

**NORTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 4**  
**June 1, 2022**

**1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA**

The June 1, 2022 board meeting was opened at the GMD4 office in Colby, Kansas by President, Brett Oelke and via teleconference.

Board members present for some or all the meeting were:

Jerry Binning, Nate Emig, Karen Flanagan, Lynn Goossen, Dylan Loyd, Shane Mann, Brett Oelke, Brent Rogers, and Marsha Shilling.

Board members absent: Jeff Deeds and Ted Nighswonger.

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain and Colter Stoll – GMD 4 staff; Adam Dees – GMD 4 attorney; Kelly Stewart (virtually) and Rebecca Hageman – DWR, and Weston McCary – KWO.

**Nate Emig moved to appoint Brent Rogers as acting secretary in Jeff Deeds absence. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

Changes to the agenda were noted:

- Add 8. c. ARCGIS
- d. GMD 1 LEMA Letter of Support
- e. LEMA Issue

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Lynn Goossen moved that the consent agenda be accepted as amended. The motion was seconded by Jerry Benning and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes.)**

**Nate Emig moved the minutes of the April 6, 2022 board meeting be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Marsha Schilling and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

Shannon passed out a copy of the updated May financials.

**Brent Rogers moved that the financial reports and expenditures for the months of April and May be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Nate Emig and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

Nate Emig inquired if anyone else had a problem with this year's billing on TAPPH2O. He has not been able to contact Richael. Shannon had asked Richael about the GMD4 billing for this third year. Richael said we should see something in the mail soon. Shannon will reach out to Richael to discuss the issue.

#### **4. AGENCY REPORTS**

Kelly Stewart had a short report, as his office has worked through the "over pump" list. He did note that a few were sizable over pumps.

Rebecca Hageman reported she has received updated LEMA accounting data from David at headquarters. Approximately 24 groups have pumped 85% of their allocation, and 2 groups have exceeded their allocation already. They are hoping to have the 2021 Water Usage on the website within the next couple of weeks.

Rebecca and Shannon will contact those that are over/close to being over after verifying if they are indeed over their allocation, or if there has been reporting errors on water use reports leading to miscalculation of water usage.

Weston reported that the next Water Authority meeting will be June 22, 2022. He wanted to reiterate that Keadron is still the Regional Planning and Outreach Coordinator and will be back when her maternity leave is over. Weston is the Technology Projects Coordinator.

#### **5. MANAGER'S REPORT**

"Lunch with Ray" went very well. Kate is settling into GMD 1 and they have had their District Wide LEMA county presentations. Everything went very well and it helped clear up myths by education on exactly what the LEMA entails.

On May 12<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>, Representative Lindsay Vaughn came and had a great tour throughout GMD 4. Rebecca Hageman with DWR joined us and Colter chauffeured us to various locations. It was a very positive visit and she wants to return during fall harvest. I have been staying in close contact with her since and have had great communications with several others about what to look for in next year's legislation.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) representatives have been in the area conducting interviews with producers. They finally received the grant funding the board supported two years ago when Landon Marston came and spoke to the group. They are also studying another area in the San Luis Valley in Colorado that has put restrictions on water.

Hi-Plains CO-OP is hosting "Growers Meeting". Shannon announced the dates of those meetings for anyone interested.

Shannon had sent the board an email about Nebraska's project on real time meters in the Middle Republican NRD. Weston McCary is working with a company that makes very affordable sensors for just about anything and is piloting some projects on a water tech farm with these sensors. Weston elaborated on the company and its product.

There was an article in the April 25<sup>th</sup> edition of the High Plains Journal titled "Every Precious Drop: Western Kansas Devoted to Saving Water". Shannon has a copy available to read.

GMD 2 has approved to increase their number of board members to 11 by adding two municipal positions. This is in response to the House Water Committee legislation this year.

Nathan Hendricks will NOT be sending out flyers within GMD 4, as requested by the board.

Shannon sat in on the last KWA Meeting. They are planning a stakeholders meeting to hash out and find common ground on issues brought up by HB2686.

Shannon asked for the board's opinion on water at the cabinet level, moving it out of KDA to its own level. A discussion of pros and cons ensued.

On May 31<sup>st</sup> there was a KGMDA meeting in Stafford that Shannon attended. All five GMD managers, Earl Lewis, and Jeff Lanterman, Stafford Water Commissioner. Each manager gave an update on what is happening in their district.

This summer the GMDA meeting will be held at Copper Mountain, Colorado. Usually these meetings are held in larger cities across the nation. Shannon will be attending this one June 20<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>, with it being so close in proximity.

## **6. FIELD REPORT**

Colter reported that he is still working on a "10 year" list provided to him from the Stockton Field Office. There are approximately 500 wells on this list. Some have been checked by GMD 4 staff in the past, but not all information was passed on to STKFO. He has been verifying readings on some meters that may have water use reporting issues (reporting wrong reading on multiple points of diversion). Colter also chauffeured Shannon, Rebecca, and Lindsey Vaughn on their tour of the district. He appreciated touring the NWKTC Precision Ag, and seeing all of the changes made since he attended. He completed 113 compliance checks in April and May.

## **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **a. GMD 4 LEMA**

The hearings for the 2023-2027 GMD 4 LEMA have been set for July 27, 2022 starting at 10 a.m. at City Limits Convention Center.

The advisory committee meeting was held on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Karen Flanagan noted the small attendance for the meeting, and asked what could be done to increase the attendance. Shannon noted that she had to wait for the water level data from KGS and the pumping usage for 2021. It was suggested that a second meeting be held in the winter to go over the data. It was noted that the GMD 4 LEMA Annual Report has been sent to DWR.

### **b. SD-6**

The hearings for the next LEMA have been set for July 26, 2022 starting at 1:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Hoxie.

The advisory committee met on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the First State Bank in Hoxie. The Annual Report has been sent to DWR.

c. **BARFIELD CONTRACT**

Shannon received a contract from David Barfield with KWR Consulting, which Brett Oelke signed. We will get him to ghost write the written testimony for both LEMA hearings.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Legislative Post Audit**

The House Water Committee has approved a legislative post audit of the GMDs. Jody had pretty much everything rounded up in about 15 minutes.

b. **Executive Session – Staff Contracts**

**Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session at 11:20 am for 30 minutes with the board of directors, Adam Dees and staff as needed for the purpose of performance reviews. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 30 minutes at 11:50 a.m. with the board of directors, Adam Dees, and staff as needed. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 30 minutes at 12:20 p.m. with the board of directors, Adam Dees, and staff as needed. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 15 minutes at 12:51 p.m. with the board of directors, Adam Dees, and staff as needed. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 15 minutes at 1:07 p.m. with the board of directors, Adam Dees, and staff as needed. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 15 minutes at 1:22 p.m. with the board of directors, Adam Dees, and staff as needed. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

c. **ARCGIS**

The Gworks contract expires this year. We were the only GMD that used the program developed for fieldwork. There are still issues with the program, and we would have to pay a hefty sum to have it corrected. The other GMDs WILL NOT use this company again. Also, ARC Map will be obsolete in a couple years. The company is moving toward ARCGIS Pro. Shannon and Colter had a conference call with ESRI to see how this program would work for us. Shannon has received a 21 day free trial, and she plans to work with Colter to explore its options.

d. **GMD 1 LEMA Letter of Support**

Katie Durham has asked for a letter of support from the board for the LEMA they have developed for GMD 1.

**Brent Rogers moved to send a letter of support in favor of the GMD 1 LEMA. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**e. LEMA ISSUE**

Nate had a producer contact him regarding an addition of acres. This had been an appeal Ray had done, and no detailed notes were left as to the reasoning behind it. Shannon has investigated the matter, and put it on her list of items to check before the next LEMA is in place.

**9. OPEN SESSION – Public Questions/Comments:**

There was nothing.

**10. SCHEDULING FUTURE MEETINGS:**

The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 6, 2022 at 9 a.m. CDT at the GMD 4 office in Colby if needed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no other business and no objections the meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Brent Rogers, acting Secretary

