



KANSAS-LOWER REPUBLICAN Basin Advisory Committee - Meeting Notes

Members

Carl Nuzman

Chairperson
At – Large Public
Silver Lake, Kansas

Arnold Ross

Vice Chairperson
Irrigation District
Webber, Kansas

Charles Johnson

Municipal PWS
Concordia, Kansas

Chris Mammoliti

Fish and Wildlife
Topeka, Kansas

Daniel Howell

Agriculture
Frankfort, Kansas

Joel Davidson

Conservation/
Environment
Lawrence, Kansas

Larry Shannon

Water Assurance Dist.
Topeka, Kansas

Laura Calwell

Recreation
Mission, Kansas

Shane Munsch

Industry/Commerce
Lawrence, Kansas

William Ramsey

Planning, Restoration
and Protection
Leawood, Kansas

For questions
please contact:
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Kansas-Lower Republican Basin Advisory Committee
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Regional Office
300 SW Wanamaker Road, Topeka, KS
February 26, 2009, 10:00 a.m.

DRAFT

Members in Attendance:

Carl Nuzman (Chairperson), Arnold Ross (Vice Chairperson), Daniel Howell, Chris Mammoliti, Charles Johnson, Larry Shannon, William Ramsey, Shane Munsch

Members Absent:

Laura Caldwell, Joel Davidson (resigned from committee, moved out of basin)

Others in Attendance:

Susan Metzger (KWO), Anna Betzen (KWO), Cynthia Annett (Friends of the Kaw), Jim McDaniel (Lawrence-Douglas Co. Health Department), Kent Askren (Kansas Farm Bureau)

Welcome and Introductions: Carl Nuzman, chairperson, welcomed those in attendance. Self introductions were made by BAC members and others in attendance.

BAC Approval of Agenda: The agenda was accepted as drafted.

Agency Reports:

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE): Susan Metzger (KWO) presented two items on behalf of KDHE. The annual report with state basin updates and site accomplishments under the Contamination Remediation program was provided to BAC members. The report provides an update on nine contamination sites located in the Kansas-Lower Republican basin. Mrs. Metzger also reviewed a memo provided to BAC members regarding an update to the Nonpoint Source Management (NPS) Plan. Committee members will have additional opportunities to provide input into the NPS plan at future BAC meetings.

Public Comments:

Kansas Farm Bureau: Kent Askren addressed budget reductions and the impacts to natural resource projects. Mr. Askren encouraged the committee to remain diligent in support that Republican River Compact compliance funds are appropriately targeted within the impacted watershed.

Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department: Jim McDaniel reported on the Local Environmental Protection Program (LEPP) and the local benefit of this program in providing oversight and permitting of septage land application and septic systems. Mr. McDaniel expressed concern for significant reductions in funding for this program.

BAC Business:

The October 2008 meeting notes were accepted as drafted.

Several BAC members provided reports of their water related activities and contact with constituents. Charles Johnson reported on two Lower Republican stakeholder meetings held to discuss appropriation of litigation award funds. Chris Mammoliti attended the Kansas Natural Resources meeting in Wichita. Dan Howell updated the committee on activities with the Tuttle Creek WRAPS Stakeholder Leadership Team (SLT). Arnold Ross reported on his visit with KWA member, Dave Corliss, and several members of the Kansas Legislature to discuss water resource issues. Carl Nuzman shared on an article regarding the Nebraska litigation over a water tax, a newsletter from the Applied Science and Technology for Reservoir Assessment (ASTRA) team discussing bathymetric surveys and sedimentation of reservoirs, and a Lawrence World Journal article covering Representative Tom Sloan's Vision 2020 committee work on reservoir sedimentation. Mr. Nuzman discussed Senate Bill 64, an act concerning the Kansas water appropriation act to address eminent domain and condemnation of water rights.

Mrs. Metzger and Arnold Ross (Vice Chairperson) provided a report of activities from the Kansas Water Authority January 2009 meeting. Mrs. Metzger summarized a decision by the BAC Chairs to forward all BAC applications to the committees for review regardless of eligibility. Members of the Kansas-Lower Republican BAC concurred that they would like to receive all applications for consideration by the committee.

Mrs. Metzger reported that the Kansas Water Authority approved the 2009 update of the Kansas Water Plan. It has been posted to the Kansas Water Office website at www.kwo.org. Mrs. Metzger reviewed a table identifying the implementation schedule for all basin priority issues in the Kansas Water Plan. She then reviewed a table with updates on the recent activities related to the Kansas-Lower Republican basin priority issues, including: Watershed Restoration and Protection, Kansas River Degradation, and Water Supply Management and Conservation.

Mrs. Metzger reviewed the vacancies for membership that will be open for applications until April 10, 2009. These vacancies include Conservation/Environment, Other Public Water Supply, Irrigation District, Fish and Wildlife, and Industry/Commerce. Applications were made available during the meeting and are also available at www.kwo.org.

Legislative Update/Budget: Mrs. Metzger provided an update on the FY2009 and FY2010 budget. A memo summarizing the status and a table of program-specific budget items were provided to BAC members. She reported that a bill was introduced to the Legislature to implement the KWA proposed State Water Plan Fund (SWPF) fee increase. A Senate hearing was held on February 25, 2009. Information about legislation related to water issues is posted to the Kansas Water Office website at www.kwo.org. Mrs. Metzger also reported on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the potential impact to Kansas natural resource programs.

Basin Activities:

Mrs. Metzger updated the committee on the Mission Lake dredging project. Bid proposals were received by the City of Horton for the dredging of Mission Lake and the design and construction of the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF). Interviews for the bidding teams will be held on February 27, 2009. Selection of the successful bidder is anticipated by March 2, 2009. The goal of the project is to restore water supply at Mission Lake lost to sedimentation. Additional goals include improving the water quality and enhancing recreation.

Mrs. Metzger updated the committee on activities related to the basin priority issue, "Kansas River Degradation." A map of cross-sections that have been installed and/or surveyed on the river was provided to BAC members. Land Plan Engineering continues to install additional cross sections and survey existing points. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Kansas City District, is cooperating with the Kansas Water Office

under a Public Assistance to States (PAS) agreement to facilitate completion of the installation and survey. In addition, the Corps will investigate changes in the Kansas River at locations where sufficient data exists.

Other Business:

Mrs. Metzger reported that the next meeting of the Kansas Water Authority will be held April 16-17. The meeting was originally scheduled to be held in Ulysses, KS. A teleconference is now tentatively planned.

The Kansas-Lower Republican BAC reviewed the 2009 calendar and proposed the following dates and locations for future meetings: May 14 at 6:30pm in Manhattan, July 16 at 10:00am at Courtland, and October 15 at 10:00am at Lawrence.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Bill Ramsey and seconded by Dan Howell to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.