

KANSAS – OKLAHOMA ARKANSAS RIVER COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

August 4, 2020 via Zoom Webinar

1. Call to Order – Chairman and Federal Commissioner Earnie Gilder. Chairman and Federal Commissioner Earnie Gilder called the Fifty-sixth Annual Meeting of the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. on August 4, 2020, via Zoom webinar.

2. Chairman’s Remarks - Introductions and Announcements:

Chairman Gilder welcomed everyone to the 56th annual meeting of the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Commission meeting.

Federal:

Earnie Gilder, Federal Commissioner

State Commissioners Present:

Kansas:

Chris Beightel
Doug Blex
M. Bruce Falk

Oklahoma:

Julie Cunningham
Bryce Benson
J. Ross Kirtley

Federal Commissioners Absent:

Chuck Shively, Alternate Federal Commissioner, Kansas

State Commissioners Absent:

None

State Committee Members Present:

Kansas:

Kenneth Titus, Kansas Department of Agriculture
Elizabeth Hickman, Kansas Department of Agriculture/Division of Water Resources
Tom Stiles, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Jeff Lanterman, Kansas Department of Agriculture/Division of Water Resources

Oklahoma:

Kent Wilkins, Oklahoma Water Resources Board
Ammon Brisolaro, Oklahoma Water Resources Board
Sara Gibson, Oklahoma Water Resources Board
Bill Cauthron, Oklahoma Water Resources Board
Yohanes Sugeng, Oklahoma Water Resources Board
Mary Schooley, Oklahoma Water Resources Board

Others Present:

Mark Rude, Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District #3, Garden City, Kansas
Shanon Phillips, Oklahoma Conservation Commission
Larry Hastings
Matt Unruh
Chuck Clanahan

3. Presentation of Credentials (New Appointments to the Commission)

Chairman Gilder asked if there are any new appointments to the Commission. Mr. Chris Beightel stated that Commissioner David Barfield had retired, and he has been appointed Acting Chief Engineer until the position of Chief Engineer can be filled permanently. He will serve on the Commission as an ex officio member.

4. Approval of Minutes of the Fifty-fifth Annual Meeting

Chairman Gilder stated the minutes of the 55th KOARC meeting held in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, had been distributed by email, and he would entertain a motion. Commissioner Beightel moved to approve the minutes, and Commissioner Doug Blex seconded. The motion carried.

5. Report of the Federal Chairman

Federal Chairman Gilder reported that the Port of Muskogee is not under water as it had been last year at this time. He said they are moving forward with reconstruction of the Port facility and marina. He said the facility is in much better shape and waiting on FEMA.

6. Report of the Kansas State Commissioners:

Commissioner Beightel stated he has distributed a copy of the written report. Regarding the State's COVID-19 report, he said many employees are working from home and are very productive and are only seeing people by appointment at the office, maintaining social distancing, and getting field work done. Staff is concerned about the agency's budget anticipating a \$1.5 million shortfall, and other funding depends upon what Congress may or may not do to help the states. Regarding climate conditions, the growing season started extremely dry even after a very wet year last year; there are areas of extreme drought in southwest Kansas but

improved with recent rains. Severe and moderate drought persists in the southeast but those areas don't utilize irrigation, so staff is watching minimum desirable stream flows (MDS) and due to good well record precipitation there have not been MDS administration this year. On the legislative front, there were a few water bills introduced, one interesting measure was an effort to limit the liability of water right owners and penalties and infractions incurred by operators in an effort to separate the people who are actually operating the water right from the people who own the water right, but the issue did not get resolved. Another bill would have allowed people who certified their water rights after 2009 to enter the multi-year flex account—which they cannot do currently because quantity for that flex account is based on an historical period from 2000 to 2009. If you don't have records, you can't get into the program, so staff is looking at a way to update that to use irrigation meters.

