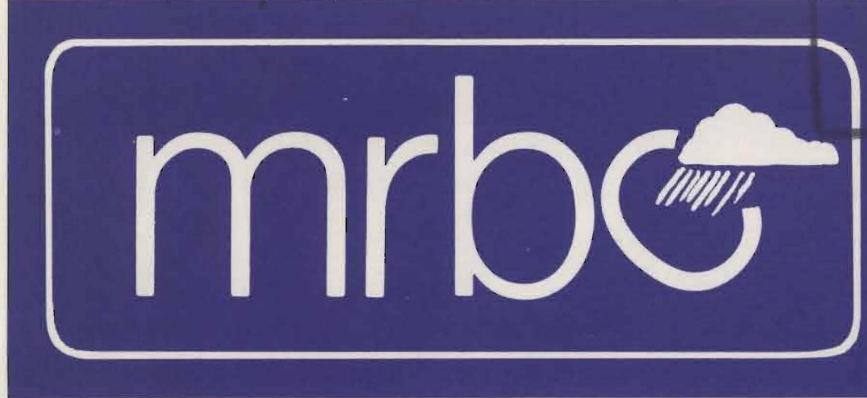


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Vol. 3, No. 6

May-June 1976



Governor Kneip

Governors to hold conference on water in conjunction with 17th MRBC meeting

Gov. Richard F. Kneip of South Dakota has announced a Missouri River Basin Governors' Conference on critical water issues to be held Aug. 3-5 in St. Paul, Minn.

The meeting will be in conjunction with the 17th regular quarterly meeting of the Missouri River Basin Commission (MRBC).

Both meetings will be held at the Radisson St. Paul at the invitation of the State of Minnesota.

Governor Kneip said the primary issues to be discussed by the 10 basin governors would be long-range Missouri River water use policies, potential interstate Missouri River water use conflicts, and the possible need for the establishment of interstate compacts to manage and negotiate Missouri River water resource conflicts.

Missouri Basin states are experiencing impacts of new energy developments, growing demands for water to increase agriculture production, and maintenance of instream flows as well as changes in federal-state relationships involving water planning and development, Kneip said.

Governor Kneip asked John W. Neuberger, as MRBC chairman and coordinating officer of the 10 MRBC federal agency members, to present a briefing to the governors on the current status of water marketing to industrial users, procedures and policies of federal and state governments, and MRBC studies on competing water uses in the basin.

After four years of basin commission work and experience with the critical water use issues and state-federal conflicts associated with the Missouri River, MRBC provides an excellent forum to evaluate alternatives for resolving critical water and energy issues in the basin, Neuberger said.

Conference coordination and administrative arrangements will be handled by the Missouri River Basin Commission staff and Governor Kneip's appointed member to the commission.

Governors invited by Kneip to participate in the Missouri River Basin water conference are Richard Lamm of Colorado, Robert Ray of Iowa, Robert Bennett of Kansas, Wendell Anderson of Minnesota, Christopher Bond of Missouri, Thomas Judge of Montana, J. James Exon of Nebraska, Arthur Link of North Dakota and Ed. Herschler of Wyoming.

Contacts: Richard E. Brown, Executive Secretary, MRBC, (402) 397-5714
Vern W. Butler, South Dakota Member, MRBC, (605) 224-3151
Dan Garry, Office of the South Dakota Governor, (605) 224-3212



Governor Anderson



Governor Lamm



Governor Ray



Governor Bennett

MRB Governors' Conference/MRBC meeting agenda Radisson St. Paul

August 3, 1976 (Tuesday)

- 1-5 p.m. Registration (Lower Lobby)
- 1:30-4 p.m. State Member Caucus (Indian Suite)
- Federal Member Caucus (Senate Suite)
- 5:30-7:30 p.m. Conference Reception (Capitol Ballroom)

August 4, 1976 (Wednesday)

- 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Registration (Lower Lobby)
- 8:30-12 noon Plenary Session (Minnesota West Ballroom)
Governors' Conference on Critical Water Issues

Presiding: Governor Richard F. Kneip, South Dakota

Welcome: Governor Wendell Anderson, Minnesota

Introductory Remarks: Governor Richard F. Kneip, South Dakota

Critical Water Issues in the Missouri River Basin: A Summary Review:
John W. Neuberger, Chairman
Missouri River Basin Commission

