

MINUTES

MINUTES: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 May 12, 2016 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The May 12th Board meeting was opened at 9 am CST at GMD 4 office in Colby, Kansas by President, Brent Rogers.

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

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

Present for some or all of the meeting were GMD 4 staff, Jeff Mason – attorney; Mike McKenna; Vernon and Karen Flannigan; Kelly Stewart and Steven Walters – DWR; Jodie McCain; and Larry Barrett

Justin Sloan and Doug David were absent.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the April 7, 2016, Minutes and Expenditures for the month of April. Receipt of the financial report showing monthly expenditures totaling \$36,942.79 in April were approved.

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

3. OPEN FORUM

Only comment made was how nice the newly remodeled board room looked.

4. MANAGER'S REPORT

Ray reported on the Sheridan 6 Advisory meeting held on April 20th in Hoxie. Well measurement data was distributed at this meeting and discussion was held on the potential for a district wide LEMA and thoughts of continuing with the SD 6 LEMA currently in place. There was also discussion on how the irrigators in this area are “doing more with less”.

Shannon distributed a draft KWA agenda to be held next week in Oakley. Several members do plan on attending one or both days.

Shannon informed the board on the progress of redoing the website. Crystal is near ready to provide a draft website for review before she makes it live. Members of the board indicated they want a link to the newsletter and minutes on the front page and would like to see the draft before it goes live.

The new rule and regulation to close the Ogallala in GMD 4 will be effective May 13, 2016.

Ray distributed the bill that was paid for the board room remodel. Everyone seemed pleased at the quality of work and the cost.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. District LEMA Discussion and Formulation

Ray distributed comparative data on several plans that have been suggested. Discussion was had on the various components of each plan. As new section level data from KGS should be coming soon, it was suggested to wait for that data for future analysis. The year 2009 was also looked at closely as it was an unusually wet year with many crops being hailed out. Using that year for data was not favorable. After further discussion, the board would like to see data for a plan where the entire district is capped at 20"/acre. Those areas with a greater than 1% average annual decline would be reduced by 2"/acre if they were averaging 16-20"/acre historically. Those pumping 13-15.9"/acre historically would be reduced 1" and those below 11.9"/acre would not be reduced.

b.

c. TH-5

Nothing to report.

c. Management Program

A copy of the management plan with proposed changes was previously sent to board members for review. Discussion was had on a few details. No changes were made.

Jeff Deeds moved to submit the management plan to the state and make any small editorials. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or "nay" votes).

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Building and Finance Committee

A bid to have part of the front and back lawn converted to concrete was passed to the board. Members thought that the work needed to wait until next year. Taking out the drive up window would be less costly.

Dave Rietcheck moved that Ray Luhman to look into the cost of converting the drive up window into a door. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

7. Agency Reports

Kelly Stewart introduced Steven Walters. He is the new Water Conservation Specialist in the Stockton Field Office. Kelly also reported that a bill was passed and signed to allow for a \$1000 fine for water use reports not submitted by June 1st. The water right could also be suspended until the report is submitted. He also informed the board the 2015 water use report has been quality checked and is in WRIS. WRIS Mobile had more bugs and is back at Burns & McDonald for further improvements. MYFA’s can now be approved for a change in place of use.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

Vernon Flannigan expressed concern about the proposed plan being fair to those irrigators already conserving. He feels it is discrimination to reduce anyone that is already conserving.

Larry Barrett expressed his concern for being able to understand what the board was discussing throughout the meeting. It was suggested he come into the office for further discussion.

Jeff Mason informed the board the 501(3)(c) status could be reinstated. He submitted a tax form required and it was accepted to infer the reinstatement but no documentation has been received yet.

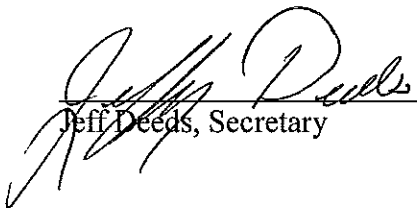
9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

The June Monthly Meeting to be held at the GMD 4 office on June 2nd at 9 am.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary