



# Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams

## Lower Kansas WRAPS

### April 21, 2008 Meeting Summary

The April 2008 meeting for the Lower Kansas WRAPS was well sparsely attended, with 28 participants including state, federal, and local government agencies, local farmers, and concerned citizens. A list of attendees is included at the end of this summary. The meeting was held at the Douglas County Extension Service on Harper Street in Lawrence. Thanks to Bill Wood of the Extension Service for reserving the meeting place.

The meeting began with introductions, an overview of the today's meeting, and a short summary of the February meeting. Today's meeting, started with a short presentation by Ginny Moore, Watershed Program Director of Mid America Regional Council (MARC), followed by these topics including:

- Update on Stakeholder Leadership Team
- Goals and Objectives of the Lower Kansas Watershed
- Technical Service Providers Update
- Draft Outline to Development Plan

#### **Introductory Presentation on MARC**

Ginny Moore gave a presentation on the overall roles and purposes of MARC and its various efforts dealing with watersheds. She offered numerous handouts and encouraged us to access MARC's website at [www.marccorg](http://www.marccorg). MARC plays an important role as a coordinator for service organizations as it receives federal funding to be distributed to them. Environmentally, it has programs in solid waste, air quality, and watershed ecology. Its environmental mission is to provide cost-effective and environmentally friendly solutions to protect the environment. MARC provides information, education, and its guidance in lessening urban sprawl impacts, sanitary sewer issues, and watershed planning. In addition, MARC receives funding from KDHE in its efforts to improve watershed protection and water quality improvements.

#### **Stakeholder Leadership Team (SLT)**

Frank provided an update on the SLT, indicating that 11 people have volunteered for the team (see attached table for current information on SLT members). He also briefly discussed the need to draft a charter for the group; he provided a copy of the charter for Upper Wakarusa WRAPS. Representation is heavy with governmental agencies and residents from Leavenworth and Douglas, with no reps from the business/development sector. Consensus was that great progress had been made and that the SLT has good representation. Frank agreed to contact the Atchison County Conservation District (Donna Perry) to see about any interest for that county.

#### **Technical Service Providers**

Carol Blocksome of RNAS provided an update on her efforts to finalize her 2008 services for the Lower Kansas WRAPS. She is still working on the radio spots, float trip, and ranchette workshop. It was agreed that she should continue planning the float trip and workshop for the fall and radio spots in 2009. We should consider approaching citizens, SLT, commuters, and environmentalists as opposed to city and county managers, etc. for the float trip. There may be opportunities for partnership building and fund raising with this group of people. As for the ranchette workshop, it may be prudent to get assistance from the extension service, 4-H groups, and maybe even generate a rural water mailer to reach more potential participants.

#### **Revisiting Goals and Objectives for the Lower Kansas Watershed**

This handout was discussed, but no changes were made at this time. Frank will add these to the development plan and have people review once the draft plan is completed. Given the size of Stranger Creek and the number of participants concerned with Stranger Creek, the protection of this

sub-watershed will be detailed in the plan. It may provide an opportunity to push for the reformation of the Stranger Creek watershed district. Frank was given a number of water district contacts to perhaps discuss the issue with or invite to give a presentation in the coming months. They include Elmer Rummabaum and Herb Graves.

#### **Tentative Outline for the Lower Kansas Watershed Development Plan**

The outline was briefly discussed. Mark Johnson provided input and agreed to review the report once a draft was completed. The urban area issues and concerns will need substantial revision.

The meeting adjourned around noon after discussions concerning the time and location of the next meeting. Mike Epler agreed to look at the availability at the Tonganoxie Fairgrounds on either May 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12 noon.



**STAKEHOLDER LEADERSHIP TEAM  
LOWER KANSAS WRAPS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Interest/Position</b>	<b>Town (County)</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Email</b>
Rodney Parsons	Farmer	Leavenworth (Leavenworth)	913-727-3071	parsons9@lvnworth.com
Tom Norman	Farmer	Linwood (Leavenworth)	913-301-3614	wtnormanjr@embarqmail.com
Mark Johnson	GCSSA, Scientist	Lawrence (Douglas)	785-841-2240	mjohnson@gcsaa.org
Heather Schmidt	WQ Specialist, JOCO SW	Olathe (Johnson)	913-715-8302	heather.schmidt@jocogov.org
John Cotter	Public Health, Unif. Govt.	KCK (Wyandotte)	913-573-6737	jcotter@wycokck.org
Jerry Wooley	Leavenworth Co. CD	Leavenworth (Leavenworth)	913-682-2133	jerry.wooley@ks.nacdnet.net
James Weaver	Douglas Co. CD	Big Springs (Douglas)	816-474-4240	james.weaver@ks.nacdnet.net
Ginnie Moore	MARC Watershed Coord.	KC Metro (Multiple)	816-701-8252	gmoore@marc.org
Eugene Kramer	Farmer	Easton (Leavenworth)	913-773-8142	none
Susan Iversen	Audubon Society	Lawrence (Douglas)	785-843-1142	siversen@sunflower.com
Mike Epler	Leavenworth Co. Extension	(Leavenworth)	785-250-2300	mepler@ksu.edu
Frank Norman	WRAPS Coord.	Lawrence (Douglas)	785-691-9748	frank@kaws.org

**Others:** Marty Burke, Will Boyer, John Bond, Laura Calwell, Bob Lominska

**Persons Contacted:** Lower KS WRAPS contact list, Chris Dunn, Tom Jacobs, Jerry Wooley, Tom Flynn, Bob Lominska, Ron Freyermuth, Robb Richardson, Bill Blackwell, Bob Evans, Nancy Thellman, Cheri Miller, Jerry Jost, Rob Beilfuss, Rob Miller, Dotti, Mark Wagner, etc.

**Others to Contact:** Johnson Co. Water One, Watershed Districts, Public Works, Developers/Business Owners, Atchison Co. CD



