

**Upper Arkansas  
Basin Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Notes**

King Center  
Jetmore, KS  
March 6, 2007 at 1:00pm

**Welcoming** remarks were provided by Chairperson, Clark Rusco and self **introductions** were offered by those in attendance.

**Attendance:**

Upper Arkansas BAC members present

Clark Rusco (Chairperson), Ron Allen (Vice Chairperson), Randy Hayzlett, Steven Cottrell, Steven Hines, Kermit Thompson, Roger Mohr, Lynn Freese

Members Absent

Beverly Komarek

A motion was made by Steve Cottrell and seconded by Roger Mohr to **approve the December 2006 meeting notes**. The motion carried without dissent.

**Agency Reports**

Bob Frisbie, **K-State Research and Extension**, provided the WRAPS leadership goals meeting notes from the February 27, 2007 meeting in Kinsley and the March 1, 2007 meeting in Cimarron. In addition, he presented a list and discussion of the stakeholder identified concerns within the watershed.

DeEtte Huffman, **Arkansas River Coalition**, discussed that the Coalition has been attending the local WRAPS development meetings and are concerned about the decreasing flow in the Arkansas River.

Scott Selee, **Local Environmental Protection Program (LEPP)**, provided a handout and expressed the Board of Director's concern that moving funding for the LEPP program from the State Water Plan Fund to the State General Fund would make the program more susceptible to reductions.

Thom Makens, **Kansas Department of Agriculture-Division of Water Resources**, reported the stream gage readings along the Arkansas River for March 6, 2007. He also reported that the impairment complaint initially filed by the Garretson family in the basin has been dropped. KDA-DWR will likely continue investigations into water use and aquifer conditions outside of the impairment process.

Mark Rude, **Groundwater Management District #3**, noted the annual meeting of the GMD will be held on March 14, 2007 in Cimarron.

Scotty Baugh, **Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks**, reported that the snowmelt has resulted in positive benefits for many of the basin's lakes. KDWP will be working to stock some of the lakes such as Concannon and Jetmore with fish.

Randy Hayzlett, **Water Conservation Projects Fund**, reported the preliminary draft of the feasibility study of the Southside Delivery Project has been completed.

Written agency reports were provided by **Kansas Department of Agriculture-Division of Water Resources** and **State Conservation Commission**.

Susan Metzger (KWO) presented the **Annual Status Report**. The *Kansas Water Plan 2006 Status Report* provides a summary of the status of programs and projects that receive funding from the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF). Susan highlighted several SWP funded projects in the Upper Arkansas basin in 2006.

Doug Doubek (KDHE, Bureau of Environmental Remediation) provided an update on the **Contamination Remediation** program and activities. Doug discussed the 2006 State Basin Updates and Site Accomplishments report which details 2006 program accomplishments and updates site progress at the 92 contaminated sites currently in the program. Doug highlighted the activities of a few sites within the Upper Arkansas River basin including the Dighton Airport site and Plating, Inc. Doug expressed concern about the suggested shift in funding for the Contamination Remediation program from the State Water Plan Fund to the State General Fund.

Tom Stiles (KDHE) provided an update on the Upper Arkansas River Selenium Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and the status of negotiation with Colorado regarding water quality standards. Susan Metzger (KWO) discussed the **Water Quality Basin Section** for the Upper Arkansas River Basin Section of the Kansas Water Plan. A motion was made by Steven Hines and seconded by Roger Mohr to make changes to Table 1 including the removal of Arkansas River from Ford to Dundee as a High Priority area. The motion carried without dissent.

The Committee discussed adding the following items to the Water Quality Basin Section: pipeline safety information, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), and Conservation Practice 9 (CP9) for shallow water areas. A motion was made by Ron Allen and seconded by Steven Hines to approve the Working Draft of the Lower Arkansas Basin Section, Water Quality with the suggested amendments. The motion carried without dissent.

Susan Metzger (KWO) presented a brief update on Kansas **legislative** activities. Randy Hayzlett shared the Water Congress opinion in support of the proposed Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).

### **Upper Arkansas Basin Update and Activities**

Susan Metzger (KWO) reported on **BAC membership applications**. Applications are available on the Kansas Water Office website and will be accepted for open categories until April 2, 2007. The categories open for applications for the Upper Arkansas BAC include Municipal Public Water Supply, Recreation, Conservation/Environment, Groundwater Irrigation, and Agricultural Industry.

## **Other Business**

The Upper Arkansas BAC offered three **messages to the Kansas Water Authority**. The Upper Arkansas BAC recommends the Local Environmental Protection Program (LEPP) and the Contamination Remediation program continue to receive funding support from the State Water Plan Fund. A motion was made by Steven Hines and seconded by Steve Cottrell to forward the message to the Kansas Water Authority. The motion carried without dissent.

The Upper Arkansas BAC recommends that money recovered from litigations with Nebraska be expended within the areas impacted directly by the lawsuit. A motion was made by Steven Hines and seconded by Steve Cottrell to forward the message to the Kansas Water Authority. The motion carried without dissent.

The Upper Arkansas BAC wishes to recognize the efforts made by Tom Stiles to communicate with Colorado regarding water quality standards for the Arkansas River. The Committee encourages continued support in future negotiations between Kansas and Colorado. A motion was made by Randy Hayzlett and seconded by Ron Allen to forward the message to the Kansas Water Authority. The motion carried without dissent.

The next **meeting of the Kansas Water Authority** is tentatively scheduled for April 4, 2007 in Hutchinson.

The next **meeting of the Upper Arkansas BAC** will be Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in Garden City.

There were no **Public Comments**.

A motion was made by Ron Allen and seconded by Roger Mohr to **adjourn**. The motion carried without dissent and the meeting was adjourned at 4:05pm.