



SOLOMON Basin Advisory Committee - Meeting Notes

Members

Raymond DeBey

Vice Chairperson
Fish and Wildlife
Cawker City, Kansas

Dennis Lehmann

Conservation/
Environment
Gaylord, Kansas

James Metzler

At – Large Public
Minneapolis, Kansas

John Wyrill, III

Dryland
Kirwin, Kansas

Joseph Keith

Industry/Commerce
Penokee, Kansas

Orville (Dee) Blubaugh

Recreation
Phillipsburg, Kansas

Stanley Kats

Agriculture
Prairie View, Kansas

For questions
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Basin Planner
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September 30, 2008

Division of Water Resources Field Office, Stockton, Kansas

Members in Attendance:

Raymond DeBey, Dee Blubaugh, Stanley Kats, Joe Keith, Dennis Lehman, J. P. Metzler

Members Absent:

Myron Abbott, John (Bruce) Wyrill

Others in Attendance:

Robin Blubaugh, Scott Voss (DWR), Mike Nyhoff (KDWP), Kim Christiansen (KWO), Diane Coe (KWO)

Welcome and Introduction was made by Dee Blubaugh and those in attendance. Vice-Chair, Ray DeBey presided upon his arrival.

Approval of Agenda: Stanley Kats made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Joe Keith seconded, motion carried.

Agency Reports - none

Public Comments- none

BAC Business:

Approval of Meeting Notes: Stanley Kats made the motion to approve the July meeting notes as presented. Joe Keith seconded, motion carried.

BAC Member Reports: none

Membership:

Nominations were opened for Chair of the Solomon BAC. Stanley Kats nominated Ray DeBey as Chairman. J.P. Metzler seconded the motion.

Dee Blubaugh made the motion to cease nominations, seconded by Dennis Lehman. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for vice-chair. Joe Keith nominated Dee Blubaugh for vice-chair. Seconded by Ray DeBey.

Stanley Kats made the motion to cease nominations, seconded by J.P. Metzler. Motion carried.

The committee recommendation for chair- Ray DeBey and vice-chair Dee Blubaugh will be forwarded to the Kansas Water Authority. For consideration at the November meeting.

Diane Coe reported that there are four applications for the At-Large public category. In addition, Myron Abbot has resigned, vacating the Municipal Public Water Supply category.

After discussion, Dee Blubaugh made a motion to table nominations for the At-large Public category in order to meet the applicants and consider both openings together. J.P. Metzler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Both open positions will be announced and applications solicited for consideration at the February meeting.

KWA Update-KWO

Policy Status: Kim Christiansen provided an overview of the two policies under development *Enhanced Stream Corridor and Wetland Management to Address Reservoir Sedimentation* and *Surface Water Management: Access to Storage* and their changes and emphasis at this stage of their development.

Discussion on *Access to Storage* pointed out the policies work toward the overall state goal of ensuring water supply for the entire state in the future.

Public hearing on the Sedimentation policy is expected in December in conjunction with the BAC Forums (Wichita and Hays) and in Topeka.

Kansas Water Plan/Basin Planning

Diane Coe presented a summary of the updating of the *Kansas Water Plan*, Management Sections and Basin Sections. Management Sections is Volume II of the *Plan* describing basic status and goals, statewide. Within the basin sections there are brief descriptions that relate to the basin itself. Activities and programs are identified. Then the basin section takes another step in detail, to the basin priority issues.

Basin Section

Diane Coe provided an overview of the status of the draft priority basin issues identified by the BAC in and most recently reviewed by the KWA at their August KWA work session.

Management of the Ogallala-High Plains & Alluvial Aquifers and Reduction in the Rate of Decline, now titled "Long term management of the Ogallala-High Plains and alluvial aquifers to extend and conserve the life of the aquifer, while meeting areas needs priority issue was discussed. Changes to the recommendations approved by KWA reflected the removal of the sub unit coordinator, rewording of a figure description and addition of seeking crop insurance for limited irrigation and supporting research for low water use/high value crops.

Subbasin priority issue discussion included support for irrigation district efficiency improvements and/or evaluation and if it should be added to this issue or a new issue be appropriate.

Webster Lake level priority issue discussion included Mike Nyhoff indicating KDWP has requested analysis of water levels in the lake that indicated it may be possible to increase levels.

Value of water priority issue was discussed by the committee. Stanley Kats made a motion to **withdraw this as a priority issue**. Joe Keith seconded the motion, which carried.

Discussion of needs in the basin followed with concept the entire basin should be looked at, determination made on needs and possibilities to aid efficiency. This might become a priority issue in the future. Information may be sent or if possible irrigation district representatives (Glen Elder, Webster, Kirwin) attend the next meeting to discuss their needs and efficiencies.

There were no changes recommended to the Solomon priority issues, other than the withdrawal of the Value of

Water issue.

Budget Update

Kim Christiansen provided an overview of the SFY 2010 budget proposal and enhanced budget if additional revenue through the lottery or increased fees is successful. Looking at water supply as infrastructure and dedicated funding are needed for the long-term water supply planning needed to ensure future supplies are where Kansas needs them.

Other Business

Message(s) to the KWA: none

Future BAC Meeting Dates: The next KWA meeting is scheduled for November 6-7 in Pittsburg.

The next Solomon meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 23 at 1:30 in Stockton.

Diane reminded the committee of the December water forum for BACs, scheduled for Wichita Dec 10 and Hays Dec 11. An opportunity for BAC members to sign up for their meeting of choice and break out session was provided. The opportunity for travel vouchers for the meetings was announced, but no preference on number and rate was indicated by the committee. |

Adjourn: Dee Blubaugh made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by J.P. Metzler. Motion carried.