Basin State Governors' Views on Critical Water Issues

Richard Lamm of Colorado
 Robert Ray of Iowa
 Robert Bennett of Kansas
 Wendell Anderson of Minnesota
 Christopher Bond of Missouri

Thomas Judge of Montana
 J. James Exon of Nebraska
 Arthur Link of North Dakota
 Richard F. Kneip of South Dakota
 Ed Herschler of Wyoming



Governor Bond



Governor Herschler

Conference Topics

I. Potential Interstate Water Use Issues

Water for Energy
Water for Agriculture
Water for Instream Flows

II. Need for Interstate Compacts to Manage and Negotiate Water Resource Conflicts in the Future

III. Future Role of the Missouri River Basin Commission

Discussion and Governors' Recommendations for Action

Secretary of the Interior and Chairman of the Water Resources Council Response to State Views – Thomas S. Kleppe (Invited)

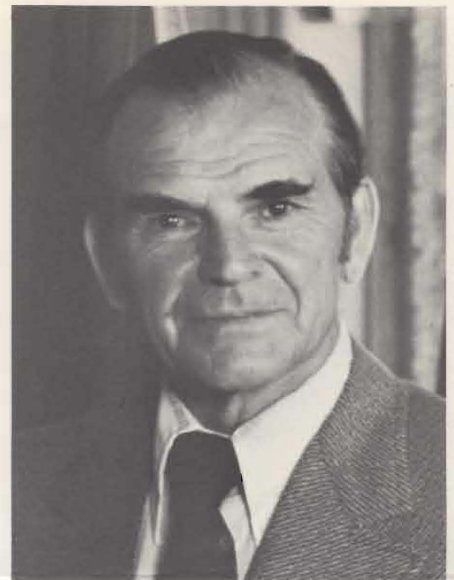
Selection of Next Conference Date

Adjournment

12:30-2 p.m. **MRB Governors' Conference and Missouri River Basin Commission Joint Luncheon** (Capitol Ballroom)

Guest Speaker: Chairman of the U.S. Water Resources Council and Secretary, Department of the Interior, Thomas S. Kleppe (Invited)

Observations: Governor of South Dakota, Richard F. Kneip



Governor Link



Governor Exon

MRBC OFFICIAL MEETING AGENDA

2:30-5 p.m. **17th Regular Meeting Agenda** (Minnesota West Ballroom)
John W. Neuberger, Chairman, Presiding

Agenda Available – Checkroom

August 5, 1976 (Thursday)

8:30-11:45 a.m. **Continuation of MRBC 17th Meeting** (Minnesota West Ballroom)

Adjournment



Governor Judge

Minnesota member becomes MRBC vice-chairman

Archie Chelseth of Minnesota has been elected vice-chairman of the Missouri River Basin Commission (MRBC) effective July 1.

Chelseth replaces Keith Krause of Kansas, whose term expires.

Chelseth, who represents Governor Wendell Anderson, holds the title of Governor's Basin Commissioner in Minnesota. He also represents the governor on the Upper Mississippi River Basin Commission and the Upper Great Lakes Basins Commission.

The term of the MRBC vice-chairman is set by the state members at one year.



Chelseth

While water use continues to grow, the total amount of water available remains essentially the same. The world's water supply – about 326 million cubic miles of water throughout the land, air, and oceans – has essentially neither diminished nor increased since the Earth's atmosphere was formed nearly 3 billion years ago.

Army, Commerce, Big Blue name new MRBC members

The Departments of the Army and Commerce and the Big Blue River Compact Administration have named new members to represent them on the Missouri River Basin Commission (MRBC).

Brig. Gen. William E. Read, who assumed command of the Missouri River Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, June 15, replaces Col. Harry F. Mumma as the MRBC Army member.

Secretarial Representative John R. Bermingham of Denver has been appointed as MRBC Commerce member.

Bermingham replaces Elroy C. Balke of Kansas City, who will become Commerce alternate. Also named Commerce alternate was Russell G. Mann of Kansas City.

Marion Ball of Nebraska and Guy Gibson of Kansas will change places representing the Big Blue River Compact Administration. Henceforth, Ball will be the member and Gibson the alternate. Previously, the positions were reversed.



Read



Bermingham



Ball

MRBC chairman says FWS must relate refuge proposal to Platte Level B plan

John W. Neuberger, chairman of the Missouri River Basin Commission (MRBC), said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) must relate its revised proposal for a national wildlife refuge in Nebraska to a recently completed plan for the Platte River Basin.

