

MEETING MINUTES

Agriculture Water Quality Authority

April 8, 2021 9:30 AM

Zoom Video Conference

Meeting ID: 836 4605 1552

Passcode: AWQA

In attendance: Mr. Larry Thomas, Chair, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Mr. Joseph Sisk, Vice Chair, Farmer-at-Large; Ms. Paulette Akers, Division of Conservation; Mr. Ron Brunty, Environmental Groups; Mr. Todd Clark, Member-at-large; Dr. Amanda Gumbert, UK College of Agriculture; Mr. Brandon Howard, Division of Forestry; Ms. Angela Billings, Department of Public Health; Mr. Paul Miller, Division of Water; Mr. Greg Stone, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Mr. Keith Rogers, Department of Agriculture; and Mr. Randy McCallon, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts.

Also in attendance: Ms. Johnna McHugh, Division of Conservation; Mr. Josiah Frey, Division of Water; Mr. John Webb, Division of Water; Mr. Abe Nielson, Division of Forestry; Mr. Michael Froelich, Division of Forestry; Ms. Kathleen Saunier, Energy and Environment Cabinet; Ms. Crystal Renfro, KACD; Mr. Jim Roe, Division of Conservation; Mr. Jarod Jones, Division of Water; Ms. Rosalind Streeter, Oldham County Conservation District; Mr. Glynn Beck, Kentucky Geological Survey; Ms. Angie Crain, USGS; Ms. Renee Carrico, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation; Ms. Sarah Gaddis, Division of Water; Ms. Mahtaab Bagherzadeh, Division of Water; Ms. Rhonda Lamb, Jackson Purchase RC&D; and Mr. Jeff Gravitt, Division of Conservation.

Meeting Called to Order – 9:31 AM by Mr. Larry Thomas.

Roll call of Authority members – Quorum was met.

Introduction of guests – Introductions were made.

Approval of previous meeting minutes from February 11, 2021 – A motion to approve with correction was made by Dr. Amanda Gumbert and was seconded by Mr. Brandon Howard.

Motion carried.

Old Business –

- **Streams and Other Waters membership** – Mr. Larry Thomas appointed Ms. Sarah Gaddis as Chair for the Streams and Other Waters Committee. Ms. Sarah Gaddis accepted the appointment. Mr. Larry Thomas discussed other members serving on the committee and if they would be willing to continue with serving as members. Two others possible members from the Division of Water that would need to be followed up on before next meeting. Mr. Randy McCallon would serve as a alternate for the committee. Ms. Paulette Akers will give Ms. Sarah Gaddis the current information of members for the next committee meeting to determine if a quorum is met. The Authority requests the committee discuss recent flooding and hot to help farmers at their next meeting.

- **New Business –**

- **Subcommittee Reports**

KASMC – Ms. Angie Crain filled in for Mr. Pete Cinotto and discussed the following with the Authority –

- Upcoming KASMC meeting will be held on April 29th at 1:00 pm.
- Meeting will be held using Microsoft Teams and information will be sent out before meeting.
- Please submit any items for the agenda before the upcoming meeting.

Farmstead – Dr. Steve Higgins - Not attended.

Pesticides Fertilizers and other Agriculture Chemicals – Mr. John Pitcock – Not attended. Ms. Paulette Akers informed the Authority that the committee has not met.

Livestock and Poultry – Mr. Keith Rogers discussed the following with the Authority –

- Committee has not meet.
- After KDA appointments have been finalized Mr. Keith Rogers will have new member take over for him.
 - Ms. Paulette Akers and Mr. Keith Rogers will work together to get committee together.

Crops – Mr. Adam Andrews – Not attended.

Silviculture – Mr. Brandon Howard spoke for Dr. Jeffery Stringer and discussed the following with the Authority:

- BMP board meeting to be held in late May or early June.
- Currently working with Governor’s office on some appointments that are due.

Streams and Other Waters – At the recommendation of Mr. Paul Miller, Mr. Larry Thomas appointed Ms. Sarah Gaddis as Chair for the Streams and Other Waters Committee. Ms. Sarah Gaddis accepted the appointment. Mr. Larry Thomas asked if Ms. Paulette Akers would verify that current members on the Committee would like to stay on. Division of Water may also add other members in the future. Mr. Randy McCallon said he believed he would replace Mr. Allen Bryant on the Committee representing KACD, but would volunteer as an alternate if KACD wished Mr. Bryant to remain. Ms. Paulette Akers will forward a list of members to Ms. Sarah Gaddis. The Authority requests the Committee discuss recent flooding events and how they may be able to assist farmers.

Education and Outreach - Mr. Todd Clark asked Ms. Paulette Akers to give an updated on the Ag Water Quality Planning Tool. Ms. Paulette Akers discussed the following with the Authority –

- Currently in process of programming the online AWQP Tool.
- Working on training the trainer.
- Still working on a few bugs on the AWQP tool.
- Training to be held next month.
- Mr. John Webb discussed meeting before the next Authority meeting in August to do a walk through in order to review.

Quarterly update of AWQA related violations – Ms. Paulette Akers informed the Authority of 4 violations of the Ag Water Quality Act since the last meeting. Three of the violations were from dairy operations, one from hog operation. All four were due to lagoon overflow.

Updates from members –

- Dr. Amanda Gumbert discussed the following with the Authority:
 - Completed the four farmer shop talks. Last one was on March 17.
 - Recording are online.
 - ❖ Financing Conservation Practices.
 - ❖ How to work with lenders.
 - ❖ Cover Crops.
 - ❖ Management Nutrients.
 - ❖ All farm panel discussion.

- Mr. Greg Stone discussed the following with the Authority:
 - Several counties request Emergency Declarations from last set of storms.
 - Two watershed dams caused some damage. Currently looking in to fixes.

- Mr. Randy McCallon discussed the following with the Authority:
 - KACD will have a hybrid convention this year in Lexington Kentucky. Both virtual and in person.
 - July 11 to July 13.

- Mr. Brandon Howard discussed the following with the Authority:
 - Classes for Master Logger were canceled this past December due to rise in Covid cases.
 - Classes have started back up.

Ms. Johnna McHugh and Ms. Paulette Akers discussed if the Authority would be able to attend the August meeting in person or virtual. Ms. Paulette Akers stated that there would be rooms available if the meeting is to be held in person in August.

Ms. Johnna McHugh thanked Mr. Paul Miller for letting her use a few people from his shop to help with Envirothon.

Ms. Paulette Akers stated the decision to have the August meeting in person or virtually will be decided late July.

- Next Meeting – August 26, 2021 1:30 pm at the Kentucky State Fair

Adjourn – 10:10 am