

Minutes: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 April 5, 2018 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The April 5th 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:

Brent Rogers, Jeff Deeds, Lynn Goossen, Mitchell Baalman, Monty Biggs, Karen Flanagin, Nate Emig, Scott Maurath, Roger Zwegardt, Shane Mann, and Ted Nighswonger

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Ray Luhman, Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain and Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; Adam Dees – GMD 4 attorney; Kelly Stewart and Steven Walters – DWR; Jon Friesen and Doyle Sadler

Several adjustments to the agenda were presented. Under Manager's Report "Grants" need to be added. Under New Business "Appeals" needs to be removed and "Modeling Software" to be added. Jon Friesen asked to be added to Old Business.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the March 1st, 2018 Minutes and Expenditures for the month of March. A receipt of the March financial report was previously distributed showing monthly expenditures totaling \$35,502.92 in March were approved.

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

3. OPEN FORUM

No comments from the public were received.

4. MANAGER'S REPORT

Ray Luhman gave a legislative update. SB 194 was passed that allows the GMD assessment cap to be raised from \$1/AF to \$2/AF.

Shannon Kenyon informed the board that she had visited with a grant writer. Grants can be sought not only from the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Conservation Foundation but also from the district side as well.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. District LEMA

Ray Luhman gave a summary of the six public meetings that were held informing the public on the GMD 4 LEMA. All of those meetings went well and ranged from 70 attendees to as low as 20 attendees. It was suggested the district look into purchasing our own PA system for future public meetings.

Shannon Kenyon handed out a list of folks that have shown interest in being on the advisory committee. It was noted there are still people needed to fill spots on the committee. Board members will be asking around their respective regions and plan to have an advisory committee formed and finalized by August. It was suggested that the annual meetings of this group be held in the spring after water level data has been released.

Jon Friesen addressed the board wanting to know where to locate a memo with the Chief Engineer showing that the GMD 4 LEMA is in effect. As there has not yet been an Order of Designation issued he wanted to know what laws GMD 4 was operating the LEMA under.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Ray Luhman spoke with Brian Dunnigan who is an engineer for Olsson Associates. There is a groundwater model pre-processor available that will make getting answers from the model easily accessible. It was suggested that staff go to their office to get a demonstration of the product. If staff feels it is worth the \$10,000 per year price tag then ask them to come down and demonstrate it to the board. The question of where the data comes from was answered with the existing Republican River Compact.

7. Agency Reports

Kelly Stewart informed the board that we are all still waiting on the Order of Designation and DWR will get letters out with allocations as soon as they can. Kelly asked the board if they thought it to be a good idea if they should also notify those that are not part of the LEMA? It was suggested back to Kelly that it would be a good idea. Discussion was also had on how those letters will be formed. Kelly also informed the board that GMD 1 was talking about a LEMA to begin in 2019 that will include a 15% reduction off past pumping history.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

Karen Flanagan asked Jody McCain about her QuickBooks course. Jody presented to the board that it was a bit overkill for GMD 4 and that she suggested we update Quicken.

Kelly Stewart asked if an eligible dryland farmer be on the advisory committee. The response was yes, but would rather have irrigators that are affected by the LEMA to be on the committee.

Doyle Sadler commented that he didn't understand how the LEMA could be in effect if an Order of Designation ~~be~~ issued yet. Adam Dees explained that the Order of Decision is what ~~put the plan in place~~ and that the Order of Designation ~~only~~ makes it official.

put everyone on notice has not been

Ray Luhman informed the board that he just received the SD 6 water use reports. He will be mailing allocations soon.

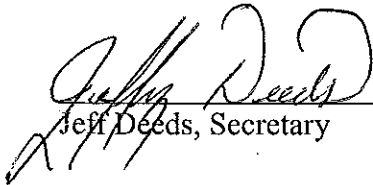
9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

A board meeting was scheduled for May 3rd, 2018. Appeals need to be on the agenda if an Order of Designation has been issued. A modeling software update should also be added.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary

