

NORTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 4
April 7, 2021

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The April 7, 2021 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, Jeff Deeds, Nate Emig, Karen Flanagin, Lynn Goossen, Shane Mann, Ted Nighswonger, Brett Oelke, Brent Rogers and Marsha Schilling

Board members absent: Dylan Loyd

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; Kelly Stewart and Rebecca Hageman – DWR (virtually); Keadron Pearson and Kirk Tjelmeland – KWO (virtually); Richael Young – Mammoth Water – (virtually)

Change to the agenda was noted:

Remove 8 a. Executive Session - Landon Truetken (Pioneer) per his request.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Jeff Deeds moved that the consent agenda be accepted as amended. The motion was seconded by Ted Nighswonger and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

Nate Emig moved the minutes of the March 3, 2021 board meeting be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Brent Rogers and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

Ted Nighswonger moved that the updated financial reports and expenditures for the month of March be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Jerry Binning and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

Shane Mann questioned if other producers had seen any major increases in energy bills, due to the devastating February ice storms in Texas. A brief discussion ensued.

4. AGENCY REPORTS

Kelly Stewart reported that with the March 1 deadline of water use reports passing, any reports now being taken are fined a \$250 late fee per water right. After June 1st, the fine jumps to \$1,000 per water right. Approximately 95% of the water use reports filed, were reported online. An update from Andy Terhune from Manhattan said that approximately 3.5% of the total number of Kansas reports are late. Chief Engineer had contacted Kelly to let him know that the new MYFA bill was signed by Governor Kelly on Monday. He

also stated that Chief Engineer Earl Lewis wanted him to relay that the GMD 4 Management Program has been reviewed and that approval would be coming soon.

Rebecca Hageman reported that she has been busy working through water use errors/over pumping (i.e. reporting mistakes and meter repairs). She has been touching base with Shannon on these problem reports.

Keadron Pearson reported that the next Kansas Water Office meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2021 virtually from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a break for lunch during that time. She stated the Water Office received 70 applications from 18 different producers for cost share of irrigation technologies within the South Fork Republican River Basin in Kansas.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT

a. MARCH UPDATES

It has been one very busy month! Shannon presented information to the House Water Committee on the different programs and collaborations GMD 4 has initiated that fall in line with our mission statement. She encouraged board members to reach out to committee members. It was noted that we were the only GMD commended for our water conservation efforts!

David Barfield came in to visit with Shannon regarding how much he will be needed in the LEMA renewal process so that he knows how to manage his time with other clients. She told him that since both LEMA's had already been created and with maybe a few tweaks here and there, she did not think it would take up a great deal of his time.

Brownie Wilson of the Kansas Geological Survey came out and presented to Shannon, several board members, and Ray Luhman the new groundwater model. Shannon asked Nate Emig, Shane Mann, Brent Rogers, and Lynn Goossen to share what they took away from the session. Shannon reiterated that she is very excited as to what she will be able to do in the office as well as what KGS can do for us.

Shannon also gave an online presentation about LEMA's for KSU. It was designed as a training for their extension agents, but there were many others attending. It was very informative and can be viewed at the KCARE website.

The SD-6 Advisory Committee met on March 26th. Shannon provided them with the latest data that she had included in the board packet. They are recommending renewing the SD-6 LEMA just as they did the last one but would like to see the new model data next year as well. She also discussed the plan for fieldwork in the next two years. Discussion was had on the letters we plan to send out at the beginning of 2022. The board wants to be sure the letters not only include what they have remaining for the SD 6 LEMA but also what they have in their carryover account.

Filming for the Certified Irrigator Program has begun. We had our first video session on April 5th where Dale Younker with NRCS presented his rain simulator in relation to soil health and other various topics. Due to the length and topics, this will be broken down in to at least 2, possibly 3 videos for the Certified Irrigator Program.

b. APRIL OPPORTUNITIES

Shannon stated they had an uneventful GMDA board meeting on April 6th.

At 10:38 a.m. Ted Nighswonger moved that we recess the meeting, until after the Foundation Meeting. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

At 10:58 a.m., the monthly board of directors meeting resumed.

6. FIELD REPORT

Dan stated that Shannon had previously covered what was going on in the field earlier in the meeting.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. GMD 4 LEMA

As soon as Shannon receives water use report data from DWR, she will begin analyzing it for an Advisory Committee meeting which she hopes to have done before the end of April. After that meeting, she will present to you their comments and suggestions as well as the updated data. We can begin brainstorming things that may need changed and ways that those changes can be handled.

b. AUDIT

It was noted that we did not have an official motion to accept the audit as presented at the March meeting.

Karen Flanagin moved to accept the 2020 Audit as presented. The motion was seconded by Lynn Goossen and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. EXECUTIVE SESSION – LANDON TRUETKEN (PIONEER)

Removed per Landon’s request 4/7/2021

b. EXECUTIVE SESSION – STAFFING NEEDS

Brent Rogers moved to go into executive session at 11:10 am for 15 minutes with Shannon Kenyon, the board of directors, and Adam Dees for the purpose of staffing needs discussion. The motion was seconded by Lynn Goossen and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

Shane Mann moved to go into executive session for an additional 15 minutes at 11:26 a.m. with the board of directors, Shannon Kenyon, and Adam Dees. The motion was seconded by Lynn Goossen and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

No action taken.

9. OPEN SESSION – Public Questions/Comments:

Adam Dees reported that all three attorneys in the Woofter/Carpenter v. McClaskey have requested a ruling.

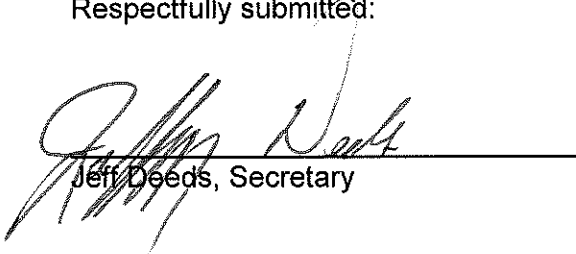
10. SCHEDULING FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 9 am CST at the GMD 4 office in Colby.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business and no objections the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary