

MEMO



DATE: August 09, 2016
TO: Neosho RAC Members
FROM: Bobbi Luttjohann, Kansas Water Office
CC: Neosho RAC Advisors
RE: August 19, 2016 RAC Meeting

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Topeka, KS 66612
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Fax: (785) 296-0878
www.kwo.org

The meeting of the Neosho Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) will be held **at 1:00 p.m., Friday, August 19, 2016 at Emporia Service Center, 3020 W. 18th Ave., Emporia, KS.**

The main item of discussion will be the Proposed Draft Action Plan for the Neosho Regional Goals Implementation.

Enclosed are materials for the August 19, 2016 meeting:

- Agenda
- July Meeting Notes
- Press Release

If you cannot attend, or have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting, please contact me by telephone at (785) 296-3185 or by e-mail at bobbi.luttjohann@kwo.ks.gov.

Neosho Regional Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda
August 19, 2016
Emporia Service Center
3020 W 18th Ave.
Emporia, KS 66801-6191
1:00pm

1. Welcome and Introductions (5 min)
2. Review of July Meeting Notes (5 min)
3. Priority Goals
 - a. Action Plan for Priority Goals (60 min)
 - i. Review of Proposed Draft Action Plan
 1. Discussion
 2. Vote to approve the Draft Action Plan as to be presented to the KWA
4. Questions and Future Issues from Members (15 min)
5. Agency and Public Input (5 min)
6. Future Meetings
 - a. Kansas Water Authority: August 31st – September 1st: Anderson Building, Lyon County Fairgrounds,
2650 US-50, Emporia, KS
 - b. Neosho RAC: Date: _____ Time: _____ Location: _____



Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

9:00am, Thursday, July 28, 2016

Chanute City Offices

Alliance Room (3rd floor)

101 S. Lincoln, Chanute, KS

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Angela Anderson (Chair)	Allen, KS	WRAPs	2019	Yes
Joe Buchanan	Council Grove, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2017	Yes
Jay Byers	Pittsburg, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2017	Yes
Phillip Cooper	Emporia, KS	Water Assurance District	2019	Yes
Wes Fleming	Burlington, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	Yes
John Hough	Cherokee, KS	Industry/Commerce	2017	Yes
Gary Kilgore	Chanute, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2019	No
Brian Obermeyer	Cottonwood Falls, KS	Conservation/Environment	2019	Yes
Larry Paine	Hillsboro, KS	At Large Public	2019	Yes
Nik Roth	Emporia, KS	Agriculture Industry	2017	No
Pat Sauble	Cedar Point, KS	Agriculture	2017	Yes
James Triplett	Pittsburg, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2017	No

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Katie Tietsort	KDA/DWR
Terry Medley	KDA/DWR
Julie Carey	USACE
Clifford Thornton	USDA-NRCS
Bruce Wells	NRCS
Andy Lyons	KDHE
Ginger Harper	KWO
Nathan Westrup	KWO
Bobbi Luttjohann	KWO

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson, Angela Anderson. All present provided self-introductions. Angela announced there will be a tour of the City of Chanute WTP after the meeting for those that are interested.
- Review of the June Meeting Notes:** The minutes from the June meeting were discussed. There were no corrections or additions.
- Angela Anderson (Chair) stated that Pete Peterson (Grazing/Ranching) had passed away and his position needs to be filled. She also mentioned that the RAC could fill the Grazing/Ranching position that is currently being represented or the RAC could choose to create a new category to be represented on the RAC. Angela asked the RAC to think about possible nominations and categories and discussion would continue after the Draft Plan was discussed.

Membership: Angela Anderson, Chair, Allen, KS; Joe Buchanan, Council Grove, KS; Jay Byers, Pittsburg, KS; Phillip Cooper, Emporia, KS; Wes Fleming, Burlington, KS; John Hough, Cherokee, KS; Gary Kilgore, Chanute, KS; Brian Obermeyer, Cottonwood Falls, KS; Larry Paine, Hillsboro, KS; Nik Roth, Emporia, KS; Pat Sauble, Cedar Point, KS; James Triplett, Pittsburg, KS

KWO Planner: Bobbi Luttjohann, 785-296-3185; bobbi.luttjohann@kwo.ks.gov

4. Priority Goal:

- a. **Action Plan for Priority Goals:** Nathan Westrup (KWO) presented information about supply and demand and reservoir operations. After reviewing the information that was presented at the June meeting, Nathan discussed what additional modeling, population, supply, storage use, etc. work that will or could be done. Nathan will provide maps, projections, and other related information once it is finalized. That information will be sent out to the RAC via email.
- b. **Review of Proposed Draft Action Plan:** The RAC reviewed the current draft plan that was proposed during the previous RAC meetings and via email. The RAC discussed changes offered by Wes Fleming, Gary Kilgore, and Larry Paine, via email. The RAC then discussed the drafting of the Action Plan:

Goal 1: Prolong the water supply storage in John Redmond Reservoir to the year 2065 by reducing the sedimentation rate by an average of 300 acre-feet per year through watershed practices such as no-till, filter strips and streambank stabilization. By 2025, all streambank hotspots will be stabilized. By 2030, 80% of the priority cropland in need of conservation will be treated with no-till practices.

Plan

The Kansas Water Office is directed to work with the Streambank Team (KWO, KDHE, and KDA-DOC) to stabilize all streambank hotspots by 2025 in the Cottonwood-Neosho Region above John Redmond Reservoir. Funds will need to be created to fund the stabilization of the streambanks each year to complete reaches in order as they proceed from the reservoir.

The Kansas Water Office, in cooperation with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the Kansas Department of Agriculture-Department of Conservation, and the local WRAPS groups, is directed to treat 80% of priority cropland with no-till practices, and other sedimentation reduction practices, by 2030 in the Cottonwood-Neosho Region above John Redmond Reservoir. Additional funds will need to be created to fund this action as well.

As a component of this plan a review of the sedimentation rate of John Redmond Reservoir will be evaluated. This evaluation will include scheduling and completing a bathymetric survey every 5 years and installing sedimentation monitoring stations to monitor the sedimentation rate and the progress and benefit of sedimentation reduction practices.

As an additional component, the effectiveness of best management practices for effects on hydrology and reduction of sediment and nutrients will be assessed and the information and education will be provided to those implementing practices. The education and information portion can be accomplished through the implementation of a Water Technology Farm (WTF) that incorporates no-till practices and other additional BMPs, and a possible streambank stabilization project.

Bonding would be the best method to ensure that there are funds available each year. Bonds should be sought at an amount no less than 8.5 million/year.

Goal 4: Increase storage in basin below John Redmond through development of additional storage sites. By 2020, complete an assessment of potential reservoir sites in lower portion of the Neosho planning region; including potential off-stream storage sites.

Plan

The Kansas Water Office is directed to create a report by December 31, 2017 to determine the feasibility of development of additional storage sites in the Cottonwood-Neosho Region below John Redmond Reservoir. The report will include possible locations of off-stream storage sites, other possible sources of supply, including groundwater sources and pumping water from other Regions, and the benefit of creating additional storage based on quantity provided and associated costs. As part of the report Grand River Dam Authority will be encompassed into the conversation to discuss supply and funding options.

Goal 2: Reduce vulnerability to drought by the increasing reservoir storage at Marion and Council Grove Reservoirs through a permanent raise in conservation pool elevation. By 2025, evaluate the feasibility of permanent conservation pool rise at Marion and Council Grove reservoirs. Based on the outcome and findings of the feasibility study, stage increases in permanent pool elevation based on supply needs. Ensure water supply available from storage exceeds projected demand by at least 10% through the year 2050.

Goal 3: Reduce frequency of algal blooms in Marion Reservoir to no more than every 3 years through 2035. Evaluate the role of water level fluctuations in remediating and reducing algal bloom frequency.

Plan

The Kansas Water Office will continually work with the US Army Corps of Engineers on refining reservoir operations and developing Drought Contingency Plans.

