

Red Hills Regional Advisory Committee

February 16, 2017 9:00 am

Medicine Lodge, Kansas

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Agenda
3. Review Meeting Notes
4. Regional Advisory Committee
Membership
5. KWA Update- December and January meetings
Annual Report to Governor and Legislature
6. Regional Plans And Statewide Vision - updates
Legislation and activities- tentative DWR
Lake Project
Pilot Reuse Project
Other, if any
7. Public Comments
8. Future Meetings
 - a. Kansas Water Authority: May 17-18, 2017, Garden City KS; RAC Chair or designee attend
 - b. Next RAC: Date: _____ Time: _____

Note: underlined items are action items for the RAC

Google Maps 121 S Main St Medicine Lodge KS - The Peoples Bank Sunflower Room



9/11/2015

MEMO



DATE: February 1, 2017
TO: Red Hills Regional Advisory Committee Members
FROM: Diane Knowles
CC: Red Hills Agency Advisors
RE: February 16, 2017 Meeting

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The meeting of the Red Hills Regional Advisory Committee will be held on **Thursday February 16, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Barber County Annex Meeting Room, 211 East Kansas in Medicine Lodge, Kansas.**

The meeting will focus on the next phase the Red Hills Regional Goals, implementation of the action plan. I am happy to report that the Kansas Water Authority approved the final regional action plans at their August 31-Sept.1 for inclusion in the Kansas Water Plan.

This meeting will focus on RAC operations and updates related to the action plans.

This past year has been a busy in regard to water with the usual KWA and RAC meetings as well as the special funding and education committees' work. Documents that summarize recent work to address water issues in Kansas are linked for your reference. The Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature that is a good summary of activities and accomplishments can be found [here](#). The Blue Ribbon Funding Task Force Report can be found at http://www.kwo.org/Vision/BRTF/Rpt_BRFTF_Final_011217.pdf. And the Water Vision Education Supplement at <http://www.kwo.org/Vision/Education/Education%20and%20Public%20Outreach%20Supplement%2011-7-16.pdf>

Enclosed please find:

- Agenda
- Meeting notes - June 2016
- Conference call notes - July 2016

If you have any questions or need additional information prior to the meeting, feel free to contact me at Diane.knowles@kwo.ks.gov or give me a call at 785/296-0864.

Red Hills Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

8:00 am July 19, 2016
Conference call Kansas

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Present
Suzanne Drouhard (Chair)	Danville, KS	Agriculture (cc)	Yes
Clark Bibb	Coldwater, KS	At Large Public West	Yes
Ken Brunson	Pratt, KS	Fish and Wildlife	Yes
Jim Harden	Clark County, KS	At Large Public (cc)	No
Amber Horbelt	Anthony, KS	Local Government	Yes
Hi Lewis	Wichita, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	No
Larry Mangan	Wellington, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	Yes
Vacant		Agriculture (cc)	
Mark Watts	Medicine Lodge, KS	Industry/Commerce	No
Phil White	Wellington, KS	At large Public East	No
Jay Zimmerman	South Haven, KS	At Large Public	No

Others in attendance:

Diane Knowles (KWO)

Agenda: accepted as presented.

Review of Regional Action Plan: Discussion on the draft action plan resulted in consensus that it was ready for final approval by KWA.

Amber Horbelt made the motion to approve the Red Hills Action plan as presented for KWA approval. Larry Mangan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 am.

Red Hills Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

9:00 am June 28, 2016
Medicine Lodge Kansas

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Present
Suzanne Drouhard (Chair)	Danville, KS	Agriculture (cc)	Yes
Clark Bibb	Coldwater, KS	At Large Public West	No
Ken Brunson	Pratt, KS	Fish and Wildlife	Yes
Jim Harden	Clark County, KS	At Large Public (cc)	No
Amber Horbelt	Anthony, KS	Local Government	Yes
Hi Lewis	Wichita, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	Yes
Larry Mangan	Wellington, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	No
Vacant		Agriculture (cc)	
Mark Watts	Medicine Lodge, KS	Industry/Commerce	Yes
Phil White	Wellington, KS	At large Public East	Yes
Jay Zimmerman	South Haven, KS	At Large Public	No

Others in attendance:

Sheldon Hightower (NRCS), Cameron Conant (KDA-DWR), Scott Alberg (KCC), Allison Herring (KDHE), Rich Basore (KDHE), Steve Garten (BA CO), Dollie Mathes (Sunflower H2O & RC&D), Harold Kline (Sunflower H2O), Jeff Porter (City of Medicine Lodge), Tim Hellman, Katie Goff (KWO), Kelsee Wheeler (KWO) and Diane Knowles (KWO)

Welcome and Introductions: Suzanne Drouhard welcomed everyone to the RAC meeting Self introductions were made.

