

Minutes

Minutes: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 July 12, 2017 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The July 12th board meeting was opened 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, Mitchell Baalman, Brent Rogers, Scott Maurath, Karen Flanagin, and Nate Emig

Board members absent:

Doug David, Monty Biggs, and Jeff Deeds

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Ray Luhman, Shannon Kenyon, Rita Wade and Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; Adam Dees – attorney; Kelly Stewart and Steven Walters- DWR; Dwayne Kersenbrock

Shane Mann moved Mitchell Baalman be the acting secretary in the absence of Jeff Deeds. The motion was seconded by Scott Maurath and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

Ray Luhman requested to add “ e. DWR Rules and Regulation Testimony under Unfinished Business.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the June 8, 2017 Minutes and Expenditures for the month of June. A receipt of the June financial report was previously distributed showing monthly expenditures totaling \$35,462.05 in June were approved.

Mitchell Baalman moved the minutes and expenditures for the month of June be accepted. The motion was seconded by Roger Zwegardt and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

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

4. MANAGER'S REPORT

Shannon Kenyon reported that AquaSpy would provide special pricing to irrigators within GMD 4 that wish to install soil moisture probes.

On July 18th, Governor Brownback will be at Hoxie Feeders. A purpose for the visit is not clear, but everyone is encouraged to attend. Less than six board members should be in attendance.

The Kansas Water Congress is July 27 & 28th. An agenda was distributed among the board. Anyone that wishes to attend needs to notify the office by Monday so registration and reservations can be made.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. District LEMA

A letter from David Barfield was received by GMD 4. The letter accepts the District-Wide LEMA proposal and sets the first hearing for August 23rd, 9 am at the Cultural Arts Center. Notification of the hearing will be mailed out to all landowners later this week. Discussion was had on having the hearing advertised on the website as well as a postcard being mailed a couple of weeks prior to the hearing.

b. Water Meter App

A video call was had with Nathaniel Watts and Aaron Kruse about the water meter app. They gave a quick presentation and was followed up with questions from the board. The board agreed they should get feedback from the public to survey the interest within the district on how many would utilize the app with the cost.

c. GIS Workshops

Still being developed. A brief update was given and they are making progress.

d. Building Projects

Teller cages have been removed. Discussion was had on what type of flooring should replace the old. Most agreed that the carpet squares were the best option and that bids should be taken to replace all of the carpeting.

e. DWR Regulation Testimony

Ray Luhman passed around a copy of testimony he would like to present for the public hearing scheduled on July 25th in regards to consumptive use. Several board members thought it would be a good idea to go to Manhattan for this hearing instead of a phone call. Several board members also discussed going.

Scott Maurath moved the testimony is acceptable to present at the July 25th hearing. The motion was seconded by Karen Flanagin and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. NW Tech Recommendation

Shannon Kenyon gave an update on the NW Tech technology farms and the progress and donations made to date. They would like to apply for Hansen Foundation grants and would like our recommendation.

Shane Mann moved that GMD 4 provide recommendation for NW Tech to receive a Hansen grant. The motion was seconded by Roger Zwegardt and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

7. Agency Reports

Kelly Stewart presented that 1,845 notifications of the District-Wide LEMA hearing in August were being mailed to owners and water use correspondents. He also reviewed the Gary Roberts application further to determine there is Ogallala involved and he could not support approval of the application. He also gave an update on a recent settlement conference involving the suspension of water rights due to falsifying a Water User Report. There is a web tool being developed where water right owners can enter their water right number and their LEMA allocation will be visible. They are still working on the Mulberry WCA. Penalty regulations are also in the process of revamping.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

Karen Flanagin asked to clarify what Multi-year Flex Accounts were.

Adam Dees provided an update on the Foundation’s 501(c)(3) status and that September 5th should be the end of the period they are allowed.

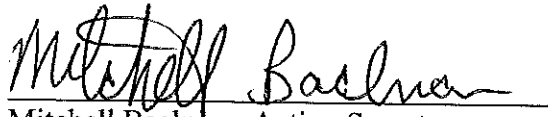
9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

The August monthly meeting will be held August 3rd at 9 am CDT at the GMD 4 office in Colby.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mitchell Baalman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mitchell Baalman, Acting Secretary