

Minutes: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 March 2, 2017 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The March 2nd board meeting was opened at the GMD 4 office in Colby, Kansas by Vice President, Shane Mann.

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

Shane Mann, Lynn Goossen, Roger Zwegardt, Justin Sloan, Mitchell Baalman and Nate Emig

Board members absent:

Jeff Deeds, Scott Maurath, Brent Rogers, Monty Biggs, and Doug David

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Ray Luhman, Shannon Kenyon, Rita Wade and Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; Adam Dees – Vignery & Dees; Kelly Stewart, – DWR; Jody McCain; Dwayne Kersenbrock; Bert Stramel and Karen Flannigan

In the absence of Jeff Deeds, Mitchell Baalman volunteered to be acting secretary.

Ray Luhman requested several items be added to the agenda: Under Manager's Report – e. Soil Moisture Probes & f. SD6 LEMA. Under New Business: a. Audit & b. Mulberry Lane Farms WCA.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Shane Mann asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the February 1, 2017 Minutes and Expenditures for the month of February. An updated receipt of the February financial report was distributed showing monthly expenditures totaling \$33,769.19 in February were approved.

Mitchell Baalman 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 "nay" votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

Shane Mann asked if there was anything to be presented in Open Forum. No responses were given.

4. MANAGER'S REPORT

Ray Luhman reported on the Kansas Water Congress. Shannon Kenyon and Lynn Goossen also attended. The panel discussion during the congress was entertaining. Afterward a roundtable

discussion was had with the other GMD's and a legislative reception that evening that was not as well attended as in past years.

Board member contact information was sent in the board packets. Several changes need to be made to the contact list and it was suggested the list be added to the website.

Shannon Kenyon has begun work on the spring newsletter and would like ideas for articles. It was suggested that information on the water meter app be included and a WCA update. Management was reminded that postcards were also to be going out with significant dates every two months.

Ray Luhman provided an overview of all the bills in the current legislative session. Sean Miller of Capitol Strategies provided a document that contained a summary of the current actions for each bill. Question was asked about the consumptive use bill. It was clarified that the consumptive use issue was not a regulation, not a bill, and Kelly Stewart of DWR provided an update on where that was in the process of getting adopted.

A Soil Moisture Sensor Field Demonstration is being held March 21st, 2017 at the WTF in Holcomb, KS. Shannon Kenyon will be attending if any board members would like to as well.

DWR has communicated with GMD 4 that the renewal of SD-6 LEMA looks to be in order and hearings can be scheduled. We are looking at holding both of those hearing in mid-May.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. District LEMA

A revised request was sent in the board packets. After review, more revisions need to be included. Much discussion was had on including language of a carry-over into the next potential LEMA.

Lynn Goossen moved to include a carry-over amount up to a maximum of 10% LEMA allocation in the purple, yellow, and red areas. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

b. Water Meter App

Dwayne Kersenbrock discussed the app they were having made. Board members were interested and seemed more impressed than the existing one from Nebraska. Dwayne said they should have a version in May and would try to get the developer to meet with the board. The discussion was tabled until then.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Audit

The audit report was distributed to members. Ray Luhman pointed out some points from the included letters.

Roger Zwegardt moved to accept the audit. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

b. Mulberry Lane Farms WCA

A management plan for a new WCA in Sherman County was presented to the board as GMD 4 has 45 days to comment. A copy of the management plan was distributed to board members. A summary of the details of the plan was discussed.

Mitchell Baalman moved to support the WCA. The motion was seconded by Lynn Goossen and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

7. Agency Reports

Kelly Stewart discussed the water use report deadlines and fees. Incomplete water use reports are also being fined. If they are not submitted and complete by June 1st then the water right could be suspended.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

Roger Zwegardt asked if Bill Golden could come do the same presentation from the Water Talk Series. Ray Luhman said he'd check into it. More discussion was had on how the annual meeting went. There was a missed opportunity to educate the audience while the votes were being counted and as several board members wanted to attend some of the talks and couldn't, it was requested the annual meeting not be in conjunction with the Water Talk Series in the future.


9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

The April monthly meeting will be held April 6th at 9 am CST at the GMD 4 office in Colby.

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business and no objections, Lynn Goossen moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Justin Sloan and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

Respectfully submitted:



Mitchell Baalman, Acting Secretary