

**MINUTES: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4
January 14, 2016 Board Meeting**

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The January 14th Board meeting was opened at 10:00 am CDT at the GMD 4 Office in Colby, Kansas by President, Brent Rogers.

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

Mitchell Baalman, Justin Sloan, Doug David, Brent Rogers,
Roger Zwegardt, Dave Rietcheck, Jeff Deeds, Monty Biggs and Scott Maurath

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Ray Luhman, Shannon Cain, Rita Wade and Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; Jeff Mason – Attorney; Mark Billinger - DWR; Jodie McCain, Bert Stramel, Karen Flannigan & Gregg Graff - KWA

Board members absent were: Shane Mann & Lynn Goossen

Ray Luhman added several items to the agenda. WCA should be added to the Managers Report. Budget for 2017, Proposed Regulation Discussion, W-TAP Application and Bank Discussion all to be added to new business.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the December 16, 2015 Minutes and Expenditures for the month of December. Receipt of the financial report showing monthly expenditures totaling \$71,850.68 in December were approved.

Mitchell Baalman moved the minutes and expenditures for the month of December be accepted. The motion was seconded by Jeff Deeds and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

Nothing presented during Open Forum.

4. MANAGER’S REPORT

Shannon reported the Soil Moisture Probe Workshops were going well with about 30-40 in attendance at each one. Goodland and St Frances will be next week. Several board members attended and made comment on the discussions they heard at the workshops. Justin Sloan was contacted by the K State experiment station in Colby
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as they were not notified of the workshops. Jonathan Aguilar from K-State Research and Extension in Garden City has been their representative at the workshops.

For the Annual Meeting it was decided that Brent Rogers would conduct the meeting as President, Jeff Deeds would do the minutes, Dave Rietcheck would present the budget and audit and Justin Sloan would conduct the election.

Ray reported that at this time there is no update on the rule and regulation change to close the Ogallala portion of the district. A hearing is to be scheduled soon.

Ray also reported the Franklin WCA has been signed and is in place.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Goal Discussion

Ray Luhman reported that Lane Letourneau and David Barfield would possibly make it to the March meeting for discussion on a district-wide LEMA. Ray has had some discussion already with them on adjusting inches per acre values of the LEMA without hearings. If worded properly, it may be possible.

Other discussion was had on the details of the proposed plan. Shannon will collect the ideas from Board members and redistribute prior to the next meeting.

b. TH-5

Bert Stramel reported that he would take the current plan to the group and provide feedback next month.

c. Management Program

Potential revisions for the management program were included in the packet. Ray Luhman briefly described them. It is a draft and will change if the district adopts a district-wide LEMA. Board is to look at the revisions for next month.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. ATTORNEY CONTRACT

Jeff Mason submitted his contract for services to the Board noting that there were no changes from the previous year.

Doug David moved to accept the attorney contract. The motion was seconded by Roger Zweygardt and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or "nay" votes).

b. PUBLIC HEARING ON REVISED BUDGET 2016

At 11:01 am Mitchell Baalman moved to open the Revised 2016 Budget Hearing. The motion was seconded by Dave Rietcheck and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

There were members of the public present that gave no additional testimony. Staff provided testimony on the revised proposed budget.

Brent Rogers asked if there was any additional discussion regarding the 2016 GMD4 Operating Budget and there was none. *Jeff Deeds motioned to close the 2016 Revised Budget Hearing. Scott Maurath seconded the motion which passed unanimously via voice vote (no “abstentions” or “nay” votes.)*

Following discussion, Scott Maurath moved to adopt the following resolution::

WHEREAS the 2016 budget of \$496,397.00 approved originally on August 13, 2015 requires amending in order to incorporate the 2015 cash carryover funds; and

WHEREAS the district lawfully scheduled and conducted a public hearing to consider all testimony regarding the budgeting of carryover funds and other issues;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the 2016 final operating budget shall be adopted as revised based on its presentation by GMD 4 staff during the lawfully conducted public hearing. The final 2016 operating budget of \$700,630.00 shall be:

	2016 Revised	
110 POSTAGE		\$4,000.00
111 Newsletter	\$2,500.00	
112 General	\$1,500.00	
120 PRINTING		\$3,600.00
121 Newsletter	\$3,200.00	
122 Administrative	\$400.00	
130 DUES	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
140 SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
150 INSURANCE		\$12,785.00
151 Office	\$12,500.00	
152 Public Officials' Liability		
153 Auto		
154 Workmans' Comp.		
155 Inland Marine		
156 Unemployment	\$285.00	
160 TELEPHONE	\$6,900.00	\$6,900.00
170 SALARIES AND BENEFITS		\$335,000.00
171 Gross Sal, Kpers, SS, Etc.	\$335,000.00	
172 Health Insurance		
180 TRAVEL		\$15,000.00
181 Board	\$12,000.00	
182 Staff	\$3,000.00	
190 VEHICLES		\$6,275.00
191 Repairs/Maintenance	\$1,200.00	
192 Operation	\$4,900.00	

193 Tags	\$175.00	
194 Purchase/Lease		
200 CONTRACTED SERVICES		\$34,800.00
201 Accounting	\$7,000.00	
202 Legal	\$7,800.00	
203 Misc. Support	\$20,000.00	
204 Water Sampling		
205 Drilling		
206 Weather Modification		
210 PUBLICATIONS		\$600.00
211 Legal Notices	\$600.00	
220 COOP PROGRAMS		\$2,000.00
221 Administrative		
222 Equipment		
223 Contracted Studies		
224 Education Program	\$2,000.00	
230 ADMINISTRATIVE		\$10,900.00
231 Office Supplies	\$3,500.00	
232 Copy Machine	\$1,750.00	
233 Computer Maint	\$3,500.00	
234 Postage Meter Lease	\$650.00	
235 Bank Charges		
236 Field Supplies	\$1,500.00	
240 NEW EQUIPMENT		\$12,900.00
241 Field	\$1,400.00	
242 Office	\$11,500.00	
250 CONTINGENCY RESERVE	\$91,230.00	\$91,230.00
260 FACILITY		\$158,640.00
261 Rent	\$840.00	
262 Upkeep	\$25,000.00	
263 Remodel/Purchase	\$125,000.00	
264 Building Utilities	\$7,800.00	
REIMBURSED EXPENSES		
300 FOUNDATION		\$500.00
305 Foundation Subscriptions		
325 Foundation Telephone		
345 Foundation Accounting	\$200.00	
350 Foundation Legal	\$300.00	
370 Foundation Tech Support	\$0.00	
	\$700,630.00	\$700,630.00

Mitchell Baalman seconded the motion which passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

c. KANSAS WATER CONGRESS/LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Kansas Water Congress will have a meeting February 2nd and 3rd in Topeka. A Roundtable discussion will also occur with the other GMD's and a Legislative social. Mitchell Baalman, Scott Maurath and Jeff Deeds agreed to attend.

d. APPROVAL OF THE 2017 OPERATING BUDGET

Staff presented the proposed 2017 operating budget to be approved for inclusion into the annual meeting packet for eligible voter consideration at the annual meeting. Following discussion, *Mitchell Baalman moved to approve the proposed 2017 budget be proposed to the eligible voters at the February 10th, 2016 annual meeting in Hoxie. This budget shall be:*

