

SAKW 2020 Resolutions

RESOLUTION NO. 1: THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS WATERSHEDS SUPPORTS THE KDA DIVISION OF CONSERVATION FY 2021 BUDGET REQUEST THAT CONTAINS \$950,000 FOR THEIR WATERSHED DAM CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, to meet unmet needs in unfunded dam construction (approx. 100 new sites) and for rehabilitation of existing flood control dams (approx. 1,500 existing sites); and

WHEREAS, the additional funds should be an incentive for Watershed Districts to submit additional applications for new dam construction cost share assistance from KDA Division of Conservation; and

WHEREAS, priorities being set by the 2020 Kansas legislative session will spend any revenue surpluses from FY 2019 on non-conservation programs; and

WHEREAS, the need for priority multipurpose small lakes projects, watershed dam construction and rehabilitation, restoration of water supply systems, and riparian and wetland protection is identified in the Kansas State Water Plan; and

WHEREAS, it is widely recognized by Kansas Watershed Districts that the biggest detriment to new construction of watershed dams besides Section 404 permits is lack of sufficient funds in the KDA/DOC dam construction program; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Association of Kansas Watersheds supports the KDA Division of Conservation FY 2021 budget request that contains \$950,000 for their watershed dam construction program.

RESOLUTION NO. 2: THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS WATERSHEDS SUPPORTS EFFORTS TO MAKE DAM WATCH AVAILABLE FOR ALL WATERSHED DISTRICT DAMS.

WHEREAS, currently, only PL-566, pilot, and RC&D funded dams are covered by Dam Watch; and

WHEREAS, the availability of Dam Watch for State and/or Watershed District funded dams may require additional manpower and financial support before KDA Division of Water Resources is capable to administer the program; and

WHEREAS, this past year saw Dam Watch for federally funded dams produce positive flood reduction benefits from rain fall events where no such information was available for State dams; and

WHEREAS, all other potentially stored documents in Dam Watch such as, but not limited to O&M records, As-Built drawings, and Emergency Action Plans, would be available for quick reference at all times for State funded dam owners; and

WHEREAS, if legislative action is needed then we direct KDA Division of Water Resources to evaluate Dam Watch and inform SAKW and its partners at a future partnership meeting of the required legislation, and

WHEREAS, if no action is taken by KDA Division of Water Resources to present such evaluation for Dam Watch within the next six months, then SAKW with the backing of its membership shall seek out other options for administration of Dam Watch for State funded dams; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Association of Kansas Watersheds supports efforts to make Dam Watch available for all Watershed District dams..

RESOLUTION NO. 3: THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS WATERSHEDS SUPPORTS ACTIONS BY KANSAS WATERSHED DISTRICTS TO MAKE APPLICATIONS TO THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S DIVISION OF CONSERVATION FOR DAM CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM PROJECTS.

WHEREAS, the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Conservation's dam construction program lacks applications for future dam construction and rehabilitation projects; and

WHEREAS, it is readily known that the lack of applications especially for new dam construction relates directly from challenges in securing section 404 permits from the US Army Corps of Engineers; and

WHEREAS, future funding for the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Conservation's dam construction program will be difficult to support without a viable waiting list of applicants; and

WHEREAS, if SAKW submits a legislative proposal to supplement the FY 2020 budget to enhance the watershed dam construction program by an additional \$900,000, there lacks a sufficient number of applications for those enhanced funds; and

WHEREAS, due to the length of time from application to actual funding of a project it is even more important to start considering making applications for the April 1, 2019 deadline that could take advantage of FY 2021 funding opportunities; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the State Association of Kansas Watersheds supports actions by Kansas watershed districts to make applications to the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Conservation for new dam construction and rehabilitation program projects.