



Kansas Water Congress

or other statewide water policy NGO?

KWC 2022 Governing Body

- David Brenn, Pres. Garden City
 - Kent Lamb, VP Macksville
 - Chris Wilson, Sec/Tres Belvue
 - Robin Jenison Wichita
 - Ken Frahm Colby
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- ▶ New/return members – new board leadership

 - ▶ National Water Resources Association
 - \$14,632 annual membership fee.
 - Provide KWC member weekly federal affairs update.
 - Envision a KWC member weekly state affairs update.



Kansas Water Congress


Articles of Incorporation

MISSION:

Build statewide consensus and advocacy for wise development, management and stewardship of water and water related resources for the present and future generations of Kansans.

Vision:


A statewide non-partisan forum for member access to an empowering combination of education, premier events, networking and professional development opportunities to consider and function with respect to all aspects of the development, administration, conservation, and efficient utilization of Kansas water resources.



KWC Preamble

- ▶ Members shall come together from every watershed, represent every type of water user, and seek unity of purpose and objective in supporting the formation and execution of a stable water policy for a unified Kansas.
- ▶ Members join to dedicate themselves to the task of securing full development, protection, and management of our available water resources...equity of access and usage must apply statewide to every resident and rightholder

Preamble cont.

- ▶ In recognition that full utilization of our limited and precious water resources will fix the limits of Kansas greatness, and
 - ▶ Recognizing the need to achieve harmony between the water resources and other natural resources, members will strive to insure a quality environment in Kansas
 - ▶ Therefore, residents of Kansas associate as a not-for-profit corporation under these articles.
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KWC Articles of Incorporation

- ▶ Article I – Name: Kansas Water Congress or the Congress – p. 2
- ▶ Article II – Registered office and agent (to be determined) – p. 2
- ▶ Article III – Objectives and Purposes, sec. 1 thru 6 p. 2
- ▶ Article IV – Powers and Duties, sec. 1 thru 3p. 3
- ▶ Article V – Incorporators; Brenn and Loydp. 4
- ▶ Article VI – Membership, sec. 1 thru 7p. 4
- ▶ Article VII – Division Organizations, sec. 1 thru 5p. 5
- ▶ Article VIII – Board of Directors, sec. 1 thru 10p. 6
- ▶ Article IX – Committees, sec. 1 thru 6p. 9
- ▶ Article X – Officers, sec. 1 thru 6p. 10
- ▶ Article XI – Meetings, sec. 1 thru 5.....p. 11
- ▶ Article XII – bylawsp. 12
- ▶ Article XIII – Amendmentsp. 12
- ▶ Article XIV – Durationp. 13
- ▶ Article XV – Dissolution, sec. 1 and 2p. 13
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Questions and Comments

- ▶ Comments from the Water Congress reorganization meeting:
 - Was not aware of exiting articles and the voting board structure that included one from each GMD.
 - Important to have a non-government organization to represent Kansas interests at the federal level.
 - Organization should be remade.
 - Need a water resources association to help communicate with people across this state and with people of other states.
 - Existing Kansas Water Congress board members are supportive of a reorganization initiative.
 - Next step should be a steering committee on-line meeting.



Kansas Water Congress

Draft Strategic Planning
(For reference only)

ADVOCACY

- Establish annual KWC legislative, regulatory and funding priorities
 - develop member education/information materials
- Continue to establish KWC as a premier voice of non-partisan, Kansas water policy
- Enhance KWC relationships with key influencers
- Improve efficacy of KWC lobbying on issues with statewide support.
- Continue coordination and joint advocacy efforts
- Ensure timely review and action on judicial and administrative appellate developments
- Broaden KWC issue expertise and resources

POLICY

- Review policies and update to ensure positions and adequate direction on all topics of priority to KWC
 - Develop next Strategic Plan to identify and explicitly align strategic goals with KWC policies
 - Establish a five-year review schedule of all policies ensuring they effectively communicate KWC positions and provide staff with clear direction to enable collaboration and realistic outcomes.
 - Coordinate with State Affairs committee to harmonize member policies and legislative and regulatory positions with KWC policies and Advocacy Action Plan
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KANSAS WATER CONGRESS FUNDING/MANAGEMENT

- Develop two-year KWC budget, with contingencies; ensure alignment of budget with Strategic Plan
 - **Develop more diversified revenue sources**
 - **Expand meeting sponsorships and exhibitor registration to offset 10% of member registration expense by annual meeting 2025**
 - Adopt upcoming annual Goals and Objectives for the Association at each summer meeting.
 - Establish an Executive Director and Conduct annual reviews
 - Establish a clear path for securing Kansas membership and representation on the NWRA Board and participation in the NWRA federal affairs committee.
 - Continue growth in meeting attendance
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MEMBERSHIP/STRUCTURE

- Maintain KWC as a statewide membership organization:
 - Review existing members and committees/caucuses
 - Secure maximum possible statewide membership of Kansas water interest individuals and organizations
 - Create/recruit new committees/caucuses that are consistent with KWC Goals and Objectives and Advocacy Action Plans
 - Recruit membership in unrepresented sectors of Kansas water management and economy.
 - Market KWC to persons who have interests aligned with KWC
- Establish a new–veteran Director mentorship activity
- Review Board membership and structure with a recommendation to full Board of member engagement of board by summer meeting 2024 (size, composition, etc.)
- Succession planning – recruit younger members of the water community to participate in KWC
 - Consider a Young Professionals development program

COMMUNICATIONS

- Establish an effective process for weekly membership communication and engagement on issues/positions that balances content to avoid information overload
 - Initiate regular communication of priorities, action alerts, objectives, and progress to membership
 - Conduct survey of membership to determine best communications practices
 - Involve member associations and committees to improve membership communications with a goal of increasing total KWC participation and involvement by 10% annually as measured by conference attendance.
 - Establish culture of timely membership involvement in review, feedback, comment, and support to KWC and appropriate legislative and regulatory entities on KWC's Advocacy Action Plans
 - With State Affairs Committee, explore new media for member and public education
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STATE AFFAIRS

Appoint/recruit at least one State Affairs Committee member from each member organization and water sector

Develop state affairs strategies to support KWC annual goals and objectives and Advocacy Action Plans

Develop specific State Affairs monthly video calls and trainings for members in conjunction with KWC conferences

FEDERAL AFFAIRS

Appoint/recruit at least one SA Committee member from each member organization or water sector

Develop Federal Affairs strategies to support KWC priorities and Advocacy Action Plans

Maintain state membership for Kansas on the board of the NWRA and active involvement in their federal affairs committee for voice and partnerships to benefit Kansans, KWC priorities and Advocacy Action Plans

Develop specific Federal Affairs sessions and trainings for members