

Minutes: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 November 3, 2016 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The October 6 board meeting was opened at 9:00 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:

Shane Mann, Lynn Goossen, Roger Zwegardt, Brent Rogers,
Mitchell Baalman, 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 – Vignery & Mason; Steven Walters - DWR/Stockton; Jody McCain; Karen Flanigan and Greg Graff

Board members absent were: Dave Rietcheck, Justin Sloan, Jeff Deeds, Monty Biggs & Doug David

Shane Mann moved that Mitchell Baalman be appointed secretary in the absence of Jeff Deeds. The motion was seconded by Lynn Goossen and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the October 6, 2016 Minutes and Expenditures for the month of October. Receipt of the October financial report showing monthly expenditures totaling \$32,282.47 in October were approved.

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

3. OPEN FORUM

The new format for the newsletter was well liked.

Ray Luhman commented that he has visited with several people in the office about the proposed District-Wide LEMA and some are saying that the cuts are not enough.

Mitchell Baalman reported that he would be meeting with the Mossbargers on Tuesday about the District-Wide LEMA and his opinions expressed to them would be his own and not of the GMD 4 Board.

4. MANAGER'S REPORT

Shannon Kenyon gave a summary of the last KWA meeting. The Blue Ribbon Task Force is not currently seeking funding from taxing irrigation water. They plan to ask for a sales tax increase.

There will be a meeting in Great Bend on November 21st at 1pm with the GMD's and DWR. Board members are encouraged to attend and an open meeting will be announced on the website.

The Governor's Water Conference is coming up. Registration is full.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. District LEMA Public Meetings Discussion

Ray Luhman presented the board with the memo that is planned to be mailed to all water use correspondents. Suggested changes to the font were made before printing and mailing.

It was suggested that a presentation be made about how the zones and colors were created so the public knows the strategy for formulation of those areas.

Ray Luhman also mentioned that he was working with DWR in determining the areas of alluvium as they possibly would not be affected by the District-Wide LEMA.

Steven Walters would like 5-10 minutes at our public meetings to discuss WCA's.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Management Program Hearing.

At 11:01 am Mitchell Baalman moved to open the management program hearing. The motion was seconded by Scott Maurath and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or "nay" votes).

Ray Luhman said no written testimony was received as it was required to be submitted five days before the hearing. With no testimonies, the hearing can be closed.

Roger Zwegardt moved to close the management program hearing. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or "nay" votes).

Scott Maurath moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS the chief engineer, division of water resources, Kansas department of agriculture approved the proposed Revised Management Program on September 19, 2016; and

WHEREAS a public hearing on the district's proposed, revised management program was conducted pursuant to KSA 82a-1029 on November 3, 2016 at the legally noticed time and place; and

WHEREAS no testimony was heard from district members; and

WHEREAS the board duly considered all testimony provided;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the board of directors adopts the proposed revised management program as approved by the chief engineer, with no modifications; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the revised management program is to become effective November 4, 2016.

The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

b. Christmas Party Discussion

It was suggested that we do the Christmas Party at City Limits Bar and Grill this year. Appetizers will be ordered. Dinner and drink orders to be made individually.

7. Agency Reports

Steven Walters of DWR reported that all of the alluvial wells have been measured and are up about two feet. They had a regional meeting to discuss IGUCA review process. He also gave a brief update on the City of Hays. Their applications to convert irrigation to municipal use is still in process. Approval of those applications will then require the application of the Water Transfer Act.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

Greg Graff said that GMD 1 was beginning LEMA talks again and would like to use our framework as a starting point. They will also be doing their annual meeting the day after ours and will be mimicking the same format in conjunction with the RAC.

9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

The December Monthly Meeting to be held at the GMD 4 office on Wednesday, December 7th at 1:30 P.M.


At 10:25 Shane Mann moved to recess the monthly meeting to go into a NW KS Groundwater Conservation Foundation meeting. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

At 11:00 Shane Mann moved to reopen the monthly GMD 4 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Mitchell Baalman, Acting Secretary