



Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Missouri Regional Advisory Committee Meeting
October 15, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
Exchange Bank Meeting Room, 712 Kansas
Atchison, Kansas

Members Attendance:

Name	City	Category	Term	Present
Carl Johnson (Chair)	Leavenworth, KS	Conservation/Environment (cc)	2019	Yes
John Bishop	Atchison, KS	Recreation	2019	Yes
Neil Coufal	Troy, KS	At Large Public (cc)	2017	Yes
Stephen Glaser	Atchison, KS	Industry/Commerce (cc)	2019	No
Jeffrey Grossenbacher	Bern, KS	Agriculture (cc)	2019	No
Carol Hughes	Seneca, KS	WRAPs	2017	Yes
Alan Kelley	White Cloud, KS	At Large Public 2	2019	Yes
Joel Mahnken	Leavenworth, KS	Public Water Supply (cc)	2017	Yes
Brett Neibling	Highland, KS	Agriculture 2	2019	Yes
Darcy Nightingale	Hiawatha, KS	Agriculture Industry	2017	Yes
Bill Shroyer	Sabetha, KS	Public Water Supply 2	2019	Yes
Luke Terry	Robinson, KS	Fish and Wildlife	2017	No
Michelle Wirth	Kansas City, KS	Public Water Supply 3	2017	Yes

Others in attendance:

Name	Town	Representing
Gary Satter	Wetmore	Glacial Hills RC&D
Judy Wegener-Stevens	White Cloud	DP CO Conservation District
Jake Geiger	Robinson	Self
Brett Bunger	Topeka	KDA-DWR
Chris Beitel	Manhattan	KDA-DWR
Tracy Streeter	Topeka	KWO
Margaret Fast	Topeka	KWO

Welcome and Introductions: Self introductions were made.

Committee Expectations:

Tracy Streeter went through the expectations of members, which includes the relationship as advisors to the Kansas Water Authority and Kansas Water Office, serving as eyes and ears within the region and as solicitors of public input. The committee will be working on implementation of the goals through the water planning process. Key dates are: Dec 17, 2015 –RAC chairs will share the first priority goal for which an action plan will be developed at the KWA meeting Spring, 2016 – Action plan completed. Fall, 2016 – plan of action developed for all goals that need one.

Review of Regional Goals (For your convenience, I have placed the goals at the end of these notes.) Carl provided an overview of the goals as established by the Regional Goal Leadership Team and adopted by the KWA. It was pointed out

Membership: Carl Johnson, Chair, Leavenworth, KS; John Bishop, Atchison, KS; Neil Coufal, Troy, KS; Stephen Glaser, Atchison, KS; Jeffery Grossenbacher, Bern, KS; Carol Hughes, Seneca, KS; Alan Kelley, White Cloud, KS; Joel Mahnken, Leavenworth, KS; Brett Neibling, Highland, KS; Darcy Nightingale, Hiawatha, KS; Bill Shroyer, Sabetha, KS; Luke Terry, Robinson, KS; Michelle Wirth, Kansas City, KS
KWO Planner: Margaret Fast, 785-296-3185; margaret.fast@kwo.ks.gov



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that a guiding principle was inadvertently omitted from the version included with the mailing. Brett moved and John seconded that the guiding principle as shown below be added. Motion passed.

Assure any future water transfers from the Missouri River be based upon the protection of the priority of water supplies in the Missouri region, protection of private property rights, protection of cultural and heritage sites and consideration of environmental impacts. Ensure any beneficiary of transferred water would have exhausted all other alternatives, including crop types, irrigation practices and all other appropriate conservation measures.

There was significant discussion about goals addressing both quantity and quality. It was recognized that the committee needs to know what information is available to help define the problem. Comments and questions were made about the overall lowering of the water levels, critical area for safe yield, increasing total organic carbon levels in the Missouri River, among others. Information about what is known will be gathered to assist the committee in the action plan development.

Priority Goals for Action:

The committee requested that all existing information about groundwater quantity in the region be organized and a summary provided to the committee and a scope of services be developed by the appropriate agency (KGS or other) to determine the existing groundwater quantity and availability in the region.

An action plan shall be developed that will focus on how to deal with quality of groundwater and surface water. John moved and Carol seconded a motion to that effect. Motion passed.

Vision Implementation:

Brett Bunger and Chris Beightel, KDA, were in attendance to review items that in most cases were raised during the discussion of the "Long-term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas." Input is being sought until Nov. 15 on the development of the regulations. Once the rules and regulations are drafted, there will again be opportunity for public input. Brett reviewed those items being addressed which are:

- Limiting Movement of Point of Diversion
- Civil Penalties for Exceeding Authorized Quantity
- Civil Fines for Lack of Water Use Report
- Authority to Seal Meters

Information on these items was included with the mailing material. The committee took issue with a statement that these did not impact this part of the state.

