

**MINUTES: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4
March 9, 2016 Board Meeting**

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The March 9th Board meeting was opened at 10:05 am CST at the NW KS GMD 4 Office in Colby, Kansas by President, Brent Rogers.

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

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

Present for some or all of the meeting were GMD 4 staff, Adam Dees – attorney and 14 other persons. The sign in sheet for the meeting is available to view for attendance.

No board members were absent.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the February 10, 2016, Minutes and Expenditures for the month of February. Receipt of the financial report showing monthly expenditures totaling \$33,955.76 in February were approved.

Dave Rietcheck moved the minutes and expenditures for the month of February be accepted. The motion was seconded by Roger Zwegardt and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

A variety of discussions were presented from public attendees. There was concern the proposed District Wide LEMA should have a vote and how the voting process, if one were to be conducted, would be handled. Other concern was given for communication efforts and it was suggested we go back to a quarterly newsletter. The Board and GMD 4 staff added the proposed District Wide LEMA was still very infant and that when it was more definite, letters would be sent to all stakeholders.

4. MANAGER’S REPORT

4. MANAGER'S REPORT

Dave Rietcheck attended a field trip organized by Greg Cure to see the Colorado Augmentation Pipeline. He reported on the field trip and what he saw.

The Kansas Water Office is trying to create Water Technology Farms and would like to have one in the district area if anyone would be interested.

The hearing for the updated Rule and Regulation change will be April 4th at 10 am at the office. It is open to the public.

Shannon Cain reported the RAC meeting held February 18 decided to concentrate on other goals set by the planning committee as the main goal could be met by GMD 4.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Goal Discussion

Ray Luhman presented a chart and graphs showing the historical pumping, by county, indicating the water savings for the proposed program. The chart and graphs also showed water savings for the idea of more water saved if a water right was further restricted to the maximum inches per acre pumped from 2009 through 2013. Lengthy discussion was had on how the plan saved water and if further restrictions needed to be made.

The Board then went through the results from the homework to decide on details. Votes were taken for each of the following:

- **Should municipalities be reduced? 9 in favor, 2 against**
- **Should stockwater be reduced? 6 in favor, 5 against**
- **All were in favor of taking the recreation and industrial water rights on a case-by-case basis.**
- **What acres should be considered? All agreed the maximum acres reported from 2009-2013 should be considered.**
- **Flexibility should be included within a 16 mile radius, but water cannot be moved from a township with a lower decline rate to a higher decline rate.**
- **All were in favor of allowing a carry-over amount.**
- **Alternative metering rules should mimic SD-6.**
- **Violations were discussed. DWR is trying to increase their fines for overpumping. It was suggested we go with those, but meter tampering should be a two year suspension.**

At 12:15 pm Shane Mann moved to recess the monthly board meeting for lunch. The motion was seconded by Roger Zwegardt and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or "nay" votes).

At 1:35 pm Shane Mann moved to reconvene the monthly board meeting. The motion was seconded by Monty Biggs and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

b. TH-5

Bert Stramel reported there was nothing at the time to report.

c. Management Program

Suggested to be tabled for a future meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. KDA – Update and potential new rules and regulations

Kelly Stewart presented a handout discussing four rule and regulation changes they are considering and desiring feedback for. The first is allowing stockwater and irrigation rights to be combined. The second involves allowing longer term permits. The third, they want to define the years 2003 through 2012 to establish water use history. Lastly, DWR wants a simpler way of computing consumptive use.

7. Agency Reports

Kelly Stewart reported that Westside Dairy in SW Kansas now has a WCA and will save 15% on past water usage.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

Ray Luhman inquired about moving forward with expanding the board room. It was favored to have the work started.

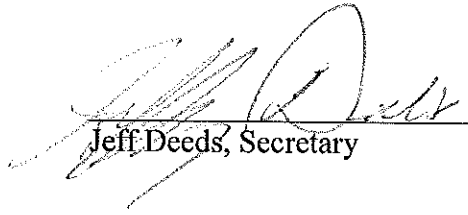
9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

The April Monthly Meeting to be held at the GMD 4 office on April 7th at 9 am.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary