

Minutes: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 February 11, 2015 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The February 11th board meeting was opened at 10:01 am CST at the City Limits Convention Center in Colby Kansas by President, Brent Rogers.

Board members present for some or all of the meeting were:

Doug David, Jeff Deeds, Shane Mann, Lynn Goossen
Roger Zwegardt, Brent Rogers, Dave Rietcheck
Monty Biggs, Scott Maurath, Justin Sloan,
Mitchell Baalman

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Ray Luhman, Shannon Cain, Dan Simmering, and Rita Wade – GMD 4 staff; Jeff Mason of Vignery & Mason (Attorney); Kelly Stewart & Jodie Barker - DWR/Stockton; Greg Graff – GMD 1/Kansas Water Authority; Jonathan Aguilar of K-State Research and Extension; Tracy Streeter with the Kansas Water Office and Miranda Fox of FoxZ Consulting.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the January 13th, 2015 Minutes and Expenditures for the month of January. Receipt of the January financial report showing monthly expenditures totaling \$44,048.58 in January were approved.

Scott Maurath moved the Minutes and Expenditures for the month of January be accepted. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

3. MANAGER’S REPORT

GMD4 Board Members referred to the Board Packet which outlined the items of the Manager’s report. Shannon Cain reported the KWA accepted the Aqueduct Study and decided to determine the quantity of water available for Kansas in the Missouri River. Lynn Goossen and Jeff Deeds both reported on the KWC meeting and the GMD Roundtable discussion. A brief overview of current legislation was presented by Ray Luhman. Concern with the WCA legislation was expressed among several Board members. Shannon Cain gave a RMA update asking for volunteers to try out a pending spreadsheet for future development. Mandy Fox of FoxZ Consulting answered questions and provided additional information and support on the subject.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Final Annual Meeting Prep

Board Members were given the opportunity to ask any questions or uncertainties about the Annual Meeting and individual job duties. A copy of the audit report was handed out for review.

Jeff Deeds moved the audit be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

b. Protocol Discussion

Dialogue about how to achieve the goal statement, accepted at the January 13, 2015 Board Meeting was productive, with many ideas stated. One of the discussions was modifying the funding mechanism as a conservation tool. Concern was expressed on the money not staying within GMD 4. There was another discussion on potential triggers, by township, to initiate a percent conservation for a set period of time. This would require some data collection and possible assistance with the RRCA Model available. Tracy Streeter from the KWO offered their assistance in getting the model data for us and Mitchell Baalman offered his assistance with re-drilling an existing observation well.

c. Closing the District to New Appropriations

Ray Luhman informed the Board that the moratorium was effective February 2, 2015 instead of January 13, 2015 as requested.

d. Roof Discussion

The engineering study is done and more sketches for the design should be coming.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. WTAP Recommendation

One application has been selected for approval by KDA DOC. Water Right #30,895 for \$182,572 needs recommendation from GMD 4.

Lynn Goossen moved that the WTAP application for Water Right #30,895 receive GMD 4 recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

b. Annual Meeting

President Brent Rogers recessed the Board of Directors Meeting, to be reconvened following the 40th GMD4 Annual Meeting.

At 3:30 P.M. Vice President Shane Mann reconvened the February 19th Board of Directors Meeting. An error was made during the Annual Meeting on the position open for election. The Sheridan #7 position was available for reelection at the 40th Annual Meeting. Brent Rogers, President, holds this position. The ballot indicated that Mitchell Baalman was up for election of the Sheridan #7 position, but he holds the Sheridan #8 position. The Sheridan #8 position is not available for election until the 41st Annual Meeting. This error resulted in an invalid election.

c. Election of New Officers

An error was made in the election of officers at the Annual Meeting resulting in an invalid election of Mitchell Baalman. Election of officers has been suspended until the next GMD 4 Board Meeting to correct the issue.

d. Re-allocation of funds in 2015 budget

Ray Luhman suggested the contracted services for irrigation plan contracts be moved from reserve for contingency to salaries and benefits in the 2015 budget. A total of \$8,270 was suggested as that would cover 20 irrigation plan contracts. This is only a shift in line items and not a change in the total budget amount.

Jeff Deeds moved that the \$8,270 be moved from reserve for contingency to salaries and benefits for irrigation plan contracts. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

6: Agency Reports

Kelly Stewart introduced Jodie Barker. She is the new Environmental Scientist at the Stockton Field Office. Tracy Streeter reported on the Regional Planning Teams. He informed the Board that these teams are not intended to impede what the GMD is currently doing. He commended the Board on being ahead of what the Regional Planning Team is to accomplish and encourages collaboration. He also discussed RMA and introduced Miranda (Mandy) Fox of FoxZ Consulting. Greg Graff discussed a concern with Vested Rights in conservation programs/LEMA.

7. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

a. NWKS Groundwater Conservation Foundation

A meeting is scheduled for March 12th, 2015 following the Board Meeting. A revision of the bylaws need discussion at that meeting.

8. Scheduling Future Meetings:

The March Monthly Meeting to be held at the GMD 4 office on March 12th at 10 am. Agenda items to include: future discussion of goal statement, roof, officer elections, and a rules and regulations revision for closing the district to new appropriations.

9. ADJURNMENT

With no other business and no objections, Jeff Deeds moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Doug David and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

Respectfully submitted:

Jeff Deeds, Secretary