Commissioner Beightel stated David Barfield retired after 12 years as Chief Engineer. There was a push to make the position a non-engineer; however, that has not happened. He mentioned that due to the pandemic, the Legislature adjourned on March 13 – also the last day staff was in the office -- with 328 bills that were carried over from 2019 and 355 new bills, of that 11 were passed by both houses; seven signed by the Governor and four vetoed. The pandemic took a toll on the Legislature's ability to work. He deferred to Commissioner Blex for further comments regarding Legislative activities.

Commissioner Beightel continued the report stating the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge impairment situation that has continued for decades and last year he had reported the state was unable to come to an agreement with Groundwater Management District #5 (GMD) on a voluntary basis to address the issues involving 1600 water rights that would have to be reduced to secure senior water rights of the Refuge. Kansas U.S. Senator Moran stepped in and met with the nominee as director of the USFWS and the GMD, and last week reached a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that the Service will not ask the Division of Water Resources to administer those rights on its behalf for 2020-2021 (2 years) and in return, the basin will build an augmentation project. He congratulated the parties on their efforts and said there is a lot of hard work yet to do.

Commissioner Beightel updated the members on other activities including the Wichita ASR project and the Hays-Russell R9 water rights adjudication. Staff is continuing to develop the effectiveness of current water conservation tools and evaluating changes in irrigation behavior based on the climate to predict future behavior observing that water use is 30% less than predicted. He updated the Commission regarding the Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMAs) involving Sheridan-6 which has been very popular and very effective and there is a definite savings shown and GMD #1 Wichita County project intended to save 15 percent of historical use (based on 2009-2015 water use records). The Water Conservation Areas (WACs) allow water right owners to enter agreements with the Chief Engineer to reduce groundwater withdrawals to extend the life of the Ogallala Aquifer, and he said staff is conducting the first hearing via Zoom next week. He concluded his portion of the report noting changes in the Kansas delegation including the retirement of David Barfield and his appointment while there is a search for a replacement. He introduced Ms. Lizzie Hickman who performed much of his duties as KOARC treasurer and as Budget and Engineering committee member, and she will be taking over these roles going forward.

There were no questions. Commissioner Doug Blex updated the Commission on the activities of the Kansas Legislature describing the challenging legislative session, and he anticipates the same for the coming year adjusting the revenue loss that may include across-the-

board-cuts for state agencies. He reflected that Oklahoma is likely in a similar situation. He said there was a shutdown over conflicts regarding a constitutional amendment and a judge in Shawnee County indicating the Kansas Constitution guaranteeing a woman's right to abortion which became very political. Overall, it was a low productive season and good bills went by the wayside, and Kansas has not expanded Medicaid which shutdown health related bills. Commissioner Blex anticipated a very difficult session and he expected serious cuts and hoped there would be decisions preserving real priority issues such as water issues. He expressed appreciation to the Oklahoma delegation for maintaining communication and he wished everyone luck.

Oklahoma Commissioner Julie Cunningham asked the water rights legislation separating liability from the owner to the operator -- what was the impetus and necessity for that bill. Mr. Kenneth Titus explained there are instances where a penalty is assessed to a tenant with an absentee landowner that does not know what is happening with their water right. When a fine is assessed the owner is ultimately responsible and it stays with water right over a five-year period. There could be cumulative penalties for over pumping, so people thought the landowner should not be responsible for the tenant if they weren't actually involved in the violation. Around 2015, cases regarding meter tampering to unrecord water occurred which required opening the meter case by someone knowledgeable about the wrong gear ratio. The Attorney General became involved because of potential consumer fraud resulting in hundreds of meters being replaced, 20 orders against people, and hundreds of meter being refitted by people who had not received orders. The DWR regulations do not allow for intent even though it is meter tampering and absentee landowners were incensed by being accused of meter tampering whether the tenant did it with full knowledge or not. After that was settled, the state livestock association had a bill that included a registry of certified meter techs who, if used, the landowner could not be held responsible for being out of compliance.

There were no other questions or comments.

7. Report of the Oklahoma State Commissioners:

Commissioner Julie Cunningham presented the Commissioner's report for Oklahoma beginning with an update on budget matters and concerns as Kansas, and she explained one-third of the OWRB's budget is general revenue and a large portion of appropriated funds are from the gross production tax collections and pays for water planning and some water rights administration activities and oil and gas production is down and a decline in fracking applications. She said most agencies received a 4% cut and the Governor has asked agencies to delay spending. The COVID situation has saved money but field investigations and labs are opening now, and public outreach programs are being accessed online. The silver lining is that staff is looking at ways to minimize costs, move to 100% mobile operations with laptops and docking stations, has implemented a Continuity of Operations Plan. The Governor allows flexibility, and there are about 10% of employees in the office coordinating attendance in areas, exercising social distancing and protocols for office and field strategies to get back to full swing. The Governor's CEO has emphasized minimizing the agency footprint and employees have responded to a questionnaire regarding interest in working from home.

Commissioner Cunningham updated the Commission on the activities of the 2025 update of the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan. The agency has received some funding from the settlement with the Chickasaw-Choctaw Tribal Settlement reimbursement for storage costs of

Sardis Lake. Strategies will update the Plan from just public water supply/wastewater to encompassing all water infrastructure including recognizing prolonged and extreme drought results in extreme flooding. The Legislature through SB 1269 directed the OWRB to develop a state resiliency plan to include an inventory of data and needs community by community, watershed by watershed, and although not funded, creates a fund to accept deposits. Partners are the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers, Oklahoma Emergency Management, and FEMA who will comprehensively address the flood control needs in Oklahoma. Staff will be working with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce for Community Development Block Grant funds, the COE, NRCS, etc.

Ms. Cunningham informed the Commission of a new coordinated assistance partnership program known as the Strategic Partnership signed last year between the Governor, Secretary of Energy and Environment, Water Resources Board, Department of Environmental Quality, and the Rural Water Association to elevate coordination and assistance to small communities and small water systems, and to map water lines, etc. She reviewed legislation, the Oil and Gas Produced Water and Waste Recycling Act, that clarified liability issues regarding the use of recycled produced water and the OWRB's Financial Assistance Program that has approved funding for 34 water and wastewater projects totaling \$313,290,192 million in the compact area the past year. The OWRB has several hydrologic investigations in the Arkansas Basin started the past year on the Boone Aquifer noting that one of the Water Plan recommendations was to complete groundwater basin studies to quantify water availability. She mentioned the City of Enid's Kaw Lake Alternative Water Supply Program building a 70-mile pipeline and refiguring the lake intake structure and building a treatment plant -- \$120 million funded to date has been funded by the OWRB, the project is projected to be a total of \$320 million.

Commissioner Cunningham noted other topics in the printed report that had been distributed prior to the meeting and yielded time to the other Oklahoma Commissioners.

Commissioner Ross Kirtley stated the oil and gas industry within the state is reeling from the unprecedented drop in the pricing of gas and predictions of recovery are uncertain and will likely require resolution of the COVID situation and stability of above \$40 per barrel before fracking and drilling activities pick back up.

There were no other comments or questions.

8. Report of the Secretary

a. Consideration and approval of 2019 Annual Report

Mary Schooley, Commission Secretary, stated everyone should have received copies of the final annual reports of the 2016, 2017, and 2018 meetings. Regarding last year's discussion about distribution of reports to the President, Ms. Schooley said Oklahoma Senator Inhofe's office provided information the President's copy of the reports should be provided by hard copy to the White House Executive Clerk. The draft 2019 report has been provided to the Commission and is in the same format as previous reports. There were no questions.

Federal Chairman Gilder stated there needed to be a motion to approve the draft 2019 report. Commissioner Beightel moved to approve the draft report, and Commissioner Faulk seconded. Chairman Gilder called for the vote; the motion carried.

9. Report of the Treasurer

Ms. Elizabeth Hickman, Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resources, presented the Report of the Treasurer. She referred to the distributed report containing the details of the Commission's fund which is in an account with the Bank of America. She said the report does not cover much different than previous years' and the report is much as those in the past. According to Resolution 2017.2B, the Commission decided it is sufficient to conduct an audit every five years with a simple financial review in the intervening years to decrease the annual costs of doing that review each year of the funds financial activity. A review was ordered for FY 2019 on July 8 and it is currently underway, and staff just received draft materials from the accountant conducting the review, making the expenses of the review occur in FY2021. Ms. Hickman referred to the financial report that had been previously distributed and said the cost of the financial review has been added to the FY2021 as a \$750 expense. Additionally, the full five-year audit has been budgeted in the year 2021, for fiscal years 2016-2020, which is a \$2,000 budgeted expense. Ms. Hickman stated at last year's meeting, the Commission approved resolution 2019.1 which raised the fund balance level requirement that would require a criminal insurance bond to \$95,000 from \$50,000 and a bond has not yet been secured as the Commission fund is at about \$52,000, which is below that amount. Ms. Hickman stated based on her review of the bank statements, the 2020 Oklahoma assessment has not been received and is shown as being received in 2021. The Treasurer's Report also includes a ledger of transactions from the past two complete fiscal years of FY 2019 and FY 2020 and anticipated expenditures and revenue for the Commission fund in FY 2021. There are no expenses for the 2020 meeting as it is being held virtually, and there is a budgeted allotment for next year of \$400 for incidentals, \$10,000 allotted in the past for the water quality project that has not yet been spent, the \$750 for the Financial Review of FY2019 activity, and \$2,000 for the Audit of FY2016-2020 activity. Anticipated revenue is \$8,700 in state assessment for FY'20 and '21, leaving a projected balance of \$46,699.00 at the end of the next fiscal year. The proposed budget for FY2021 is the same as FY2020—actual expenditure for the financial review has a zero-dollar expenditure as technically expenses will be incurred in 2021. The meeting expenses shown were incurred for last year's meeting in 2019. The proposed budget for FY2022 reflect what expenses have been in the past.

There were no questions.

Chairman Gilder asked if the Treasurer's Report required Commission approval. Mr. Kent Wilkins, Oklahoma Member to the Budget Committee, stated the Oklahoma assessment has been processed and will be mailed this week.

Chairman Gilder asked if the report should be approved. Commissioner Blex moved to approve the Report of the Treasurer as presented, and Commissioner Benson seconded. Commissioner Beightel asked to amend the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the proposed Budget simultaneously. Chairman Gilder repeated the motion is to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Budget simultaneously. Commissioner Benson seconded. Chairman Gilder called for the vote; the motion carried.

Commissioner Beightel asked if the Commission was comfortable adding Lizzie Hickman to the authority to sign checks and deposit money into the account and otherwise take over the duties as Treasurer. There was no objection. He also said a draft of the Accountant's review had been received, and in the conclusions (bottom of page 1) stated based on his review, he was not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the cash basis of accounting. The report will be included in the annual meeting report for 2020. Commissioner Cunningham

offered to assist in getting Ms. Hickman on the account and stated Mr. Wilkins should also be added to the account. Commissioner Beightel stated that he and Commissioner Cunningham are currently on the account.

There was no other discussion about the Treasurer or Budget reports.

10. Engineering Committee Report

Mr. Yohanes Sugeng, Oklahoma Chair, presented the Engineering Committee Report covering Water Year 2019 which is October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. Water Year 2019 mean flows at the five Oklahoma gaging stations was significantly higher than Water Year 2018 – six to nine times higher, and three-four times higher than the period of record. For Kansas, the flows were similar, 700% increase in one of the gauges, and overall three-to-four times higher compared to the period of record.

Mr. Sugeng stated there is one dam constructed in Oklahoma in Kingfisher County with normal storage capacity of 142 acre-feet. He concluded the report. There were no questions.

11. Legal Committee Report

Mr. Kenneth Titus, Chief Counsel with the Kansas Department of Agriculture, presented the Legal Committee Report. He said Mr. Ammon Brisolaro with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board is a new member of the Legal Committee. He said the primary job for the Legal Committee was to review a report from 2015 and he has provided a concise summary of that report that looked at how the compact might spend excess funds considering the Commission was looking at establishing a standing water quality committee. Speaking with Mr. Brisolaro's predecessor, Jonathan Allen, the Legal Committee thought it would be pertinent to take another look at how to spend excess funds, especially now that there were no meeting costs for this year. The two-page summary (distributed) reflects that any project to stop pollution and work on joint programs that deal with water quality and pollution abatement between the two states is an explicit purpose of the compact, and that the first report was limiting for several reasons in suggesting the compact funds could only be spent on a narrow number of projects. It is the Legal Committee's determination that if there is any sort of joint project that would benefit the basin regarding water quality or pollution abatement, the Committee is comfortable suggesting that the Commission could move forward. There were no questions or discussion by the Commissioners.

Mr. Titus continued the report presenting a draft resolution to review under New Business, establishing a water quality committee and updates to the rules and regulations due to changes last year to the bond requirements for the Treasurer, the amount of bonding from \$50,000 to \$95,000. He presented red-line version of Appendix H adding language approved in 2019 regarding the bond requirements (paragraph 4.) and notation at the bottom referencing the resolution number. The 2019 and 2017 resolutions were the same except for the amount, allowing to track the changes. He also showed the proposed changes under Article V, regulating the committees, new language that would be added if the Commission chooses to establish a standing water quality committee and describes any matters that could be referred to it, as well as providing an annual report. He said the Commission will be asked to approve the resolution, and

also approve the rules and regulations and an updated copy will be distributed with the annual report next year. Mr. Titus concluded the Legal Committee's report.

Chairman Gilder asked and Mr. Titus responded that the resolution should be considered after the Special Committee on Water Quality presentation. If the Water Quality Committee is established, the Commission can approve all the changes at once.

12. Budget (Finance) Committee Report

Ms. Elizabeth Hickman presented the Budget Committee report under the Report of the Treasurer. (Item 9.)

13. Special Water Quality Committee Report

Mr. Tom Stiles, Director of Water at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Mr. Bill Cauthron, Chief of the OWRB Water Quality Division, served as committee members. Mr. Stiles said the Committee looked at what the states do to report about water quality for other state compacts and duplicated that for the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact. He showed a proposal that is similar to a compact with Nebraska which essentially lays out how a water quality committee or subcommittee would work within the construct of the compact administration. Each Commissioner would appoint a representative from each state's water quality agencies --taking turns chairing the committee, and include tribal representation as necessary--to discuss water quality issues and initiatives along the border states. The committee could plan to meet each spring between Oklahoma City and Wichita or as part of the normal Commission meeting, and the meeting location could rotate based on the geography of interest--Grant Neosho/Verdigris, Arkansas main stem, Salt Fork/Cimarron, etc., setting up a rotation of looking at the various subbasins going across from Kansas into Oklahoma. A status report could be compiled for the Commission to look at issues and opportunities regarding water quality permitting, 303(d) listings, TMDLs, monitoring and water quality standards assessments, and non-point source issues from both state's respective agencies—Oklahoma Conservation Commission and Kansas Department of Agriculture, and KDHE Watershed Management; etc., and review ongoing areas of concern such as oil and gas produced water and algal blooms. He said the heart of the Commission is water supply/water management/water conservation/water rights and water quality has had more of an ad hoc presence, but the water quality committee would bring the two worlds together by reporting the Commission each year.

Mr. Bill Cauthron added that last year's discussion mentioned producing a report similar to that which is presented to the Arkansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact, is driven by item 5., subletters b. and c. (of the proposal) or water quality standards. That is a different dynamic and this report would look different to those that are familiar with the other compact report. He also recommended to the Commissioners that in dealing with water quality issues in the boundary waters it should consider bringing in the Grand River Dam Authority which does a great deal of work in the Verdigris/Neosho watershed, as well as including tribal representation, expanding the footprint of people involved in the compact. He commended the Commissioners for consideration of establishing a water quality committee.

Chairman Gilder thanked the committee for the report and asked if action is needed on the resolution. Commissioner Beightel thanked Mr. Stiles and Mr. Cauthron for putting together the framework, commenting that the matter is further along than envisioned a few years ago when discussed during the presentation of water quality metrics as part of the Engineering Committee. He said there is much water quality work going on between the states and this could be among the most substantive thing going on between the states in this area.

Commissioner Beightel said that at the appropriate time he would like to make the motion to establish a water quality committee based on the framework presented and enacted by the resolution proposed by the Legal Committee as well as the changes to the rules and regulations. Chairman Gilder stated there is a motion, and he would entertain a second. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion. Chairman Gilder called for the vote, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Blex commented he has worked with the Grand River Dam Authority on its project and he agreed with Bill's comment to bring in the Tribes. He said 60% of that watershed is in Kansas and water quality is a big issue and the committee serves as a good vehicle for public awareness and future funding from legislatures. He said he supports the water quality committee 100%.

Mr. Stiles asked if the Commission had a charge to the committee to focus on for the next year, particularly mentioning the volume of work by both states regarding drainage between John Redman and Grand Lake, but not wanting to create a voluminous report. After some discussion by the Commissioners, Mr. Stiles and Mr. Cauthron, about a narrow focus, staff time, and use of available data with the agencies already working together, it was agreed the Committee should focus on the Grand Lake drainage for this first year and look for ways to use the Commission funding for water quality projects. Chairman Gilder thanked everyone for their discussion and setting the direction for the Committee.

Commissioner Cunningham stated Ms. Shanon Phillips with the Oklahoma Conservation Commission is present today to update the Commission on the progress of the \$10,000.00 water quality project, either now or under New Business. It was agreed Ms. Phillips could discuss the project at this time in the agenda.

Ms. Shanon Phillips, Oklahoma Conservation Commission, stated the project is the Kansas-Oklahoma Middle and Lower Neosho Regional Conservation Partnership Program and is wrapping up at the end of the federal fiscal year. Weather challenges, along with COVID-related challenges, have caused some producers to extend their contracts into next year. Generally, however, she said they were not able to accomplish as much as hoped. The Kansas team has been much more successful implementing the program than Oklahoma, especially regarding signing producers and getting conservation on the ground. Both states spent 250 days on the farm with producers and completed stages of more than 60 plans and ultimately, only 40 producers are currently signed in the program, most in Kansas. Working with producers, once the qualifications were known they either backed out or didn't qualify so there was large effort on education and outreach. Monitoring has been ongoing in the watershed; the data is not available at this time, but some water quality impairments were found. In Oklahoma, technical service providers rather than Kansas NRCS staff assisted with conservation planning but the

program was able to implement a significant amount of conservation practices that should have a great benefit to water quality, including practices that haven't been implemented before in the watershed, including riparian area protection and cover crops, and demonstrations and workshops regarding soil health practices. Both states are interested in building on the efforts already begun as part the project and there are talks with GRDA about additional measures; work will be continued across the border. She talked about the riparian area RCPP agreements that have extended permanent easements, education about septic tank replacements, transfer of poultry litter outside the watershed and nutrient sensitive areas as well as other related issues, and continued education and maintenance programs. Ms. Phillips stated a framework has been set for continued positive efforts and cooperation between the states. The program supported local entities working on the issues while developing plans to go forward with future projects. The final report for the program will be out later this year.

There were no questions.

Mr. Mark Rude, Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District #3, Garden City, Kansas, addressed the Commission. He updated the members on the depletion of the High Plains Aquifer in both states. In southwest Kansas, lateral aquifer flows and surface water inflows from the Cimarron River from Colorado continue to decline, and southwest Kansas is closed to most new appropriations. He said they continue to look for alternate water supplies because of the depletion of the High Plains Aquifer and possible availability of additional sources from eastern watersheds with high flows, and western groundwater reservoir space for water conservation storage.

14. Reports of the State and Federal Agencies and Others. There were no reports by State or Federal Agencies.

Commissioner Beightel and Commissioner Cunningham discussed notification of state and federal agencies to attend meetings and the value of their reporting to the Commission. Oklahoma typically extends an invitation, and Kansas will also invite state and federal agencies to attend.

15. New Business and Committee Assignments, if any.

a. Resolution for David Barfield. Commissioner Beightel presented and read a proposed resolution 2020-02 recognizing the service of Mr. David Barfield to the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Commission:

RESOLUTION HONORING Mr. DAVID W. BARFIELD

RESOLUTION 2020-02

WHEREAS, David W. Barfield served as ex-officio Commissioner for the State of Kansas on the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact Commission from 2007 to 2019; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Barfield has retired from his position as Kansas Chief Engineer and from the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Barfield did faithfully and diligently serve the Compact Commission as a Commissioner for the State of Kansas, providing excellent representation of the State of Kansas and its constituents within the Arkansas River basin, as well as constructive insights and a positive and collaborative attitude.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact Commission does hereby acknowledge and express its gratitude and appreciation for the dedicated service of David W. Barfield to this Commission and extends to him the best wishes for good health and happiness in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission honor Mr. Barfield's service by entering this Resolution into the records of the 2020 Annual Compact Commission Meeting Minutes and the 2020 Annual Report and that the Compact Secretary be instructed to send a copy of the 2020 Annual Report to Mr. Barfield.
ADOPTED at the Fifty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact Commission on this 4th day of August 2020.

Commissioner Beightel moved approval of the resolution, and Commissioner Cunningham seconded. Chairman Gilder called for the vote; the motion was unanimously approved.

b. Mr. Kenneth Titus asked the Commission to approve the updated rules and regulations (as previously presented) which will be finalized, and a clean copy will be included in the annual report. Chairman Gilder stated he would entertain a motion.

Commissioner Bruce Faulk moved to approve the update of the rules and regulations, and Commissioner Blex seconded. Chairman Gilder called for the vote; the motion was unanimously approved.

c. Committee assignments – Commissioner Cunningham asked that Mr. Ammon Brisolaro be appointed to the Legal Committee, and Mr. Bill Cauthron be appointed to the Water Quality Committee. Commissioner Beightel asked that Elizabeth Hickman be appointed as Treasurer, and appointed to the Budget Committee and Engineering Committee; and that Tom Stiles be appointed to the Water Quality Committee.

16. Adjournment

There being no further business, Federal Commissioner and Chairman Earnie Gilder adjourned the Fifty-sixth Annual meeting of the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Commission at 10:30 a.m. on August 4, 2020.

Federal Commissioner Earnie Gilder

Alternate Federal Commissioner Chuck Shively

Commissioner Earl Lewis

Commissioner Bryce Benson

Commissioner Lisa French

Commissioner Julie Cunningham

Commissioner Ponka-We Victors

Commissioner J. Ross Kirtley

List of Exhibits included in the Annual Report

Agenda

Commission Directory

Kansas Commissioner Report

Oklahoma Commissioner Report

Report of the Treasurer

Engineering Committee Report

Legal Committee Report

Budget Committee Report

Special Water Quality Committee

New Business Items