

Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Upper Smoky Hill Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

2:00 pm, Tuesday, October 20, 2015

William Carpenter 4-H Building, 608 Fair Ground Road, Scott City, KS

DRAFT

Members in Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Shane Mann (Chair)	Quinter, KS	Irrigation	2019	Yes
Lonnie Busch	Leoti, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2017	No
Kurt Maurath	Logan County, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2017	Yes
Frank Mercurio	Scott City, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2019	Yes
Maurice Miller	Healy, KS	Agriculture Industry	2019	Yes
Mike Todd	Scott City, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2019	No
Farrin Watt	Leoti, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2017	No
Danny Welsh	Wallace County, KS	Groundwater Management	2019	No
Scott Noll	Scott City, KS	At Large Public	2017	Yes

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Gary Boldt	Observer
Lynn Freese	Observer
Mike Meyer	KDA/DWR
Susan Metzger	KDA
Lane Letourneau	KDA/DWR
Greg Graff	GMD No.1
Kyle Spencer	GMD No.1
Tracy Streeter	KWO
Katie Goff	KWO

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson, Shane Mann. All present provided self-introductions.
2. **Committee Expectations:** Tracy Streeter (KWO) presented to the Upper Smoky Hill 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_edl.pdf

3. **Review of Regional Goals:** The RAC discussed the Upper Smoky Hill 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: “By 2025, reduce irrigation use by 25% based on recent average pumping history per water right. Allow water right transfers and other flexibilities as long as a net reduction is achieved. In addition, annual water use for all irrigation users will not exceed net irrigation requirement for that county.” as the priority goal the RAC would focus on and present to the KWA at the December 17th meeting in Ellsworth.
4. **Regional Implementation:** As the priority goal was being chosen, the RAC discussed methods and timelines of implementation for the goals.
5. **Review and Public Comment on Regulations:** Kansas Department of Agriculture: Susan Metzger (KDA) reviewed regulation changes proposed by KDA and asked for any feedback the RAC could provide.
6. **Questions and Future Issues from Members:** Gary Boldt: Questioned what opportunities might be available for the RAC to communicate with other RAC and discuss common issues and goals. Frank Mercurio: discussed the implementation of the regional goals, and what role the RAC would play in working towards those goals.
7. **Future Meetings:**
 - a. Governor’s Conference November 18th and 19th; Manhattan, KS
 - b. Kansas Water Authority: December 17th; Ellsworth, KS
 - c. Upper Smoky Hill RAC: To be determined