Chris reviewed Water Conservation Areas. Katie reviewed Rules and Regulations that the agency is developing

Next Meeting

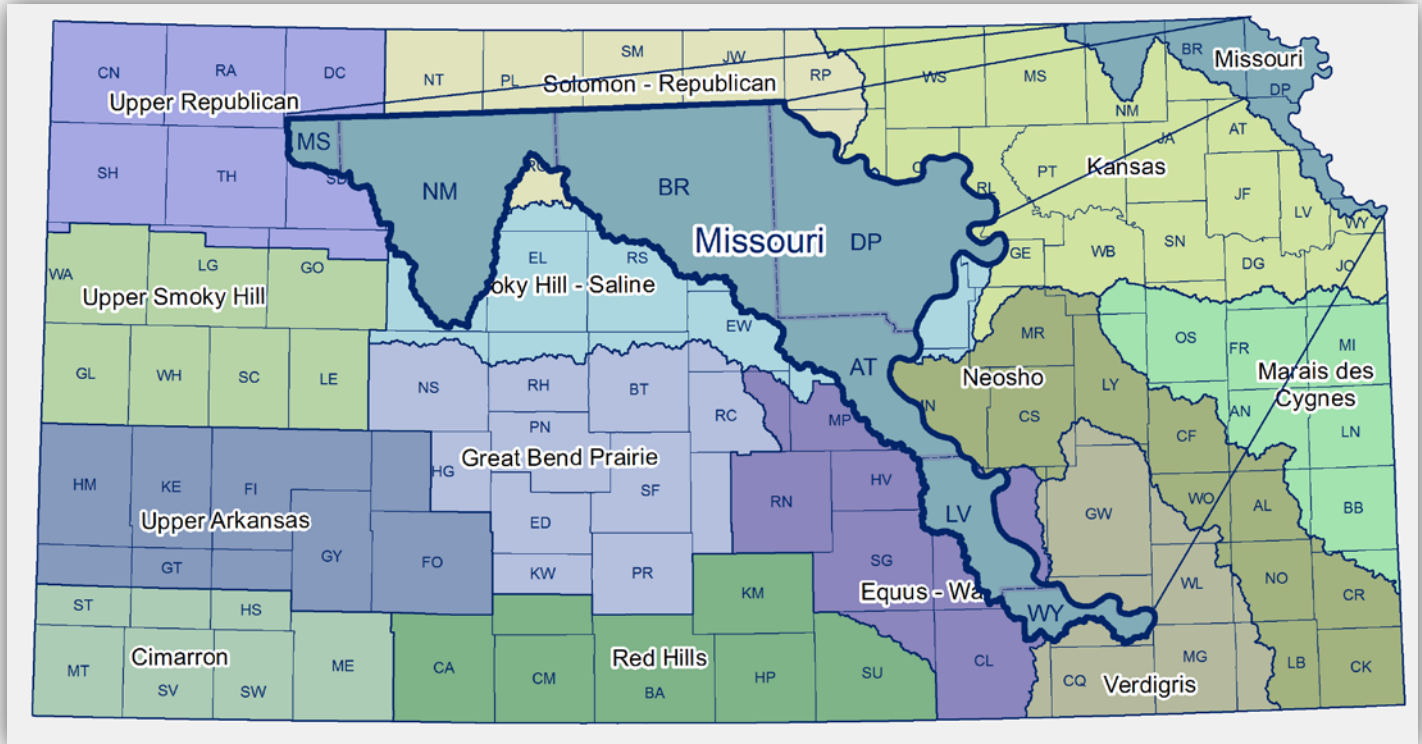
The committee will meet January 14, 9am in Atchison.

Missouri Regional Planning Area

Guiding Principles

Over the next 50 years, there needs to be an adequate, sustainable and affordable quality water supply in the Missouri Region, while protecting Tribal water rights and sacred and cultural sites. All government agencies, local through state, shall vigorously uphold and enforce all water conservation and management rules and regulations throughout the state.

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- 1. Since groundwater quality is not well known, compile existing and collect additional data over the next 5 years to establish a baseline. Within 3 years after the baseline is established, a plan to implement best management practices will be developed to maintain and improve existing conditions. Monitoring and reevaluation of groundwater quality conditions and should continue at 5 year intervals.**
2. To ensure a reliable surface water supply in the future, best management practices will be implemented so surface water quality in identified drainages is maintained or improved using goals and milestones as identified in the Missouri Watershed Restoration and Protection area 9 Element Plan.
3. Collect additional information to improve safe yield estimate of groundwater and tributary streams within 3 years. Place a moratorium on additional permits until safe yield is identified. Once determined, only issue permits that do not exceed that yield. Safe yield should then be continuously monitored.
4. Within 3-5 years the state should initiate a comprehensive education and outreach program. By the time of 8th grade graduation, kids should know where their water comes from, understand the basics of the water cycle, know basic water conservation principles and understand that their actions impact water quality and water quantity. Schools, water providers and conservation districts should be the primary deliverers. A component of the comprehensive program should include enhancing information and outreach on research, technology and management practices using social media and public information outlets.