A working group will be created that provides input on the pool rises at Marion, Council Grove, and John Redmond Reservoirs and the algal blooms at Marion. This group will include the KWO, KDWP&T, KDHE, NRCS, USACE, and USFW.

The working group will look at costs associated with the pool rises and the benefits of increased supply.

The working group will look at costs associated with algal blooms at Marion and determine the methods that would lead to a reduction in blooms.

Based on the input from the working group and the cost benefit ratio, the feasibility of the pool rises at Marion, Council Grove, and John Redmond Reservoirs will be determined by 2025. Based on that determination, a reallocation study may be implemented.

Based on the input from the working group and the cost benefit ratio, the feasibility of algal bloom reduction will be determined.

Goal 5: Every five years, assess the effectiveness of best management practices for effects on hydrology, reduction of sediment and nutrient, and provide that information and education to those implementing practices. Assessments may include off-stream storage for sediment and nutrient trapping, overland erosion and nutrient sequestration, in reservoir sediment and nutrient movement and re-suspension, and landscape scale watershed modeling project.

This goal is met as the other goals' plans are implemented.

- 5. RAC Membership:** The RAC discussed nominating a new member to fill the position being left vacant by the passing of Pete Peterson. The RAC would like to keep the current category of Ranching/Grazing. Shawn Tiffany was suggested as a possible candidate. Joe Buchanan (PWS) will contact him. If Shawn does not accept the nomination KLA will be contacted.

6. Questions and Future Issues from Members or Agencies:

Brian Obermeyer (Conservation/Environment) reported that they have been working on the restoration of the Cedar Point Mill with incorporation of a fish passage. They are currently looking at a feasibility study to determine funding needs and possibilities.

7. Agency and Public Input:

Julie Carey (USACE) reported that the USACE is working towards changing how environmental projects are funded. Julie stated with the change there is more possible local control. Julie then stated she could possibly add streambank stabilization work as a budget item for possible future funding. She also mentioned that KSU is funding an experimental farm near Neosho Rapids and could be contacted to partner on a possible WTF.

Clifford Thornton (NRCS): reported that EQUIP and stewardship applications are being reviewed and distributed.

Bruce Wells: reported that water supply rehabilitation is now an authorized activity under the PL-566 Program. Bruce explained the rehabilitation and water supply process for the PL-566 program. Bruce also mentioned the assistance that could be provided to look at PL-566 rehabilitation, including bathymetry work.

8. Future Meetings:

- a. Kansas Water Authority: August 31st (Tour) and September 1st (KWA meeting): Anderson Building, Lyon County Fairgrounds, 2650 US-50, Emporia, KS.
- b. Neosho RAC: The RAC will hold a meeting in mid-August to finalize the Proposed Draft Action Plan. The RAC would like a tour of a streambank stabilization project at the August RAC meeting. Therefore, the next meeting will be held in Emporia at a location TBD. A Doodle Poll will be sent out to determine the best possible date and time for the RAC to meet.

900 SW Jackson Street
Topeka, KS 66612



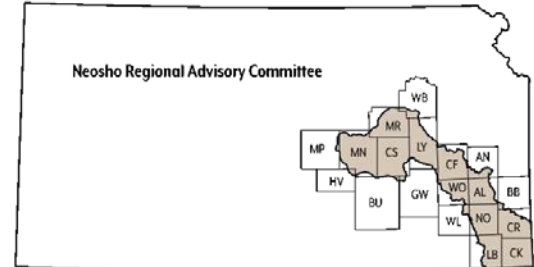
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Tracy Streeter, Director

Sam Brownback, Governor

For Immediate Release:
Aug. 9, 2016

For More Information:
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Neosho Regional Advisory Committee to Meet in Emporia *Aug. 19, 1 p.m., Emporia Service Center*

The Kansas Water Office's (KWO) Neosho Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) is set to meet Friday, Aug. 19 to discuss current water issues affecting the region as well as the state.

The RAC plans to meet at 1:00 p.m. in the Emporia Service Center, 3020 W. 18th Ave., Emporia, Kansas. The main focus of the meeting will be continued development of action plans to meet regional goals.

The agenda and meeting materials will be available at 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.