	2017 Proposed	
110 POSTAGE		\$3,500.00
111 Newsletter	\$2,000.00	
112 General	\$1,500.00	
120 PRINTING		\$3,100.00
121 Newsletter	\$2,700.00	
122 Administrative	\$400.00	
130 DUES	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
140 SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
150 INSURANCE		\$12,785.00
151 Office	\$12,500.00	
152 Public Officials' Liability		
153 Auto		
154 Workmans' Comp.		
155 Inland Marine		
156 Unemployment	\$285.00	
160 TELEPHONE	\$5,600.00	\$5,600.00
170 SALARIES AND BENEFITS		\$345,000.00
171 Gross Sal, Kpers, SS, Etc.	\$345,000.00	
172 Health Insurance		
180 TRAVEL		\$15,000.00
181 Board	\$12,000.00	
182 Staff	\$3,000.00	
190 VEHICLES		\$4,375.00
191 Repairs/Maintenance	\$1,200.00	
192 Operation	\$3,000.00	
193 Tags	\$175.00	
194 Purchase/Lease		
200 CONTRACTED SERVICES		\$34,800.00
201 Accounting	\$7,000.00	
202 Legal	\$7,800.00	
203 Misc. Support	\$20,000.00	
204 Water Sampling		
205 Drilling		
206 Weather Modification		
210 PUBLICATIONS		\$600.00
211 Legal Notices	\$600.00	
220 COOP PROGRAMS		\$2,000.00
221 Administrative		
222 Equipment		
223 Contracted Studies		
224 Education Program	\$2,000.00	
230 ADMINISTRATIVE		\$10,900.00
231 Office Supplies	\$3,500.00	
232 Copy Machine	\$1,750.00	
233 Computer Maint	\$3,500.00	

234 Postage Meter Lease	\$650.00	
235 Bank Charges		
236 Field Supplies	\$1,500.00	
240 NEW EQUIPMENT		\$3,400.00
241 Field	\$1,400.00	
242 Office	\$2,000.00	
250 CONTINGENCY RESERVE	\$0.00	\$0.00
260 FACILITY		\$45,640.00
261 Rent	\$840.00	
262 Upkeep	\$12,000.00	
263 Remodel/Purchase	\$25,000.00	
264 Building Utilities	\$7,800.00	
REIMBURSED EXPENSES		
300 FOUNDATION		\$500.00
305 Foundation Subscriptions		
325 Foundation Telephone		
345 Foundation Accounting	\$200.00	
350 Foundation Legal	\$300.00	
370 Foundation Tech Support	\$0.00	
	\$492,200.00	\$492,200.00

Dave Rietcheck seconded the motion which passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

e. PROPOSED REGULATIONS

At 9 am on January 15, 2016, DWR will hold a statewide webinar on the proposed regulation changes. Board members are encouraged to listen. Information was emailed to board members.

f. WTAP

A WTAP application was received for a water right in 14-9-42, Sherman County that would dismiss two wells with 246 acre-feet.

Dave Rietcheck moved to recommend approval of the WTAP application. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

g. BANK DISCUSSION

The auditors have requested we have an annual discussion on where the banking is done for the district. All funds for the district are kept at The Bank and seems to be working well. The NW KS Groundwater Conservation Foundation keeps funds at Bankwest and F & M.

Roger Zweygardt moved to keep the funds at their current banks. The motion was seconded by Monty Biggs and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

7. Agency Reports

Mark Billinger of DWR reported that annual well measurements went smoothly. They are currently doing work on the unconfined Dakota in the eastern portion of the field office area. Nothing to report at this time on WRIS Mobile. They have chosen about 100 wells per county to do random compliance checks on during the year.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

It was suggested that the proposed map draft be incorporated into the annual meeting materials. We could see about putting it in the packet as well as on a bulletin board.

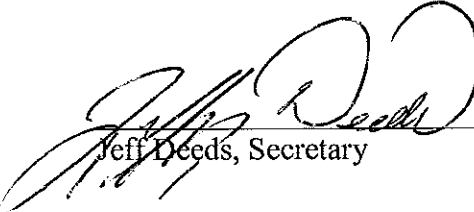
9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

The February Monthly Meeting to be held at the 4-H Building in Hoxie on February 10th at 10 am. Further discussion on the “nuts and bolts” to be discussed. The annual meeting to follow at 1:30 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary