

**NORTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 4**  
**September 6, 2023**

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

The September 6, 2023 board meeting was opened at the GMD 4 office in Colby, Kansas by President, Brett Oelke.

Board members present for some or all the meeting were:

Jerry Binning, Jeff Deeds, Nate Emig, Karen Flanagin, Dylan Loyd, Brett Oelke, Brent Rogers, Shane Mann and Marsha Schilling.

Board members absent: Lynn Goossen and Ted Nighswonger.

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain and Colter Stoll – GMD 4 staff; Jake Kling – GMD 4 Attorney; Rebecca Hageman– DWR; Keadron Pearson (virtually) – KWO; Richael Young (virtually); and Todd Quenzer (virtually).

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Nate Emig moved that the consent agenda be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Dylan Loyd and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes.)**

**Brent Rogers moved the minutes of the August 2, 2023 board meeting be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Nate Emig and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

Shannon distributed the updated August financial report.

**Shane Mann moved that the updated financial report and expenditures for the month of August be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Nate Emig and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

Shane Mann inquired if Shannon had seen a copy of the New York Times article that she had been interviewed for. She has not, as it requires a subscription to view. Nate Emig noted that others perspective outside of Kansas in news stories is different, and at times slanted.

**4. AGENCY REPORTS**

Kelly Stewart was not able to attend.

Rebecca Hageman reported that she has been working to get all of the MYFAs caught up, as well as sending out copies of approvals from headquarters that have not been sent out to GMD 4. She is finally getting back out to the field. So far she has not found any over pumps.

Keadron Pearson reported the Kansas Water Authority Meeting was August 23, 2023 in McPherson. The Water Authority has passed on its water budget recommendations to the Governor's Office. Also they named new RAC member appointees. The next Water Authority meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2023 in Lawrence. She reminded everyone that the Governor's Conference is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, and registration is open and could fill up quickly.

## **5. MANAGERS REPORT**

### **a. August Update**

On August 9th, Shannon went to Salina for the NRCS Technical Committee on Water meeting. Great discussion was had on ranking for their funding, communication frustrations, and the need for local guidance on funding needs. There are plans to keep this discussion going. There will be an NRCS Technical Committee as a whole on September 7th that Shannon will attend in person as well.

On August 24, Shannon watched via "YouTube" the House Committee on Water interim session. The key take-away is that it appears they are going to leave us alone this year and begin to tackle water quality and get to understand the Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira debacles.

On August 25th, Shannon attended the KWA meeting in McPherson. They approved a budget that significantly increases funding for the High Plains Aquifer. A summary packet of the programs funded by the state water fund and what is being increased was distributed. She had some other great conversations about this money and there is more coming for cost-share in the fall!

The RRCA meeting was held August 31st in Burlington, Colorado. Shannon was not able to attend as she was at the K-State WKREC meeting in Oakley. Chelsea Erickson with DWR attended. She reported that around 11,000 acres have been retired in Colorado of the 25,000 that must be retired by 2029.

A couple of months ago K-State emailed Shannon a survey asking her opinion on their effectiveness among other things requesting input. She was honest and was invited to attend a work session on how to improve K-State's support which they are calling the WKREC. The main items producers drove home were research is key from them on dryland farming and herbicide resistance.

A new high-speed internet provider, Vyve, has laid down cable in Colby. They are doing a phone demonstration tomorrow for the office. Reaction from the board was not favorable.

Jody created several potential logos for our shirts. They were displayed on the screen and the majority of board members chose the first logo to be used.

### **b. Future Opportunities**

September 7th Shannon will be going to Salina for the NRCS Kansas Technical Committee meeting.

The week of November 6th we have scheduled to do our third round of public outreach but have been rescheduled for the week of December 4<sup>th</sup> instead.

November 15th & 16th is the Governor's Conference. Shannon and Colter will attend. Board members need to let Jody know if they will be attending so arrangements can be made.

Shannon asked the board for ideas for the fall newsletter. Updates on funding and all the positive activities going on was suggested.

With the DOC cost-share dollars coming, Shannon wants to host a training day for the area DOC folks on what each of the technologies are. Plans are tentatively for September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Weston McCary contacted Shannon to discuss some potential dollars for large scale projects not related to irrigation. Specifically feedlots and/or municipalities. She will reach out to Scott Foote to see if there are any water reclamation projects he could use.

## **6. FIELD REPORTS**

Colter reported that since the last meeting, he has worked about 176 hours. Forty eight of those have been spent in the field. He checked approximately 78 wells and conducted a rate test. Colter has been working on the 5-5-11 check paperwork. The Dodge pickup is up and running. The Co-op has been billed, since it was bad fuel. Colter and Jody attended the NW Tech Field Day last Wednesday in Goodland.

## **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. GMD 4 LEMA  
Shannon felt that zero allocation letters need to be sent to the producers who do not have an allocation, so that written notification is on record.
- b. SD-6  
Nothing to report at this time.
- c. Other LEMA Developments  
Nothing to report at this time.
- d. Public Outreach  
As noted in the manager's report, the third set of public meetings has been moved from November to December, due to harvest, as well as other events scheduled during that time.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Executive Session - Mosbarger

**At 9:53 a.m. Shane Mann moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes with the board, attorney, manager, Rebecca Hageman, and John Mosbarger to protect trade secrets. The motion was seconded by Karen Flanagan and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).**

**At 10:13 a.m. Karen Flanagin moved to go into executive session for an additional 15 minutes with the board, attorney, manager, Rebecca Hageman, and John Mosbarger to protect trade secrets. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

The executive session expired.

**At 10:50 a.m. Nate Emig moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes with the board, attorney, manager, and Rebecca Hageman to protect trade secrets. The motion was seconded by Karen Flanagin and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

**At 11:00 a.m. Brett Oelke moved to go into executive session for an additional 5 minutes with the board, attorney, manager, and Rebecca Hageman to protect trade secrets. The motion was seconded by Marsha Schilling and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).**

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

Jeff Deeds asked for clarification on the requirements of a 5-5-11 and the differences between those and MYFAs. Shannon noted that there are two different types of 5-5-11s, there is the limited quantity, and the certified acres. Discussion ensued, and Rebecca Hageman was asked to explain the difference between a WCA vs. 5-5-11.

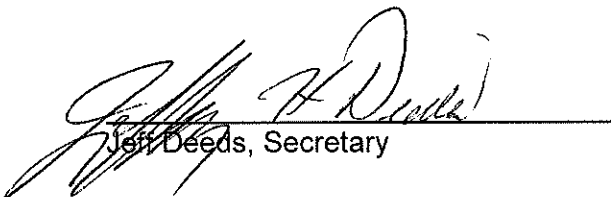
#### **10. FUTURE MEETINGS:**

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2023 at 9 a.m. C.D.T. at the GMD 4 office.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Jeff Deeds, Secretary