

The Kansas Water Congress Newsletter
December 31, 2003

"THE WATERWAY"

Initial Directors

David Brenn
Garden City

Ken Frahm
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Rep. Ward Loyd
Garden City

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Richard Reinhardt
Erie

Paul Tobia
Wichita

Chris Wilson
Warrego

Hannes Zacharias
Olathe

Dear Friends,

The Kansas Water Congress was incorporated in February 2003. Since that time significant progress has been made in the development of the Congress, which include:

- Opening of our Topeka office in May 2003. Our office is located in the Association Office building at 816 SW Tyler, Topeka, Kansas 66612.
- On May 28, 2003 we held our first statewide Kansas Water Congress meeting at the Rolling Hills Zoo Conference Center near Salina, Kansas. About 70% of the divisions were represented for the orientation and discussion session.
- Numerous informational presentations have been made to general groups, existing statewide associations, government agencies and individuals.
- The Initial Directors and Steering Committee for the 29 statewide Divisions of the Congress has been established (see enclosed list)

This group is key to the organizational development of the Congress as we move into and through 2004.

- Founding and sustaining membership has been received from 15 separate entities to help fund the Congress in the developmental stage. Additional funding through individual, sustaining and founding memberships is being sought and encouraged.
- The Congress has initiated a grant application process to seek additional funding sources, in our developmental stage.
- The Management/Executive Committee of the Congress has met or teleconferenced 3 times during the year to conduct business and review status and direction of the Congress.

(over)

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Short Term 2004 Goals

- The 2004 Legislative Session will be an opportunity to communicate the role and function of the Kansas Water Congress and provide a resource of objective information and facts on water issues facing the State. Advocacy on issues is not planned for this Legislative Session.
- Help facilitate each of the 29 statewide Divisions, in the process of establishing their governance. 6 of the 29 Divisions have established governance at this time.
- Separate meeting/teleconferences of the Geographic, Groundwater Management and General Divisions are being scheduled for early 2004.
- Continue to expand both sustaining and individual membership across the State by focusing on each of the 29 Divisions and the water issues relevant to them.
- Utilize quarterly newsletter, e-mail and regular mail to update and inform membership on relevant water related issues.
- The Kansas Water Congress will have its first General Membership Meeting in conjunction with the "Water and Future of Kansas Conference", **March 11, 2003, Lawrence, Kansas**. More details later.

Thank you for your interest and support of the Kansas Water Congress. Please contact me with any questions, comments or discussion you may have on issues. Please reference the contact information listed below. Individual and sustaining membership questions and fees can be directed to the same or sent to the Kansas Water Congress, Inc., 816 SW Tyler, Topeka, Kansas 66612.

Happy New Year



David A. Brenn
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