



CIMARRON

Basin Advisory Committee - Meeting Notes

Members

Judith Adams

Chairperson
Recreation
Meade, Kansas

Ellen Verell

Vice Chairperson
At – Large Public
Meade, Kansas

Bill Barby

Conservation /
Environment
Meade, Kansas

JD Neufeld

At – Large Public
Ulysses, Kansas

Gene Pflughoft

Industry/Commerce
Ulysses, Kansas

Gregory Shelor

At – Large Public
Minneola, Kansas

Larry Swan

At – Large Public
Liberal, Kansas

Melvin Webb

Fish and Wildlife
Moscow, Kansas

Theron Walker

Agriculture
Kismet, Kansas

Luann Watson

At – Large Public
Elkhart, Kansas

For questions
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Cimarron Basin Advisory Committee

Grant County Civic Center

Ulysses, KS

1:00 pm, Thursday, July 9, 2009,

Members in Attendance: Judy Adams (Chairman), Ellen Verell (Vice Chairperson), Duane Brumbaugh, J.D. Neufeld, Gregory Shelor, Bill Barby

Members Absent: Larry Swan, Theron Walker, Melvin Webb, Gene Pflughoft, Luann Watson

Others in Attendance: Don Whittemore (KGS), Thom Makens (KDA-DWR), Chris Law (GMD3), Jason Norquest (GMD3), Mark Rude (GMD3), Trevor Ahring (GMD3), Diane Coe (KWO)

Welcome and Introductions – Chairman Judy Adams welcomed those in attendance.

BAC Approval of Agenda – J.D. Neufeld made a motion, seconded by Bill Barby to **approve the agenda**. The motion carried.

Agency Reports:

DWR - Thom Makens reported that the Garden City office expects to certify 78 water rights and dismiss 12 for failure to this year. He also noted the liberal ethanol plant was able to find available water.

GMD3 – Jason Norquest reported that about 2200 meters inspections are planned this year. Mr. Norquest also reported that the GMD3 is testing moisture probes as a potential management tool, for water in the soil profile and temperature loggers identify when wells are operating. He also reminded the BAC that the GMD is working cooperatively with KGS on a uranium study of the Arkansas River (EPA grant). He also reported the GMD is moving next week.

Staff also investigated the Cimarron valley canal and old gage station. In the future pressure transducers will monitor flow in Crooked Creek in the area.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

BAC Business:

May Meeting Notes: A motion was made by Duane Brumbaugh and seconded by Ellen Verell to **approve the meeting notes as submitted**. The motion carried.

BAC Members' Reports: none

KWA Update:

Diane Coe reported that the Governor has reduced the state budget again. The State Water Plan Fund was reduced by over \$825,000. How these cuts will affect various programs is still to be determined. Other agencies have taken serious reductions as well. KWA has begun working on the FY 2011 budget to include the \$6 million SGF and ELARF initially.

Diane Coe briefly reviewed the reservoir roadmap and lake level management plan memos

included in the mailing.

Diane Coe provided an overview of the natural resources subcommittee letter to the Kansas Congressional Delegation on the federal SB787 – the Clean Water Restoration Act, concerning the terminology. The letter was against the proposed change of the term “navigable waters” to “waters”. Duane Brumbaugh added that in his conversations with Kansas Senators, they were not supportive of removing navigable from the definitions.

NPS Work plan: The presentation from the Glance session and related discussion outline were provided. Members had no comments at this time, but were reminded to send comments.

Cimarron River Water Quality

Water Quality of the Cimarron River in Southwest Kansas: Ground water Salinity in Morton County was presented by Dr. Don Whittemore of the KGS. Dr. Whittemore described previous and recent work along the River. His research indicates the flows of the Cimarron River entering Morton County and leaving the state in Meade County have decreased. Sulfate concentrations entering in Morton are high and might have increased some while the high chloride concentrations in Meade County have increased. The increase is attributed to decreases in ground water discharging to the river that previously diluted the natural occurring salts. The impact of the high sulfate waters on ground water is minimal.

Dr. Whittemore concluded that: 1) shallow ground water with high sulfate concentrations can occur along the Cimarron River; and 2) the elevated sulfate concentration in south-central Morton County is anomalous and warrants additional investigation to identify the probable source.

Basin Activities/Updates

Aquifer recharge background information will be provided at a future meeting.

Message(s) to the KWA: - There were no messages; just the expressed hope the State will continue its present course in regard to the Clean Water Restoration Act bill.

The next regular Cimarron BAC meeting will be a joint meeting with the Upper Arkansas BAC on tamarisk on September 30 in Garden City.

Water Issue Forum is scheduled for December 9 in Wichita and December 10 in Hays.

Adjourn

A motion was made by JD Neufeld and seconded by Ellen Verell to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.