

**KENTUCKY RIVER AUTHORITY  
MEETING NO. 194  
AGENDA**

Date: February 18, 2020  
Time: 1:00 p.m.  
Place: Bush Building  
403 Wapping St.  
Frankfort, KY 40601

1. Call to Order
2. Comments from general public
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Financial Report – Jennie Wolfe
5. Consideration of USGS Contract for FY 2021 – 2022 – David Hamilton
6. Consideration of UK Watershed Management Contract for FY 2021 – 2022 – David Hamilton
7. Consideration of Tier I fee adjustment – David Hamilton and Mark Smith
8. Report on 2019 River Sweep and Consideration for 2020 River Sweep funding – Sue Elliston
9. Consideration of Public Officials Liability Insurance – Jennie Wolfe
10. Executive Director Report – David Hamilton
11. Chairman Report – Mark Smith
12. Discussion - Other
13. Executive Session
  - Proposed Litigation KRS 61.810 (c)
  - Property Acquisition KRS 61.810 (b)
  - Personnel Matters KRS 61.810 (f)
14. Adjourn

***The Kentucky River Authority will maintain and manage water resources of the Kentucky River Basin to provide a clean and reliable water supply for the citizens of the Basin. The Kentucky River Authority will provide leadership and a common forum for all stakeholders of the Kentucky River Basin in order to promote the highest and best uses of the water resources of the Kentucky River Basin.***

A meeting of the Kentucky River Authority (KRA) was held at 1:00 pm at the Bush Building in Frankfort, Kentucky on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, pursuant to a meeting advisory posted at [www.kra@gov](mailto:www.kra@gov) and emailed to the KRA's distribution list. The following board members were present: Barry Sanders, Jonathan Lang, Thomas Stephens, Amanda Stacy, Secretary Rebecca Goodman, Harold Rainwater, Scott Althausser, Angela Muncy and Huston Wells. Also in attendance were David Hamilton Executive Director for the Kentucky River Authority, KRA Staff members, Sue Elliston and Jennie Wolfe. The guests in attendance were Dave Brown Kinloch (Hydro Partners), Robin Antenucci, (Frankfort Tourism), Robert Hatton (Stantec), Ed Wilcox (KSU), Jeff Woods (USGS), David Billings (Frankfort Plant Board), Dr. Lindell Ormsbee (UK), Malissa McAlister (UK), Tommy Russell (Franklin County Emergency Management), AK Front (WMU) and Tom Marshall.

The meeting proceeded as follows:

1. **Call to Order.** Vice-Chairman Jonathan Lang called the meeting to order, Sue Elliston took the roll call and announced there was a quorum.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes.** Upon the motion made by Thomas Stephens and second by Secretary Goodman the board unanimously approved the December 17, 2019, board meeting minutes.
3. **Financial Report.** Jennie Wolfe summarized the financial reports for the months October, November and December. Upon a motion made by Thomas Stephens and second by Harold Rainwater the board unanimously approved the financial reports for the second quarter of the fiscal year.
4. **Discussion House Bill Resolution 37.** David Hamilton summarized the House Bill 37, introduced by Joe Graviss and James Tipton and adopted by a voice vote on February 7, 2020. The Kentucky House of Representatives recognized the Kentucky River as a vital development, water supply and tourism resource.
5. **Consideration of USGS Contract for FY 2021 – 2022.** David Hamilton summarized the purpose of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Agreement for the board members. The KRA has had an agreement with the USGS for the Kentucky River Streamflow Gage Network since the 1990's. The network has 23 gages on the river predict extreme water events. Jeff Woods with the USGS spoke and explained how calendar year 2019 was a record wet year in the Kentucky River basin. Tommy Russell spoke on behalf on the Frankfort/Franklin County Emergency Management, how he and other Emergency Management Officials rely on the USGS Gages since it provides critical lifesaving information. Upon a motion made by Houston Wells and second by Barry Sanders the board unanimously approved the USGS Streamflow Gage Agreement for the next two fiscal years for \$288,300.
6. **Consideration of the UK Watershed Management Contract for FY 2021 – 2022.** David Hamilton summarized the background and purpose of the agreement with the University of Kentucky. This agreement has been in place for 20+ years and is required by statute. Malissa McAlister's job duties include assisting, coordinating, working with the public, serving as the contact for KRA at meetings and convening the basin team twice a year. The watershed watch program has three rounds of samples per year at 160 sites with 200 volunteers. The watershed grant program has distributed almost \$250,000 for 99 projects over the history of the program. Upon a motion made by Houston Wells and second by

Thomas Stephens the board unanimously approved the UK Watershed Agreement for the next two fiscal years for \$258,887.

7. **Consideration of the Tier I fee adjustment.** David Hamilton explained the reasoning behind the proposed Tier I fee adjustment. The Tier I water user fee, 2.2 cents per thousand gallons on water withdrawn from the Kentucky River drainage basin, had been the same since 1996. The proposed fee would be 2.9 cents per thousand gallons on water withdrawn from the Kentucky River drainage basin effective July 1, 2020, with fee payers seeing this increase on the invoice for quarter ending September 30, 2020. Upon a motion made by Houston Wells and second by Angela Muncy the board unanimously approved the Tier I rate increase. The KRA staff will mail certified letters to each water user to inform them of the rate increase approved by the board.
8. **Report on 2019 River Sweep and Consideration for 2020 River Sweep funding.** Sue Elliston summarized the most recent river sweep – 735 volunteers, 79 miles, 166 tires, 727 bags, 6,526 pounds of trash, 4 tons and 980 pounds of recycled garbage. The 2019 River Sweep event has much better turnout than the previous year. Sue Elliston requested, for the 2020 River Sweep event not to exceed \$7,000 on purchasing t-shirts from the Department of Corrections. Johnathan Lang suggested getting a legal opinion on contributions or in-kind donations for the River Sweep event. The date for the event will be the third Saturday in August, August 15, 2020, but giving counties the option of choosing a date that works best for them. Upon a motion made by Houston Wells and second by Thomas Stephens the board unanimously approved the funding for 2020 River Sweep.
9. **Consideration of Public Officials Liability Insurance.** Jennie Wolfe explained Finance and Administration Cabinet, Division of State Risk bids out the Public Officials Liability Insurance each year. The cost of the insurance for the upcoming year March 2020 through March 2021 is \$4,268.47 and increase of \$772.66 over the previous year. Upon a motion made by Scott Althausser and second by Houston Wells the board unanimously approved the Public Officials Liability Insurance.
10. **Executive Directors Report.** David Hamilton recapped the most recent events for the KRA staff, including the Louisville Boat Show and our new marketing materials. He also met with East Kentucky Power recently in Winchester, and plans to update the previous version of the Drought Response Plan within the next six months and present to the KRA board for review. This will open the communication between the Utility Companies on the Kentucky River, the Division of Water and the Kentucky River Authority.
11. **Chairman Report.** In Mark Smiths absence, Jonathan Lang spoke on his behalf and stated he was very pleased with how the marketing piece had come together and next we will focus specifically on advertising the Kentucky River. Houston Wells suggested revisiting the grant portion of the rental income designated for the marketing committee. The funds are not available until the Hydro Facility at Lock 12 is generating electricity.
12. **Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 1:51 pm upon a motion made by Houston Wells and second by Barry Sanders. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.