

MEETING NOTES
NEOSHO BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 11, 2005
CHANUTE, KANSAS

- A. *Welcome and Introductions.* Jim Triplett, BAC Chairperson, convened the meeting at approximately 1:00 p.m. Committee members and guests were introduced (see attached attendance list). Triplett shared his regrets on the sudden passing of committee member Jim Zell and distributed a sympathy card for committee signatures.
- B. *April Meeting Notes.* No changes were suggested.
- C. *Public Comments.* No comments were received.
- D. *Agency Reports.* Jaci Ferguson, EPA, gave a brief update on activities in her agency's Watershed Planning Branch in Springfield, MO, including the Spring River watershed in the Neosho basin. Triplett suggested that she provide a presentation at the next BAC meeting on agency projects affecting the Neosho basin. David Stutt, KDHE, introduced Alan Sharpe with his agency's confined livestock unit. David also mentioned impacts on area public water suppliers from recent storms. Richard Basore, KDHE, noted that FY 2006 LEPP grants were being initiated. Four counties are currently not participating in the program including Chautauqua and Chase counties in southeast Kansas. Troy Krenzler, See-Kan RC&D, announced that his agency was recently awarded federal funding for restoration of abandoned coal mines. Katie Tietsort, DWR, reported on a multi-agency effort to visit with public water suppliers in the Ozark aquifer moratorium area about water supply issues. Thirteen entities participated in the meetings which were held June 20-22 in Pittsburg. A summary will be available when completed. She noted concerns expressed by some suppliers involved with the proposed PWWSD #19 about contractual restrictions to explore water supply options and the dependency of the Spring River to management activities in Missouri.
- E. *Neosho Basin WRAPS Projects.* Robert Wilson and Warren Bell, KSU Research and Extension, distributed materials on the WRAPS process and provided a status report on activities to initiate WRAPS projects in the Neosho Basin below John Redmond reservoir. A kickoff tour is being planned for September 29-30. Notices will be sent out and published in area papers. Spring River is not included in the current WRAPS planning efforts. In addition to the lower basin, WRAPS efforts will be initiated in the upper Neosho Basin (above John Redmond reservoir) in the future, including areas below Marion and Council Grove reservoirs. WRAPS projects are ongoing above these reservoirs and future efforts will be

coordinated with these projects. Peggy Blackman, Marion Reservoir WRAPS Project, informed the committee that the Corps of Engineers was proposing to initiate a general investigation feasibility study in the watershed to conduct continued water quality monitoring as well as watershed analysis and plan development. Concerns were expressed about the need and potential costs of a study. Various local, state and Corps agency representatives are planning to meet later in July to discuss these issues. Recurrence of blue-green algae blooms have been a particular concern of this project.

- F. *Kansas Water Plan Policy Issue Discussion.* Ken Grotewiel & Steve Hurst, KWO, presented issues and options on proposed policy issues, which were distributed in the mailing. A preliminary draft of policy subsections will be reviewed by the KWA in August for release for public comment. There was considerable discussion on the policy addressing public input into the state water planning and implementation process. Comments addressed issues associated with being more efficient in getting BAC input; meeting frequency; standing committees vs. other input mechanisms; providing a forum for public interaction with agencies; and integrating input on rural and urban issues. The other policy issue discussed involved economic development at federal reservoirs. Comments addressed issues associated with protection of existing reservoir purposes and educating the public; public vs. private ownership; and water quality impacts from development. Other policy subsections under development were noted, including watershed dam rehabilitation and water conservation issues.

- G. *Update on FY 2006 Funding for Water Plan Projects Initiative and Process for FY 2007 Budget Development.* Tracy Streeter, KWO Director, provided an update and handout on what was accomplished for FY 2006 funding of the Water Plan Projects Initiative (WPPI) and what was being considered for FY 2007. The KWA Budget Committee is working on a budget proposal for consideration at the August KWA meeting. Kerry Wedel, KWO, also provided a brief update and handout on the status of the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) component of the WPPI.

- H. *Update on proposed USGS Ozark Aquifer Study.* Kerry Wedel, KWO, provided an update and handout on the current study proposal. He announced that a USGS representative was planning to attend the July 20th meeting of the Tri-State Water Resources Coalition in Joplin, MO, to provide a presentation on the proposed study. Kerry also mentioned that the final report of the KGS Phase One Ozark Aquifer Water Level Monitoring project was completed and available upon request.

- I. *BAC messages to the KWA.* Jim Triplett commented that the KWA response to the April 18 BAC message regarding the Neosho River Log Jam was appreciated and useful. No new messages to the KWA were adopted by the committee.
- J. *Other Issues.* Jerre Gamble inquired about the status of the pool level management plan and summer drawdown at John Redmond reservoir. He noted his support as did others. Kerry Wedel said he would check on the status and report back (*Follow-up note: the inflow requirement to trigger the summer drawdown was met in July and the KWO has requested its implementation*). Replacement of Jim Zell on the BAC was discussed briefly. A press release will be distributed soliciting applications for an industrial representative, since no current applications are on file for this water use category. BAC members were also encouraged to solicit applications from eligible candidates. The BAC will consider the applications received at the next meeting and nominate an applicant for Kansas Water Authority approval.
- K. *Next meeting.* The next meeting was scheduled for 10:00 a.m., October 11, 2005, in Burlington. This meeting will be a joint BAC/Public Meeting to receive comment on preliminary drafts of proposed *Kansas Water Plan* policy sections if approved for release by the Kansas Water Authority in August.

**Attendance
Neosho BAC Meeting
Chanute, KS
July 11, 2005**

Neosho BAC Members Present:

Jim Triplett, Chairman	Chauncey Shepard
Donald Becker	Joe Works
Jerre Gamble	Jerry Fultz
Steve Commons	

Neosho BAC Members Absent:

Freda Culver	Pat Sauble
Dennis Youk	

Others in Attendance:

Richard Thomas, KDHE	David Stutt, KDHE
Rick Basore, KDHE	Robert Wilson, K-State Extension
Warren Bell, K-State Extension	Tracy Streeter, Director KWO
Troy Krenzel, See-Kan RC&D	Peggy Blackman
Peggy Blackman, Marion Reservoir WRAPS	Carl Hayes, Cherokee County Health Dept.
Ken Grotewiel, KWO	Steve Hurst, KWO
Kerry Wedel, KWO	Katie Tietsort, KDA/DWR
Karen Straton, Homeowner Toronto Lake	Jeff Ruckert, KAWS
Jaci Ferguson, EPA	Kent Askren, KS Farm Bureau