



Cimarron Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Cimarron Regional Advisory Committee Meeting
2 pm October 28, 2015
Liberal, Kansas

Members in Attendance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Proposed Category</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Present</i>
Nick Hatcher	Liberal, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	Yes
Trista Brown	Satanta, KS	At Large Public	2017	No
Michael Bryant	SW, HS, GR, ME, ST Counties	Agriculture 2	2019	Yes
Calvin Burke	Liberal, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019	Yes
Kirk Heger	Hugoton, KS	Irrigation	2017	Yes
Brian Hemann	Hugoton, KS	Agricultural Industry	2019	Yes
Matt Higgins	Elkhart, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2017	Yes
Danny Law	Ulysses, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2019	Yes
Rosanne Price	Meade, KS	At Large Public	2019	Yes
Bret Rooney	Satanta, KS	Groundwater Management	2017	Yes
Jim Sipes	Stanton County, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2017	No
Ellen Verell	Meade, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2017	Yes

Others in attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Randy Hayzlett	KWA	Lane Letourneau	KDA-DWR
Greg Graff	KWA	Matt Shelor	KDHE
Jason Norquest	GMD3	Jonathan Aguilar	KSU R&E
Mike Meyer	KDA-DWR	Sammy Cope	-
		Gary Boldt	-

Welcome and Introductions: Nick Hatcher welcomed everyone to the first RAC meeting. Self introductions were made by everyone.

Committee Expectations: were reviewed briefly by Tracy Streeter highlighting committee member roles and the process for development of the *Kansas Water Plan*.

Review of Regional Goals as approved by the KWA (in mailing materials) highlighted the four goals. Discussion was held on the Goals developed by the Goal Team and approved by KWA for the Region.

Discussion included comments related to educational needs to inform on the outdated “use it or lose it philosophy”; the need to document existing/previous conservation efforts by individual water users; include rainfall component when evaluating usage; DWR’s importance in getting accurate information to water users; conservation of water is linked to conservation of soil - use old technology/practices that still work (example: terraces and dams); develop flexible plans for each producer; and layman definition of impairment.

Regional Implementation:

Consensus that Goal 3 (flexibility for conservation) be the “umbrella” for implementation of Goal 1 – Reduce the decline rate of the Ogallala Aquifer through; Goal 2- extend usable life of the Ogallala Aquifer, and Goal 4 – Measure through adoption of irrigation technology and crop varieties.

Membership: Nick Hatcher, Chair, Liberal, KS; Trista Brown, Satanta, KS; Michael Bryant; Calvin Burke, Liberal, KS; Kirk Heger, Hugoton, KS; Brian Hemann, Hugoton, KS; Matt Higgins, Elkhart, KS; Danny Law, Ulysses, KS; Rosanne Price, Meade, KS; Bret Rooney, Satanta, KS; Jim Sipes, Manter, KS; Ellen Verell, Meade, KS; **KWO Planner:** Diane Knowles, 785-296-3185

Discussion of implementation highlighted education by sharing as information becomes available:

- The need to educate water users on new technologies (local paper, extension)
- Include municipal and industrial users
- Improve municipal conservation plans
- Water Conservation Area (WCA) information out with water use reports
- Use producer groups
- K-State
- Local demonstration of technology/demo farms in region
- RCPP program availability with in GMDs – soil probes
- CIG program
- Research Dragon line statistics so funds could become available for it and other technology upgrades

Vision Implementation – Water Conservation Areas and Proposed Rules and Regulation Changes: Lane Letourneau, Kansas Department of Agriculture- Division of Water Resources (DWR) reviewed upcoming and proposed rule changes (in mailing). DWR is moving forward with the rules to close GMD3 to new appropriations. Clarification of Water Conservation Areas (WCAs) occurred. There are about 10 WCAs in processing now. It is anticipated to take 2-3 months to get a WCA set up.

The overriding comment on rule changes was that limiting moves is not supported in this region, spacing already stops “chasing water”.

HB 2245 (Impairment Rule) introduced in 2015 and recently discussed in an interim committee was discussed. The bill requires administrative remedies be exhausted before going to court/ injunction over impairment.

The Cimarron Regional Advisory Committee unanimously passed a motion to request KWA conduct a review of HB 2245 and consider supporting the concept embodied in the bill.

Questions/Future Issues form Members:

Ellen Verell brought forward a KRWA article on a Bill to Ban Microbeads approved by a US House of Representatives subcommittee. The bill would phase out microbeads in personal care items starting January 1, 2018.

Jonathon Aguilar announced a December 5, 2015 workshop at SWCC on efficient landscape irrigation.

Adjournment: At 3:45 pm.