

NORTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 4
September 5, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The September 5, 2019 board meeting was opened at the GMD 4 office in Colby, Kansas by President, Brent Rogers.

Board members present for some or all the meeting were:

Monty Biggs, Jeff Deeds, Nate Emig, Karen Flanagan, Lynn Goossen, Shane Mann, Ted Nighswonger, and Brett Oelke.

Board members absent: Roger Zweygardt.

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain and Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; Adam Dees – GMD 4 attorney; Steven Walters – DWR; Rob Aiken – K-State Research & Extension; David Barfield and Chris Beightel – KDA - DWR; and Blair Schneider -- KGS.

Additions to the agenda were noted: Sign damage and A.A.A.S. to the Manager's Report.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the August 8th, 2019 minutes and the August expenditures. Receipt of the August financial report were distributed showing monthly expenditures totaling \$12,244.95 were approved.

Ted Nighswonger moved the minutes and expenditures for August be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Brett Oelke and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

Nothing to report.

4. MANAGER'S REPORT

a. RRCA Annual Meeting

The Republican River Compact Association held its annual meeting at the Pioneer Memorial Library on August 22, 2019. At this time, all 3 states – Colorado, Kansas, & Nebraska are in compliance. Everyone felt it was a positive meeting, and all 3 states intend to stay in compliance.

b. KWA/NW Kansas Water Tech Field Day

Shannon attended the Ag Tech Expo/Water Tech Farm Field Day and the KWA meeting at Northwest Technical College in Goodland on September 4th, 2019. She gave a short presentation on the GMD4 LEMA to the KWA. The program at NWKTC is flourishing, with 40 students, who are all excited and engaged in the program. However, there are only 2 instructors at this time, which makes it difficult to cover all the pathways that precision agriculture covers.

c. Damaged Sign

It was brought to our attention, that our sign has sustained some significant wind damage. Shannon has been in contact with Commercial Sign and Kansas Insurance. However, there were many businesses in the area with damage and Commercial Sign has put us on their lengthy list to check out the damage. Shannon has asked for two quotes – 1) assess and fix the sign as it is or 2) use the signage and place it on the actual building. Jody noted that we have had two people within the last couple months come in wanting to cash checks.

d. A.A.A.S.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science film titled "How We Respond" is set for release on September 16th, 2019. Shannon and Brett are both featured in the film. Shannon was able to show a preview of the film.

5. FIELD REPORT

Dan reported that he is about half-way through the 5-5-11 checks. However the moisture received and the lack of access to some of the meters on the pivots have hampered his efforts. He has done more rate tests and started installing the new GMD4 seals. Both Hoxie Implement and Western Sprinklers have agreed to install the GMD4 seals at their facilities as well.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. GMD 4 LEMA

Adam Dees reported that the judge in the Gove County case has been taking his time to thoroughly go through the case, before making a decision.

Shannon reported the monthly conference call discussion was mostly on log books, or the inconsistency of the information reported. They are looking at adapting the old pumping log books, to be uniform in information recorded. The specifics of the information needed are being discussed.

b. Rob Aiken Model

Rob Aiken was in attendance to present a refresher on the model he has been collaborating on. Handouts were disbursed, which Rob felt proves the success of SD-6 through the math and science behind behavior changes made due to the LEMA.

c. Logan County Board Position

Lynn Goossen has a list of possible candidates, however it is hard to tell if those people actually live in Logan County, since the county line runs through the western end of Oakley. Other names with only a post office box also make it difficult to discern if they reside in Logan County.

d. Financials

Jody disbursed the paperwork for signatures for the financial accounts at The Bank. Ray has been removed from the accounts, with Lynn Goossen and Karen Flanagin added in addition to Brent Rogers, Roger Zwegardt, Shannon Kenyon, and Jody McCain listed as authorized signers on the accounts.

e. 4-Wheeler

Dan had contacted the dealer and has a trade-in value. However, it was noted that there is interest in the used 4-wheeler. The board agreed that sealed bids would be the best option, with a reserve amount higher than the trade-in value.

f. Proposed LEMA, WCA, Conservation Rules & Regulations

David Barfield and Chris Beightel with Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Water Resources were in attendance to report on a set of preliminary drafts regarding LEMA regulations, WCA regulations, and past due conservation. David wanted to remind everyone that this is just the first stage of this process, and that there is some broad wording for state use. He would like feedback from the board, with concerns or suggestions via a letter to him. He did note that the comments he received today would be considered and taken back to Chief Counsel.

Questions were asked of David Barfield on the Quivera impairment issue in GMD 5. He provided some background of the issue, GMD 5's efforts, and actions he intended to take.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. MISSION STATEMENT

We have had the same mission statement since the steering committee developed it in 1976. However, due to the length of the meeting, it was decided to table the discussion for now.

b. Blair Schneider – KGS

Blair Schneider has replaced Susan Stover at Kansas Geological Survey as outreach coordinator. She was in attendance to introduce herself to the board, as well as ask for their help with her first major project. Blair is in charge of putting together a 2-day Legislative retreat in 2020. She would like GMD4 to be a stop on their Northwest Kansas Tour, to talk about the LEMA and the needs of Northwest Kansas.

8. AGENCY REPORTS

Steven Walters reported that DWR is still working on inspections of the district. However, the moisture has slowed things down. With the way the year has gone, they will be discussing how to handle inspections in the winter, with an inevitable late harvest.

9. OPEN SESSION – Public Questions/Comments:

No comments received.

10. SCHEDULING FUTURE MEETINGS:

A board meeting was scheduled for October 3, 2019, 9 a.m., with a Foundation meeting to follow. It was agreed that we may not meet in November with Shannon gone to the Governor's Conference and a late corn harvest.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business and no objections, Brett Oelke moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Karen Flanagan and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary