**Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)**

**Meeting agenda for Monday, March 11, 2019**

9am to noon at the Ecology Headquarters building in Lacey (R1-16/17)

**Join by phone**: 1-855-929-3239 Access Code 805 675 514 #

When it's time, join the meeting from your computer to view presentations.

| Time a.m. | Topic | Lead |
|---|---|---|
| **9:00-9:05** | Sign-in and find a seat | **Everyone** |
| **9:05-9:10** | **Greetings and introductions**<br>*Start the meeting* | **Mary Verner**, WRP<br>**John Kounts**, WPUDA<br>**Chris Anderson,** WRP |
| **9:10-9:30** | **WRP Update**<br>*Update, discussion*<br>• Mary's update<br>• Budget/Personnel<br>• 2019 Legislative session - status | **Mary Verner**, WRP<br>**Jim Skalski**, WRP<br>**Dave Christensen,** WRP<br>**Carrie Sessions**, WRP |
| **9:30-10:10** | **Policy Update**<br>*Update, discussion*<br>We are proposing draft changes to two policies:<br>• POL-1060 Recision and Relinquishment<br>• POL-1200 Policy for the Evaluation of Changes or Transfers to Water Rights.<br>We want your comments. The current version of each policy and the draft revision is linked on the WRAC webpage. | **Carrie Sessions**, WRP |
| **10:10-10:25** | **Streamflow Restoration Implementation**<br>*Update, discussion*<br>Discuss the WRIA 1 Nooksack - rule amendment and the WRIA 11 Nisqually - adopted watershed plan addendum. We will also give an update on progress in other basins. | **Bennett Weinstein**, WRP-SR<br>**Annie Sawabini**, WRP |
| **10:25-10:45** | **Legal Update**<br>*Update, discussion*<br>Discus the latest Water Resources legal information. | **Alan Reichman**, AAG |
| **10:45-11:00** | **Break** | **Everyone** |
| **11:00-Noon** | **Cultivating interstate conversation and collaboration at the April 2018 Ogallala Aquifer Summit**<br>*Guest speaker presentation, discussion*<br>The USDA-NIFA funded Ogallala Water Coordinated Agriculture project (www.ogallalawater.org) partnered with the Kansas Water Office to bring together more than 200 water management professionals from all eight Ogallala-region states for an event called the Ogallala Aquifer Summit. This presentation will cover the "who, why, and how" of this successful event (*see page 2 for more information*). | **Amy Kremen**, Colorado State University |
| **Noon** | **Adjourn –** next WRAC meeting is scheduled for Apr. 8, 2019 | |

**Cultivating interstate conversation and collaboration at the April 2018 Ogallala Aquifer Summit**

**Bio:** Amy Kremen (Colorado State University) is the Project Manager for the USDA-NIFA funded Ogallala Water Coordinated Agriculture Project (ogallalawater.org), an interdisciplinary team of roughly 70 people based at 10 institutions in 6 of the 8 Ogallala aquifer states. Her ag-centric career spans about two decades and a variety of job descriptions including farm-to-table cook, farmer, research assistant (USDA-ERS), writer and editor (USDA-SARE, *The Canadian Organic Grower* magazine and others), and organic production/processing policy consultant (Québec and Government of Canada). Amy's MSc in soil science (UMD-College Park) focused on nitrogen capture and turnover from Brassica cover crops used in conventional corn/soy rotations.

**Presentation:** The USDA-NIFA funded Ogallala Water Coordinated Agriculture project (www.ogallalawater.org) partnered with the Kansas Water Office to bring together more than 200 water management professionals from all eight Ogallala-region states for an event called the Ogallala Aquifer Summit, which took place in Garden City, KS in April 2018. The summit's main goals were to (1) build cross-state relationships among a wide range of water management stakeholders, (2) encourage information exchange, drawing heavily from and building on the experience and expertise of producers, and (3) identify opportunities for collaboration within and across state lines to boost the impact of efforts being made to help address the region's water-related challenges.

Assigned seating ensured that people representing different states and stakeholder perspectives would meet and interact. Panels, keynotes and facilitated workshops covered different aspects of "what's working" in agricultural water management within three main topic areas of producer practice, contributions from science, and policy developments. Participants discussed practical aspects of agricultural water use in relation to different (bio)physical factors, including differences in evapotranspiration rates going from the Northern to Southern High Plains and variation in the aquifer's saturated thickness across the region.

The summit's final, capstone workshop aimed to integrate the wide range expertise of participants with information shared at the meeting. Table groups were tasked with identifying and prioritizing actionable, cross-state collaborative activities with the potential to benefit the Ogallala region over the long term. This presentation will cover the "who, why, and how" of this successful event and how it fits within a broader context of research and engagement activities focused on mitigating the Ogallala region's serious water quantity- and quality-related challenges.

Additional information:

1. Ogallala Summit Summary report
2. UNL-TAPS Banquet report
3. Colorado Water (Nov/Dec 2017) issue on the Ogallala aquifer and the work of our multi-state, interdisciplinary team
4. Fall 2018 *TX h2O* issue on the Ogallala aquifer and the work of our team and the USDA-ARS supported Ogallala Aquifer Program