

50th Annual Meeting Agenda

Open Meeting _____ Brett Oelke, President

Welcome
Introductions
Announcements

49th Annual Meeting Minutes (Page 4) _____ Jeff Deeds
(Motion required to adopt or amend)

2026 Operating Budget - Proposed (Page 6-7) _____ Lynn Goossen
(Motion required to adopt for public hearing)

2024 Calendar Year Financials (Page 8) _____ Lynn Goossen

Election of Board Positions (Ballots) _____ Brent Rogers

Unfinished / New Business / Open Session _____ Brett Oelke

Presentations: GMD 4 Updates

Announcement of Board Election Results _____ Brett Oelke

Adjournment _____ Brett Oelke

Notes

District Personnel

February 2024 - February 2025 Board:

POSITION	MEMBER	DUTY	FIRST ARRIVED:	SERVES TO:
Cheyenne #1	Dylan Loyd	Member	2/20	2/26
Rawlins/Decatur #2	Jerry Binning	Member	2/21	2/27
Sherman/Wallace #3	Jeff Deeds	<u>Secretary</u>	2/06	2/27
Sherman/Wallace #4	Nate Emig	<u>Vice President</u>	2/17	2/26
Thomas # 5	Karen Flanagan	Member	5/17	2/27
Thomas # 6	Lynn Goossen	<u>Treasurer</u>	11/14	2/26
Sheridan # 7	Brent Rogers	Member	2/09	2/27
Sheridan # 8	Brett Oelke	<u>President</u>	2/19	2/25
Graham # 9	Ted Nighswonger	Member	01/18	2/25
Logan/Gove # 10	Shane Mann	Member	2/07	2/25
At Large	Marsha Schilling	Member	4/20	2/25

STAFF:

Shannon Kenyon, Manager
Colter Stoll, Field Scientist
Jody McCain, Administrative Assistant
Eryn Freeman, Part-Time Office Assistant

OTHERS:

Jake Kling – Legal Counsel
Adams Brown – Accountants



The district's website is always available - for more information go to:

<https://www.gmd4.org>

Information at this site includes general district overview, personnel listing, annual meeting info, water law summary, public records policy, newsletter articles, water quotes, water formulas, metering info and a flow meter calculator, water level data, water-related links, the groundwater management district act and more.

49th Annual Meeting Minutes – Colby, Kansas – Feb 21st, 2024

49th Annual Meeting Minutes – Colby Event Center, Colby, Kansas, February 21st, 2024.

The 49th annual meeting was opened at 1:32 P.M. CST, February 21, 2024 at Colby Event Center, Colby, Kansas. Board members present were:

Jeff Deeds	Nate Emig	Karen Flanagin
Lynn Goossen	Dylan Loyd	Shane Mann
Ted Nighswonger	Brett Oelke	Brent Rogers
Marsha Schilling		

Others present were: Staff: Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain, Colter Stoll and Eryn Freeman; Jake Kling – attorney.

There were 26 people that signed the attendance sheet. The attendance roster is available at the district office.

President Brett Oelke opened the meeting with a welcome and introduction of board and staff members.

Secretary Jeff Deeds then presented the 48th annual meeting minutes, Goodland, Kansas, February 22nd, 2023. Jeff directed attention to the annual meeting minutes printed in the annual meeting packet (page 4 and 5) and gave everyone a chance to review them. Gerry Franklin moved to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Spencer Schlepp and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Lynn Goossen presented the 2025 proposed operating budget. With no questions or comments, the proposed 2025 budget of \$507,748.00. Brent Rogers moved to approve the proposed 2025 operating budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Marsha Schilling and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Lynn then presented the 2023 calendar year financials. He directed attention to the financial report contained in the annual meeting packet on page 8 and asked everyone to review the report. He summarized by reporting that the district brought in \$698,212; spent \$360,989.

Dylan Loyd conducted the board elections. He announced each of the candidates that had pre-filed, Jerry Binning, Position 2 (Rawlins/Decatur); Jeff Deeds, Position 3 (Sherman/Wallace County); Karen Flanagin, Position 5 (Thomas County); Brent Rogers, Position 7 (Sheridan County). As there were no other pre-filed nominations, he announced that the ballot was unanimous.

Spencer Schlepp moved to cast the unanimous ballot for the announced board positions. Ted Nighswonger seconded the motion which passed unanimously by voice vote.

Shannon Kenyon presented information on LEMA updates, current Kansas Legislative sessions that pertain to water and GMDs, preliminary water data, AEM mapping, grants available from HB2302, and the two meter tracking apps available for cost-share through the GMD.

Colter Stoll talked about the importance of checking your meters to make sure they are working; you need to not only look at the needle, but also check to make sure the totalizer is working (digits are changing). Back-up records, such as logbooks, taking photos every two weeks, using a meter tracking app, or an alternative meter tracking subscription service can be used to help figure quantity, when your meter stops working properly.

With no other business to conduct President Oelke declared the 49th annual meeting of the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4 adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Jeff Deeds, Secretary

2026 Proposed Operating Budget

	2026 Proposed	
110 POSTAGE		\$3,000.00
111 Newsletter		
112 General	\$3,000.00	
120 PRINTING		\$2,000.00
121 Newsletter		
122 Administrative	\$2,000.00	
130 DUES	\$300.00	\$300.00
140 SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$600.00	\$600.00
150 INSURANCE		\$16,550.00
151 Office	\$15,000.00	
152 Public Officials' Liability		
153 Auto		
154 Workmans' Comp.	\$50.00	
155 Inland Marine		
156 Unemployment	\$1,500.00	
160 TELEPHONE	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
170 SALARIES AND BENEFITS		\$300,050.00
171 Gross Sal, Kpers, SS, Etc.	\$300,000.00	
172 Health Insurance	\$50.00	
180 TRAVEL		\$20,000.00
181 Board	\$12,000.00	
182 Staff	\$8,000.00	
190 VEHICLES		\$19,200.00
191 Repairs/Maintenance	\$7,000.00	
192 Operation	\$12,000.00	
193 Tags	\$200.00	
194 Purchase/Lease		
200 CONTRACTED SERVICES		\$48,000.00
201 Accounting	\$9,000.00	
202 Legal	\$18,000.00	
203 Misc. Support	\$6,000.00	
204 Legislative Support	\$15,000.00	
205 Drilling		
206 Weather Modification		
210 PUBLICATIONS		\$1,200.00
211 Legal Notices	\$1,200.00	
220 COOP PROGRAMS		\$5,000.00
221 Administrative		
222 Equipment		
223 Contracted Studies		
224 Education Program	\$5,000.00	
230 ADMINISTRATIVE		\$23,000.00
231 Office Supplies	\$8,000.00	
232 Copy Machine	\$2,000.00	
233 Computer Maint	\$7,000.00	
234 Postage Meter Lease		
235 Bank Charges		
236 Field Supplies	\$6,000.00	
240 NEW EQUIPMENT		\$22,000.00
241 Field	\$12,000.00	
242 Office	\$10,000.00	
250 CONTINGENCY RESERVE		\$0.00

260 FACILITY		\$24,000.00
261 Rent		
262 Maintenance	\$16,000.00	
263 Remodel/Purchase		
264 Building Utilities	\$8,000.00	
REIMBURSED EXPENSES		
300 FOUNDATION		\$0.00
305 Foundation Subscriptions		
325 Foundation Telephone		
345 Foundation Accounting		
350 Foundation Legal		
370 Foundation Tech Support		
	\$492,900.00	\$492,900.00

2024 Calendar Year Financial Report

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS All Accounts – For the period January 1 - December 31, 2024

2024 INCOME (All sources):

Cash forward from 2023 (Cash) -----	\$337,293
County Assessments -----	\$435,362
Interest Earned (GMD4) -----	\$2,522
State Grant Income (Refund)-----	\$8,943
Miscellaneous Income -----	\$738

2024 TOTAL INCOME: \$784,858

2024 EXPENDITURES:

Postage -----	\$1,831
Printing -----	\$1,063
Dues -----	\$275
Subscriptions -----	\$487
Insurance -----	\$15,233
Telephone -----	\$5,544
Salaries & Benefits -----	\$261,425
Travel -----	\$16,349
Vehicles -----	\$12,336
Contracted Services -----	\$42,277
Publications -----	\$586
Coop/Education Programs -----	\$1,124
Administrative -----	\$12,618
Equipment -----	\$3,600
Facility -----	\$18,810
Reserve for contingency -----	\$38,435
Foundation -----	\$0

TOTAL 2024 EXPENDITURES ----- \$431,993

Cash on hand – 12/31/24 (All GMD 4 Accounts) ----- \$353,024

Foundation Cash – All (plus interest) – 12/31/24 ----- \$171,859

District Updates

1) LEMAs

2025 is the third year of both the GMD 4 and SD 6 LEMAs. Last year we started public meetings to discuss future LEMAs. We have been given great feedback and continue to welcome any and all that stakeholders want to provide. We will begin the renewal process in 2026 by submitting a formal request to the Division of Water Resources and participating in the required hearings.

As with both LEMAs, you cannot exceed your certified water quantity annually unless you are enrolled in a MYFA.

2) Kansas Legislature

During the 2024 legislative session, there were several bills that addressed operations within GMDs. None of these bills passed other than HB 2634 which will allow the over pumping of the certified quantity of water within a LEMA so long as the LEMA quantity is not exceeded. This only applies IF it becomes part of the LEMA plan it is not retroactive. We may be able to incorporate this into the LEMA renewals if further conservation efforts are adequate for flexibility.

The 2025 legislative session is shorter than usual. Only a few bills of interest have been introduced but nothing worth weighing in on. The first is a reorganization bill that proposed to take water out of the Department of Agriculture and put it into it's own division. The consensus in Topeka is that it is not going anywhere and I am not sure that it will even have a hearing at this point. The other bill proposes more money to be given to the State Water Plan Fund.

3) Grant Funding

With the additional funding to the State Water Plan, an RCPP grant was also awarded through NRCS. The Kansas Water Office (KWO) has three grant opportunities. The first opportunity has expired but more opportunities are forthcoming. Two of those grants are specifically for municipalities and public water suppliers. The other grant is for innovative, large scale projects with the idea of feedlots and dairies in mind. These grants through the KWO are statewide but priority is given to those in declining Ogallala regions and municipalities under 2000 population.

The RCPP grant awarded through NRCS is still being organized. We are still negotiating deliverables and other hurdles to cross. As soon as we have more information we will be emailing it.

4) Meter Tracking Tool

As discussed last year, there is a new meter tracking tool called VandWater. It was developed by a Kansas producer to track his water usage and has expanded it as a tool for other Kansas producers. Feel free to ask us more about the VandWater platform and or visit their website at www.vandwater.com. For those using TappH2O, it is still available but it was sold to a different company and we no longer have access to the close contact with customer service.

5) Meters

Penalties for not checking your meters every two weeks are becoming more harsh. Water users need to be checking your meters at a minimum of every two weeks during the growing season. Make sure the totalizer is calculating and take a picture and/or write down the meter reading. If an accurate amount of water cannot be determined if your meter malfunctions, then it may be assumed you have pumped your authorized annual quantity. Sign up for a meter tracking tool to help you do this.

GMD 4 Permitted Well and Water Rights Data by County by Well Type

(Figures include wells and water rights within the county within the district)

As of December 26, 2024

	CN	DC	GH	GO	LG	RA	SD	SH	TH	WA
DOMESTIC WELLS	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7	0
AF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	44	8.4	14.0	0.0
HYD DREDGE WELLS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
INDUSTRIAL WELLS	5	2	0	4	2	0	4	12	9	0
AF	89.9	225.0	0.0	483	22.7	0.0	30.6	1,449	955.2	0.0
IRRIGATION WELLS	442	27	110	158	80	148	691	859	773	8
AF	102,648	3857	21,505	28,663	16,134	30,883	160,441	258,447	202,806	2,779.0
MUNICIPAL WELLS	10	0	5	8	7	3	9	15	14	0
AF	1,074	0.0	439	931	959	107	737.6	2,285.5	2,513.04	0.0
RECREATION WELLS	3	0	1	0	1	0	3	3	2	0
AF	36.2	0.0	9.0	0.0	11.0	0.0	404.5	697.22	15.0	0.0
STOCKWATER WELLS	6	0	0	10	1	3	17	7	16	0
AF	719	0.0	0.0	931	9.4	111.0	1,031.6	269.5	1,153.4	0.0
EVAP WELLS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DUAL USE WELLS (STOCK & IRR)	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	0
AF	0	0	0	0	0	0	1183.2	0	625	0
COUNTY-TOT-WELLS	468	29	118	180	91	154	735	896	825	8
COUNTY-TOT-AF	104,567	4,082.0	21,952	31009	17,137	31,101	163,872	263,157	208,200	2,779.0
GMD-TOT-WELLS	3,504									
GMD-TOT-AF	848,441									

GMD 4 Selected Trends

This is the newest feature in the annual meeting packet. If there are other annual trends you would like to see tracked, let us know.

YEAR	Budget ¹	Total Wells	Total AcreFeet ³
2005	\$419,365	3,546	860,387
2006	\$434,250	3,540	859,582
2007	\$411,952	3,530	857,253
2008	\$438,965	3,526	856,900
2009	\$433,455	3,520	854,673
2010	\$454,450	3,516	853,710
2011	\$569,125	3,513	852,330
2012	\$490,770	3,494	849,639
2013	\$561,680	3,498	851,156
2014	\$519,587	3,503	850,524
2015	\$496,397	3,504	849,692
2016	\$469,915	3,502	848,846
2017	\$457,515	3,502	848,480
2018	\$530,455	3,501	848,190
2019	\$405,655	3,497	847,592
2020	\$405,636	3,501	847,876
2021	\$408,301	3,503	848,046
2022	\$431,827	3,502	847,945
2023	\$440,413	3,500	847,870
2024	\$440,448	3,506	848,441

¹ Operating budget w/o carryover for the calendar year

² Authorized appropriation quantities – all rights – GMD4 – January of following year – rounded to nearest AF

GMD 4 Comparison of Pumped Water to Appropriated Water

2018 Data (1/1/2018 – 12/31/18)

Area	Appropriated Water	Pumped Water	Percent
Sherman County	263,552	82,392	31%
Thomas County	208,342	70,618	34%
Sheridan County	163,906	52,035	32%

2019 Data (1/1/2019 – 12/31/19)

Area	Appropriated Water	Pumped Water	Percent
Sherman County	263,240	84,534	32%
Thomas County	208,342	53,860	26%
Sheridan County	163,906	37,692	23%

2020 Data (1/1/2020 – 12/31/20)

Area	Appropriated Water	Pumped Water	Percent
Sherman County	263,240	128,203	49%
Thomas County	208,271	97,547	47%
Sheridan County	163,906	70,302	43%

2021 Data (1/1/2021 - 12/31/2021)

Area	Appropriated Water	Pumped Water	Percent
Sherman County	263,240	127,773	49%
Thomas County	208,240	93,967	45%
Sheridan County	163,836	64,433	39%

2022 Data (1/1/2022 – 12/31/2022)

Area	Appropriated Water	Pumped Water	Percent
Sherman County	263,142	146,093	56%
Thomas County	208,200	123,169	59%
Sheridan County	163,900	92,261	56%
Total for District	847,870	484,642	57%

2023 Data (1/1/2023– 12/31/2023)

Area	Appropriated Water	Pumped Water	Percent
Sherman County	236,157	88,163	37%
Thomas County	208,200	73,305	35%
Sheridan County	163,872	57,312	35%
Total for District	848,441	299,419	35%

The above Data is from the WIMAS data set. WIMAS does not filter by GMD, so only full county data is available.

2024 data is not yet available in WIMAS.

District Map

Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 Boundary



