

**Upper Arkansas
Basin Advisory Committee (BAC)**

**Teleconference
July 18, 2007 at 8:00am**

Members in Attendance: Clark Rusco, Ron Allen, Steven Hines, Mick McNair, Steve Cottrell, Roger Mohr, Beverly Komarek, Kermit Thompson

Members Absent: Randy Hayzlett, Jamie Cheatum, Lynn Freese

Others in Attendance: Susan Metzger (KWO), Tom Stiles (KDWP), Elizabeth Fitch (KDA-DWR).

Welcome and Introductions: Chairperson, Clark Rusco, welcomed those in attendance and self-introductions were made.

Agency Reports:

Elizabeth Fitch (KDA-DWR) reported that agency personnel are returning to fieldwork after several weeks of wet weather and conditions.

Tom Stiles (KDHE) provided an update on the status of negotiations with Colorado on selenium levels in the Arkansas River. Additional materials will be provided to committee members.

BAC Business:

Review of Meeting Notes: A motion was made by Steve Cottrell and seconded by Steven Hines to accept the meeting notes as prepared. The motion carried without dissent.

KWA Update: Susan Metzger (KWO) updated the committee on several items from the June 13th KWA meeting in Manhattan.

- Susan Metzger (KWO) discussed the ***KWA Fiscal Year 2009 (FY2009) State Water Plan Fund (SWPF) budget development.*** Susan noted that projected revenue for FY2009 is lower than FY2008. Projected expenses for FY2009 are also down, however, the projections still result in a shortfall of \$3.7 million. Susan noted that the KWA recommends a request for additional State General Funds (SGF) to compensate for the shortfall.
- Susan Metzger (KWO) updated the committee on the ***KWA Strategic Planning Process.*** Susan noted that one of the key activities under the Surface Water Management Issue is a Reservoir Summit to be held in Lawrence in October 2007.

Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson: Committee members recommended Clark Rusco for the position of Chairperson. A vote was cast and Clark Rusco received a unanimous vote. Committee members recommended Ron Allen for the position of Vice Chairperson. A vote was cast and Ron Allen received a unanimous vote.

Basin Activities/Update:

- The committee discussed the position of Chief Engineer and proposed several recommendations for seeking an appropriate candidate to fill the position. A motion was made by Steve Cottrell and seconded by Beverly Komarek to prepare a letter on behalf of the Upper Arkansas BAC to Secretary Polanski expressing the committee's recommendations. Clark Rusco will draft the letter with input from each committee member. The motion carried without dissent.
- Steven Hines noted that the Kansas Water Congress will hold a summer conference August 2-3, 2007 at Wichita State University. Topics covered will include aquifer storage and recovery, CREP, and defining "public interest". More information on the conference can be found at: <http://www.kswatercongress.org/>.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Other Business

Messages to the KWA:

- A motion was made by Beverly Komarek and seconded by Steve Cottrell to send the following message to the KWA. The motion carried without dissent.
 - The Upper Arkansas River BAC wishes to commend Tom Stiles and his team of sister agencies and organizations in their perseverance in communicating water quality changes with Colorado. The committee appreciates the progress made to date as a result of Tom's efforts.
- A motion was made by Steven Hines and seconded by Roger Mohr to send the following message to the KWA. The motion carried without dissent.
 - The Upper Arkansas River BAC will provide a letter to Secretary Adrian Polansky in July 2007 with recommendations for the position of Chief Engineer. The committee wishes to provide a copy of the letter to the Kansas Water Authority.

Susan Metzger (KWO) noted that the next meeting of the Kansas Water Authority will be held August 16-17 in Independence. A meeting of the BAC Chairpersons will be held on the evening of August 15th.

Susan updated the committee on the joint BAC meetings to be held in December to address Biofuels.

The next meeting of the Upper Arkansas BAC is scheduled for Wednesday, September 26th at 1:30 pm at the Historical Society in Great Bend.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Ron Allen and seconded by Steven Hines to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with one objection. The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.