Agenda: accepted as presented.

Review of March meeting Notes: Meeting notes were accepted.

Review of Water Use Reduction Regional Goal: Discussion on the draft action plan in regard to water use, the history and trends of water uses, streamflow/baseflow and possible methods to fill the information gaps. Information was also provide on various tools and programs that aid in reducing water use.

Multipurpose Small Lake Goal

Industry related Goals (3 & 4)

Produced water Overview was provided in mailing materials. There were no questions or comments.

Industry Activities to reduce freshwater use and utilize produced water were only briefly discussed by Diane reading Hi Lewis email and document provided. A summary of his email about a pilot project to recycle produced oilfield water somewhere in the Red Hills area follows. Skid-mounted plants would be used so a test could be conducted just about anywhere. The perfect place to treat would be a place where produced water is available (transportation of produced oilfield water is a MAJOR component of the cost and risk of treatment) AND near a place where the treated water can be released onto the surface and used by local farmers/ranchers. Technology can treat to just about any water quality standards that users need, but the plant under consideration does not get the water to drinking water standards. Help from

the State is needed to know where the treated water can be released and who can use it for what purpose, and of course, from someone in the Red Hills area to recommend/approve the same things.

Future meeting dates: conference call for final review of action plan in July. Next meeting to be determined after August KWA review of action plan.

Priority Goals

KWA feedback on regional goals: Amber Kummer reported on the April KWA meeting and status of and comments on regional action plans.

Blue Ribbon Task Force: Diane Knowles provided a brief explanation of the working draft funding for the state Water Plan under development by the Task Force. The table is available at <http://www.kwo.org/BlueRibbonTaskForce.html>

Timeline for Action Plans: Diane Knowles provided an overview for action plan final development timeline. KWA has August and October meetings scheduled to review and approve regional action plans. Once approved by KWA, action plans activities will be incorporated into the *Kansas Water Plan*.

Water Use Reduction Regional Goal: Discussion occurred on the draft action plan in regard to adding back in details that had been simplified and adding steps and or word to clarify intentions.

Specific discussion included:

- Using the 10-year average water use for the period ending 2015 as baseline for water use.
- Streamflow gages and measurements to better identify changes in streamflow contributions from tributaries to main stream to aid in evaluation usage effect on baseflow. Specifically a continuous monitoring gage on Elm Creek prior to entering the Medicine Lodge River. The present USGS gage locations do not provide this.
- Experts identifying additional locations;
- May need more streamflow measurements/locations in regard to the Lake project.

Ken Brunson reported the fire destroyed the heart of the red cedar infestation in Barber County and with the snow and rain that followed the rangeland is recovering nicely. There are local efforts working to aid in removal of dead trees as well as replace fences. Many landowners have reported stream flow returning after the fire.

The Nature Conservancy and K-State are working to delineate the area of burned trees, and compare streamflows and rangeland effects with that of the area to the west. NRCS and NFWS are hoping to partner to offer cost-share for clearing live cedars and maybe dead cedars. The RCPP \$3.6 million project will probably roll out in 2017.

Conservation Programs were discussed by Sheldon Hightower, NRCS-Hutchinson Regional Office. Major programs for this region include: A woody debris practice in 2017; Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) for Climate Change Mitigation will monitor rain; other EQIP programs including prescribed burn and brush removal practices.

In addition, FSA is offering emergency funding for fence rebuilding.

Lake Goal (Goal 2)

Mark Watts spoke on behalf of local leadership for lake development. Sunflower H2O will assume leadership with Sunflower RC&D acting as the fiduciary and contracting agency. Sunflower H2O will call on counties and water suppliers to determine interest and monetary support. Propose to use the HorseThief reservoir and Benefit District as a

model. See the project as benefiting the areas with future water supply, economic development, quality of life, water supply during drought and possibly a hydropower component.

The RAC was in agreement to add leadership identity to the action plan.

Industry Water Use Goals (3 & 4)

Hi Lewis explained the pilot produced water treatment project status and challenges. The project would operate for 60 days with water sampling required each day by KDHE. Approximately 200 barrels would be treated per eight hour day. Estimated cost is \$300,000-\$800,000 depending on leasing of equipment. Anticipate operating next summer.

Tim Hellman was present operator with produced water for treatment. Location under consideration (willing landowner) would use the treated water for livestock, but has no irrigation.

RAC was in agreement to add actions to Goal 3 to encourage reuse by well owners/operators for fracking by contacting all well owners, requesting voluntary use of treated produced water for fracking and providing well owners with information.

Add to Goal 4 action to identify storage sites for freshwater storage for fracking activities of oil and gas operators.

No public comments or agency reports.

The next meeting will be a conference call to finalize the regional goals action plan, sometime in July.