

Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Republican Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

10:00 am, Monday, October 19, 2015

Colby Community Building, 285 E. 5th, Colby, KS

DRAFT

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Jon Starns (Chair)	Oakley, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2019	Yes
Brian Baalman	Menlo, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2017	Yes
Shannon Cain	Colby, KS	Groundwater Management	2019	Yes
Gary Fisher	Atwood, KS	Local Government	2017	Yes
Mike Frakes	Morland, KS	At Large Public 2	2017	Yes
Jered Johnson	Colby, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2017	No
Ken McCarty	Rexford, KS	Agriculture Industry	2019	Yes
Sid Metcalf	Oberlin, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2019	Yes
Mike Schultz	Brewster, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019	Yes
Justin Sloan	Colby, KS	Agriculture 2	2017	Yes
Jacob Wood	Oakley, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2017	No

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Kelly Stewart	KDA/DWR
Steve Frost	KDA/DOC
Ray Luhman	GMD No. 4
Dan Wells	KDHE
Tracy Streeter	KWO
Katie Goff	KWO

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson, Jon Starns. All present provided self-introductions.
2. **Committee Expectations:** Tracy Streeter (KWO) presented to the Upper Republican RAC on the following:
 - a. Expectation for Members
 - b. Kansas Water Authority Process and Involvement
 - c. Overall Process
 - d. Committee Tools
 - a. Technical Options
 - b. Meeting Format
 - c. Communication

There was discussion about how the RACs would operate and coordinate with the KWA. There was also discussion on the meeting format, length, and expectations. Tracy presented a PowerPoint that can be viewed on the KWO website: http://www.kwo.org/RACs/2015_RAC_Sept_Oct_MeetingMaterials/Regional%20Advisory%20Committee_Expectations_ed1.pdf

3. **Review of Regional Goals:** The RAC discussed the Upper Republican Regional Goals (found here http://www.kwo.org/RACs/GOALS_RAC_August2015.pdf) that had been set previously by the Regional Goal Leadership Teams. The RAC reviewed each goal and then chose Goal 1: “Develop and adopt a water conservation management plan that provides maximum flexibility while reducing overall actual use, in concert with GMD 4, to extend the aquifer life and economic well-being by January 1, 2017. Utilize a time-phased implementation approach, not less than 2 years or greater than 5 years, to phase in conservation measures to lessen economic impacts and allow user transition. Conservation Plan shall address all types of use while considering flexibility tools and overall actual reduction.” Goal 2: “Enhance current efforts on education of all water users for all age groups on sources of supply, quantity of supply, best management practices, etc. to help stakeholders conserve and extend.” and Goal 4: “Increase utilization and adoption of water conservation technology and practices by 10% by 2020. Actively seek annual funding to ensure successful achievement of goal.” as the priority goals the RAC would focus on and present to the KWA at the December 17th meeting in Ellsworth.
4. **Regional Implementation:** As the priority goals were being chosen, the RAC discussed methods and timelines of implementation for the goals.
5. **Review and Public Comment on Regulations:** Kansas Department of Agriculture: Kelly Stewart (DWR-KDA) reviewed regulation changes proposed by KDA and asked for any feedback the RAC could provide.
6. **Questions and Future Issues from Members:** Mike Frakes: Discussed the implementation of the regional goals, including emphasizing education and technology as the top priorities. Shannon Cain: discussed the GMD No. 4’s role in the area. Justin Sloan: discussed soil moisture probes as possible technology tool to reach regional goals.
7. **Future Meetings:**
 - a. Governor’s Conference November 18th and 19th; Manhattan, KS
 - b. Kansas Water Authority: December 17th; Ellsworth, KS
 - c. Upper Republican RAC: To be determined