The latest proposed Platte River National Wildlife Refuge would lie entirely within the flood plain of the Platte River. It would involve certain segments of remaining wetland habitat in 10 counties along a 180-mile stretch of the Platte River.

The area encompasses habitat extremely important for a host of migratory birds, including white-fronted geese, the endangered whooping cranes and the lesser sandhill crane, Assistant Interior Secretary Nat' Reed told Chairman Neuberger at a recent meeting in Washington.

While recognizing the importance of the area to wildlife, Neuberger said the state-federal Platte Level B Study was carried out to evaluate all aspects of water and land use along the Platte and to recommend the best alternatives.

"A wildlife refuge was considered and recommended in the basin plan with the requirement that additional study be given to the proposal before its implementation, particularly to identify the amount of water required to make the refuge function," Neuberger said.

"Field meetings are currently scheduled with officials of the Department of the Interior to coordinate additional studies for the revised wildlife refuge proposal with the Platte Level B Plan and the desires of the State of Nebraska," Neuberger said.

MRBC adopts process for developing Missouri Basin plan

The Missouri River Basin Commission (MRBC) has adopted a process designed to evolve a comprehensive, coordinated joint plan (CCJP) for water and related land resources of the region.

Preparing a plan for the Missouri River Basin is one of the commission's mandates under the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965.

The CCJP process was adopted by the commission at its 16th quarterly meeting in Omaha May 5-6. It calls for preparing basinwide water and related land resources plans in many of the 29 subregions of the 10-state Missouri River Basin similar to the plan recently completed in the Platte River Basin of Nebraska, according to John W. Neuberger, MRBC chairman.

A high priority study leading to a subregional plan to be included in the CCJP is currently underway in the Yellowstone River Basin and adjacent coal field areas in Montana, Wyoming and North Dakota.

"The CCJP process was adopted for a period of three years after which time its effectiveness will be evaluated," Neuberger said.

"The CCJP process calls for a great deal of cooperation between state and federal agencies," Neuberger said. "One of the main challenges will be to assist those agencies in meeting the manpower requirements to do their parts in such a large job."

A 45-page document titled "Comprehensive, Coordinated Joint Plan Process & Administrative Procedures" was published by MRBC in June. Copies are available.



The Corps of Engineers' towboat Sgt. Floyd is making its final voyage of the Missouri River this year as a Bicentennial floating museum exhibit-show. Upon completion of the Floyd's Bicentennial Voyage Dec. 31, the corps plans to donate the vessel to a riverside or coastal community as a public museum or exhibit.

Interior Committee 'serious' about changing Water Resources Planning Act

Ben Yamagata, staff assistant to the Subcommittee on Energy Research and Water Resources of the Senate Interior Committee, told a meeting of the South Atlantic Basins Interagency Committee (SEBIAC) that the Interior Committee is serious about changing the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965.

After outlining the major points contained in amendments offered by Sens. Church, Jackson and Hatfield, Yamagata said, "I can assure you that the committee is serious about making these changes so as to bring about coordination of planning and research in water and related resources.

"It goes without saying that water will play an important role in both energy development and food production in our nation's future," he added.

Yamagata said public reaction to the amendments (which were featured in the April-May Basin Bulletin) is being sought. Requests for copies of the amendments (S. 3142) or comments regarding them should be directed to Ben Yamagata, Senate Subcommittee on Energy Research and Water Resources, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 3208, Washington, D.C. 20510.

MRBC short takes

A joint meeting of the U.S. Water Resources Council (WRC) and the Interstate Conference on Water Problems (ICWP) will be held Sept. 7-10 in Biloxi, Miss.

The National Water Supply Improvement Association will hold its Fourth Annual Conference in Oklahoma City July 11-15.

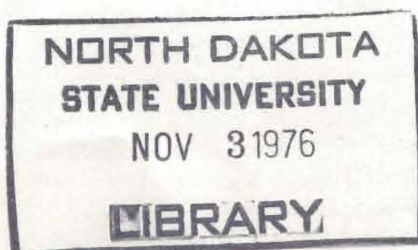
The U.S. Water Resources Council (WRC) has announced the publication of "Guidelines for Determining Flood Flow Frequency." Copies are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. The stock number is 052-045-0031-2. Price is \$3.90.

The U.S. Water Resources Council (WRC) is considering sponsoring another National Conference on Water in 1977. Meanwhile, it was announced that summaries of the 1975 National Conference on Water are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. The stock number is 024-001-02798-4. The price is \$3.80.



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