



Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

1:00 pm, Monday, December 07, 2015

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve

2480 KS-177, Strong City, KS

DRAFT

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	No
Gary Kilgore	Chanute, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2019	Yes
Brian Obermeyer	Cottonwood Falls, KS	Conservation/Environment	2019	Yes
Larry Paine	Hillsboro, KS	At Large Public	2019	Yes
Galen (Pete) Peterson	Burdick, KS	Ranching/Grazing	2019	No
Nik Roth	Emporia, KS	Agriculture Industry	2017	No
Pat Sauble	Cedar Point, KS	Agriculture	2017	Yes
James Triplett	Pittsburg, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2017	Yes

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Katie Tietsort	KDA/DWR
Terry Medley	KDA/DWR
Trevor Flynn	KDHE
Andy Lyons	KDHE
Jennifer Skyles	Lyon County Health Dept.
Bobbi Luttjohann	KWO

1. Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson, Angela Anderson. All present provided self-introductions. Brian Obermeyer welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve.

2. Agency Reports:

Andy Lyon (KDHE): stated that he did not have a s specific report for this meeting, but he noted that KDHE was here to support the RAC's efforts. In support of that effort he offered that if KDHE could provide information about the WRAPS programs or other KDHE programs he would be happy to help the RAC. Andy also noted that next round of funding for WRAPS is now beginning.

Jennifer Skyles (Lyon County Health): updated the RAC about the Lyon Health Department and the environmental health program. Jennifer reported that Lyon County still has the environmental health programs, but is no longer county affiliated, but is now a contracted service.

Trevor Flynn (KDHE): gave an update on the TMDL's and 303d list of 2016. Trevor noted they are in EPA review, which should be completed by April 1, 2016.

Katie Tietsort (KDA) and Terry Medley (KDA) reported that KDA is still working on the rules and regulation changes. They reported that there would be a webinar on Friday covering this. They then discussed the feedback received at the Governor's Conference held in Manhattan on November 18th and 19th.

3. Priority Goal:

a. The RAC discussed the Regional Goal that was set as the first goal to begin working on. The RAC discussed what items should be presented at the December 17th KWA. The following items were chosen to be a part of the presentation Angela (Chair) will provide to the KWA.

1. Background of goal.

a. Reasons why chosen

2. Information needed

- a. How many hotspots in the Neosho Region above John Redmond Reservoir.
- b. What the sedimentation rate is and what reduction is gained per hotspot.
- c. The cost associated per hotspot and reduction in sediment.
- d. The feasibility of completing all hotspot stabilization by 2025.
- e. Identify WRAPS group that would head up BMP portion.
- f. 9 element plan details associated with BMPs
- g. Estimate of percent of priority cropland already in no till practices.

3. Resources needed to provide asked for information:

- a. Hotspot report from KWO: Send report out then have glance session.
- b. Sedimentation reduction through WRAPS Program report from KDHE
- c. Report from showing cropland in no till from KDHE and/or DOC
- d. Landuse/cover report from KWO
- e. Last 3 years of streambank projects done within the Neosho Region with reported cost and reduction in sediment from the KWO.

4. Mention of Funding Sources: Stress the need for everyone to pay into the implementation of the goals, whether it be through a tax, joint payments, public funds, corporations and industries, etc. Need to research what funds are truly feasible sources.

5. Timeline: Provide all reports to the RAC by January 31, 2016.

Once reports have been received the RAC will be able to better able determine goal implementation strategies. The next meeting of the RAC will be mid-January. Discussion will continue then.

- b. Goal Prioritization for 2016 (Report at January, 2016 KWA Meeting): The following is a list of how the RAC will prioritize the Regional Goals for implementation, understanding that if opportunity is provided the Goals can be managed and implemented accordingly.
1. 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.
The RAC thought it would be beneficial to work on the implementation of this goal in conjunction with the Goal that was set as the first priority to work on, as they complement each other.
 2. 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.
The RAC believes that evaluation of the Lake Level Management Plans is important, as well as locating the source of the algal blooms. They also see it as a benefit to determine if a pool rise would be beneficial in reducing the occurrence of algal blooms.
 3. 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.
The RAC would need an update of where the Neosho Region is in reference to supply and demand. An update of the model would be needed. The Neosho RAC would like the KWO to seek out USACE opportunities for study and funding of reallocation if available. Due to the desire to see the benefits of a pool raise on water supply and algal bloom the RAC believes this goal should be implemented in conjunction with the above Goal (Goal 3).
 4. 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.
The RAC would like a review of the Reservoir Roadmap provided by the KWO.
- c. Committee Tools: It was discussed what the Neosho RAC needs to be a successful committee. Some things the RAC noted they would like were any reports with pertinent information to be sent out to the RAC members. The RAC would like links to the goals. Also the RAC would like a list of agencies that could provide resources to the RAC. It was also noted that it would be beneficial to have field trips to visit streambank hotspot sites, the John Redmond Reservoir Dredging Project, and no till practice examples.

