

Minutes: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 December 7, 2017 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The December 7th 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:

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

Board members absent:

Doug David

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

Ray Luhman requested that under Manager Report: b. SD-6 Advisory Committee; Unfinished Business: d. Annual Meeting Date; New Business: b. Water Congress and c. WKHRMA

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the November 2, 2017, Minutes and Expenditures for the month of November. A receipt of the November financial report was previously distributed showing monthly expenditures totaling \$51,448.00 in November were approved.

Shannon Kenyon noted that on page 1, Jody McCain needs to be added to the list of those in attendance.

Roger Zwegardt moved the minutes and expenditures for the month of November be accepted with the change as presented. The motion was seconded by Jeff Deeds and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

Nothing was brought before the Board of Directors

4. MANAGER’S REPORT

Ray Luhman presented an overview of the happenings at the Governor's Water Conference. Most of the presentations were on dredging and water quality.

A SD-6 Advisory Committee meeting was held on November 29th, 2017 at Gary Moss's shop. All but one member was in attendance. Most of the discussion was on how to figure the carry-over for umbrella accounts and how to split it up. Several have overpumped and have been contacted. They were encouraged to put those in an umbrella account to avoid penalty.

Shannon Kenyon distributed a thank you card from Rita Wade and informed the board of the Water Technology Expo on January 11th.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. District LEMA

The second hearing was held on November 14th. Cross examination provided a good record. Attendance at the hearing was less than expected. The record is being held open until December 12th. The Chief Engineer has 120 days after to make a decision after the record is closed. Transcript of the hearing is coming and will be posted on the KDA website. Shannon will be submitting a timeline of monthly, annual, and public meetings with handouts to Adam Dees. Other discussion was had about the KLA testimony. Verified acres are a concern to them as they believe it violates the KWAA and priority. If the LEMA is ordered, there could be a good number of appeals because of incorrect acres reported on water use reports. Those water rights that have been enrolled in AWEP or EQUIP may have to look at what was pumped prior to the program.

Shane Mann moved to go into executive session for attorney/client discussion with the board, attorney, and staff for five minutes. The motion was seconded by Scott Maurath and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

b. GIS Workshops

We are still in the process of updates. Dan is using it in the field. The last check has not been given to them and won't until a successful product is delivered.

c. Graham County Position

Doug David officially resigned through a text message to Shannon Kenyon. A screen shot of the text dialogue was distributed to the board.

Karen Flanagin moved to accept the resignation. The motion was seconded by Lynn Goossen and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

Ted Nighswonger has agreed to fill his position if the board appoints him. The board thought it would be best to advertise in the Hill City Times before appointing him.

e. Annual Meeting Date

Historically the annual meeting is on the first Wednesday in February. A conflict arose with an event in Topeka hosted by the GMD's. Per the GMD Act, we cannot alter our annual meeting date unless we have a vote to change it at the previous annual meeting.

Monty Biggs moved to keep the annual meeting date as the first Wednesday in February. The motion was seconded by Jeff Deeds and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Employee Contracts

Employee contracts were signed by Brent Rogers.

b. Water Congress

Discussion was had on the lack of action in the Kansas Water Congress in recent years. The cost is \$1000 per year to belong with added expenses of travel for conferences.

Lynn Goossen moved to withdrawal from the Kansas Water Congress. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

c. WKHRMA

Jody McCain has shown interest in attending events for Western Kansas Human Resources Management Association. They meet monthly over the noon hour and provide helpful topics in human resources. Jody feels she would benefit with a \$50 per year membership.

Karen Flanagan moved to provide Jody McCain with a one year membership. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

7. Agency Reports

Kelly Stewart informed the board of the updates to the overpumping penalties. The 2017 water use will be affected and the fines are severe. A violator can do a settlement and even go into a MYFA to ease being turned off for an entire year. Steven Walters commented on the efforts of DWR to market and advertise WCA's. He needs outreach and help to get in touch and meet with people. It was suggested he be allowed a few minutes at the annual meeting.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

Nothing from the public.

9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

A board meeting was scheduled for January 11th, 2018. We will be having a budget hearing at that meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary