roger Mohr and Lane Massey would likely no longer serve on the RAC.
  - c. Questions and Future Issues from Members: None noted
  - d. Messages to the Kansas Water Authority: No formal messages provided.
6. **Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:52 pm.

DRAFT