4. Questions and Future Issues from Members:

Brian Obermeyer (Conservation/Environment) reported that the Nature Conservancy is hiring for a new stream coordinator position. Brian noted he will send a position description out in case there is someone of interest who would like to apply.

Jim Triplett: inquired about the Shoal Creek TMDL. Trevor Flynn (KDHE) mentioned the role Missouri plays in this. Jim then asked if there is a GIS map of all TMDL collection sites? Trevor affirmed there was and he would email it out. Jim then mentioned the RCPP program and asked if the DOC, KFS, or KDHE could report on the program. Andy Lyon (KDHE) gave a brief report and would give a full update at the next RAC meeting. Katie Tietz (KDA) noted that there should be a link of KDA website.

Pat Sauble: mentioned the earthquake that occurred during the Governor's Conference in Manhattan. Larry Paine mentioned there is now an app that reports on earthquakes.

5. Future Meetings:

- a. Kansas Water Authority: December 17th; Ellsworth, KS
- b. Kansas Water Authority: January 27th and 28th; Topeka, KS
- c. Neosho RAC: Date TBD (Doodle Poll will be sent out). Meeting will be held in Pittsburg, KS.



Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Neosho Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

10:00 am, Monday, September 28, 2015
David Traylor Zoo, 75 Soden Road, Emporia, KS

DRAFT

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	No
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
Galen (Pete) Peterson	Burdick, KS	Ranching/Grazing	2019	No
Nik Roth	Emporia, KS	Agriculture Industry	2017	No
Pat Sauble	Cedar Point, KS	Agriculture	2017	Yes
James Triplett	Pittsburg, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2017	Yes

Others in attendance:

Name	Agency
Katie Tietsort	KDA/DWR
Terry Medley	KDA/DWR
Trevor Flynn	KDHE
Earl Lewis	KWO
Bobbi Lutjohann	KWO

- Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson, Angela Anderson. All present provided self-introductions.
- David Traylor Zoo Education Presentation:** Angela Anderson (Chair) provided an overview and history of the David Traylor Zoo.
- Committee Expectations:** Earl Lewis (KWO) presented to the Neosho RAC on the following:
 - Expectation for Members
 - Kansas Water Authority Process and Involvement
 - Overall Process
 - Committee Tools
 - Technical Options
 - Meeting Format
 - Communication

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; Galen (Pete) Peterson, Burdick, KS; Nik Roth, Emporia, KS; Pat Sauble, Cedar Point, KS; James Triplett, Pittsburg, KS
KWO Planner: Bobbi Lutjohann, 785-296-3185; bobbi.luttjohann@kwo.ks.gov

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. Earl 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

4. **Review of Regional Goals:** The RAC discussed the Neosho 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: “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.” as the priority goal the RAC would focus on and present to the KWA at the December 17th meeting in Ellsworth.
5. **Regional Implementation:** As the priority goal was being chosen the RAC discussed methods and timelines of implementation for the goals.
6. **Review and Public Comment on Regulations:** Kansas Department of Agriculture: Katie Tietsort (DWR-KDA) and Terry Medley (DWR-KDA) reviewed regulation changes proposed by KDA and asked for any feedback the RAC could provide.
7. **Questions and Future Issues from Members:** Larry Paine: Discussed the implementation of the regional goals, including if implementation would require designing new policy and who would actually be doing the implementation. Jim Triplett: discussed the forestry grant as well as the GRDA funded programs.
8. **Future Meetings:**
 - a. Governor’s Conference November 18th and 19th; Manhattan, KS
 - b. Kansas Water Authority: December 17th; Ellsworth, KS
 - c. Neosho RAC: Monday, December 7, 2015 at 2 pm at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve