

**NORTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 4
December 18, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes**

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The December 18, 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, Nate Emig, Karen Flanagin, Lynn Goossen, Ted Nighswonger, Brett Oelke, Brent Rogers, and Roger Zwegardt.

Board members absent: Jeff Deeds and Shane Mann.

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain and Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; and Adam Dees – GMD 4 attorney, Brownie Wilson and Gaisheng Liu – KGS, Kelly Stewart – DWR; and Armando Zarco – KWO.

Monty Biggs moved to nominate Brett Oelke as acting Secretary. The motion was seconded by Roger Zwegardt and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the October 3, 2019 minutes November expenditures. Receipt of the October and November financial reports were distributed showing monthly expenditures totaling \$24,795.30 in October, and \$24,150.86 in November were approved.

Ted Nighswonger moved the consent agenda be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Karen Flanagin and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

Nate Emig informed the board that he has a conflict with the 9 a.m. meeting time on Wednesdays. The board agreed to move the meeting time back to 10 a.m.

4. MANAGER’S REPORT

a. Meter Summit – October 28, 2019

Shannon and Dan attended this with the other GMD managers and their field technicians along with water commissioners and DWR folks from Manhattan to discuss meters. Statewide meter issues were discussed as well as compliance issues.

b. Governor’s Conference – November 7 – 8, 2019

Shannon and Shane Mann attended in Wichita. Some excellent speakers were heard and Shannon gave an update on the happenings in GMD 4 at the conference.

c. KGMDA – November 22, 2019

Shannon intended to attend the annual meeting in St. John, but the snow stranded her in Hays. GMD 3 & 5 are having problems getting their management programs approved. They are making a list of questions for the Chief Engineer and are proposing a meeting with him and all the GMD managers for December 20th in Topeka to discuss potential legislation topics. A concept paper for legislation was drafted by GMD 3 manager, Mark Rude. The paper proposes to make changes to the GMD Act.

Lynn Goossen moved to strongly oppose any legislative action involving the GMD Act. The motion was seconded by Brett Oelke and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

Chief Engineer, David Barfield will be retiring March 6th.

d. Legislative Retreat – February 4, 2019

This is an annual event held in Topeka where we invite legislators to discuss legislative issues. Board members are encouraged to attend. Please let Shannon or Jody know if you would like to go so reservations can be made.

e. GMDA – Groundwater Management Districts Association

We are a member of this organization as well as the other Kansas GMD's. GMD 4 was actively involved until Wayne Bossert's retirement. The other GMD managers highly recommend being involved as they get a lot from the organization. Shannon would like to become more involved.

f. Financials

The Bank had notified us that we needed an additional form signed for their records. Jody went over the Encumbrance sheet, which was developed to address one of the concerns of the auditors from last year. Also, Shannon is now signing off on the invoices for bills which was the other concern the auditors had last year.

5. FIELD REPORT

Dan has completed his autumn checks on 5-5-11 water rights. He has scheduled a few rate tests for the spring on folks with missing seals. As weather cooperates he plans to focus on putting seals in SD 6.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. GMD 4 LEMA

Karen Flanagan moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes with the board of directors, the manager, and attorney for attorney client privileges. The motion was seconded by Brett Oelke and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes). The session expired.

Discussion was had on the GMD 4/DWR collaboration on the LEMA. Concerns were discussed and directed to Kelly Stewart's attention.

b. Logan County Board Position

Several scenarios to rearrange the board positions with higher hopes of filling the Logan County position were discussed.

Lynn Goossen moved to bring a resolution for a district-wide vote at the annual meeting, to combine Logan Position #10 and Gove Position #11 to become Logan/Gove Position #10, and make an At Large Position #11. The motion was seconded by Roger Zwegardt and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

c. Water Use Reports

Water use reports will not be on cardstock as they have been traditionally mailed. They will look exactly the same, but on paper and in an envelope, with instructions to help file online. The board decided not to send out a post card as previously discussed, since the paperwork will look like the report that has been filled out in the past.

d. Model Update – Brownie Wilson

As per the KGS/KWO/GMD4 contract on the model, Brownie gave an update on the progress made thus far. He did note that Kansas is "envied for our water records", because other states do not have a historical water use data base that has been digitalized.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Nathan Hendricks Survey

Nathan Hendricks has downsized his survey from last year and sent it out in GMD 3. He got an excellent response from it and would like to send one out in GMD 4. Due to limited time, the board is to read through the compacted survey and bring their opinions back next month.

b. Alexander Stejskal

Alexander has been working with GMD 5 on a water meter tracking app. He was not able to be at the meeting, but would like to do a conference call with some board members. The board would like for Alexander to do a presentation/conference call/skype to present the information to the board.

c. Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12th, 2020 in Goodland at NW Tech, Union Hall, 1:30 pm MST. Duties of the officers were discussed, and Brett Oelke volunteered to run the election.

d. KAR 5-24-8 – Resource Development Plans

We are the only district that requires resource development plans, and DWR does not look at them because of advanced pivot nozzeling. However, they may be beneficial in special cases dealing with runoff.

e. Wallpaper/Paint/Sign/Sidewalk

Several maintenance items were brought up, from peeling wallpaper, the storage shed, and the sidewalk out back. The old sign is the only thing left in the storage unit. The board agreed that it is of no use, and should be scrapped. We had the gutters on the back of the building cleaned out, however the water comes down and pools at the southwest corner of the building, which has led to settling of the sidewalk. The board would like to get bids for replacement of the concrete on the back side of the building.

8. AGENCY REPORTS

Kelly Stewart announced David Barfield and Brent Turney's retirements. He updated the board on the City of Park and City of Quinter water issues. Gave an update on the water use reports and annual well measurements. DWR is also currently working on MYFA regulations.

Armando Zarco with the Kansas Water Office updated the board on GMD 1's LEMA development. He also gave an update on the Governor's Conference, Kansas Water Authority meetings, and the Winter Water Tech Expo. He is also looking for RAC (Regional Advisory Committee) members.

9. OPEN SESSION – Public Questions/Comments:

Brett Oelke had some concerns about some ground going into production in Sheridan County. Shannon and Dan will follow up.

10. SCHEDULING FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8, 2019 at 10 a.m. CST, with the 2020 Revised Operating Budget starting at 10:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Brett Oelke, Acting Secretary