

NORTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 4
September 11, 2024

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The September 11, 2024, board meeting was opened at the GMD 4 Office, Colby, Kansas by President, Brett Oelke.

Board members present for some, or all the meeting were:

Jerry Binning, Jeff Deeds, Nate Emig, Karen Flanagan, Lynn Goossen, Dylan Loyd, Shane Mann, Ted Nighswonger, Brett Oelke, and Brent Rogers.

Board members absent: Marsha Shilling.

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain, and Colter Stoll – GMD 4 staff; and Jake Kling – GMD 4 attorney; Kelly Stewart (virtually) and Rebecca Hageman – DWR; and Will Duncan with KU.

Changes to the agenda were noted:

Add **7. g. Impairment Regulations** and **8. a. Kansas Dashboard**

2. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Brent Rogers moved the minutes of the August 14, 2024, board meeting be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

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

3. OPEN FORUM

Brent Rogers reported that another producer had told him that he “is loving the VandWater app.”

4. AGENCY REPORTS

Rebecca Hageman reported that she has had two different conversations regarding WCAs. One involved potential language on some carryover quantity and discussion was had on what was most restrictive. Stockton Field Office has also been fielding calls regarding where producers are at in their water use.

5. MANAGERS REPORT

a. August Update

On August 19th, we had our collaboration meeting with DOC, NRCS, and GMD 4. Shannon felt it was a huge success. We were able to open lines of communication and design a training event for them based on their needs. This event will occur on October 3rd at the Colby Event Center. Shannon talked with KWO about some funding to help with this, but the cost is very minimal anyway.

Shannon went to Manhattan on August 20th for the final Aimpoint meeting and the Kansas Ag Growth Summit. The Aimpoint final report is still being reviewed but she has requested a copy of it when it is released. Their "Key Findings" are nothing we didn't already know.

The Ag Summit was on the 21st. There were some great panel discussions, but networking was the main attraction.

September 9th was the Upper Republican RAC Meeting. Keadron Pearson with the Kansas Water Office had another meeting she was attending.

b. Future Opportunities

September 17th is the KWO Strategic Planning meeting in Colby from 9 a to noon at the Colby Event Center. Brett and Shannon were on a conference call with Vijay Ramasamy and Earl Lewis. Concerns about the process were provided to them via email and in the conference call.

Shannon, Colter, and Jody will attend the RCPP Training in Salina on September 18th.

October 3rd is the NRCS/DOC Training at the Colby Events Center. They were very enthusiastic about making this an annual event.

On October 16th, the KWA meeting will take place at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center.

Registration is still open for the Governor's Water Conference, taking place on November 13th & 14th. Shannon, Colter, and Shane are currently signed up to attend.

6. FIELD REPORTS

Since the last meeting, Colter has been out in the field and checked 75 wells, most of which are in the 5-5-11 program. He conducted one rate test as well. While in the office, he has also been working on a couple of MYFA applications and taken calls regarding where producers are in water use.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. GMD 4 LEMA

Review of the public meetings and responses to LEMA questions were discussed. The current LEMA framework was favorable with a few things that need to be addressed moving into the next LEMA. Talks will continue with the board and the public moving forward.

b. SD-6

Shannon mentioned that since the Annual Meeting is in Hoxie this year it would be a good idea to have Brownie Wilson of KGS to do a presentation on SD 6 water levels and guide future SD 6 LEMA discussions there.

c. Other LEMA Developments

Nothing to report.

d. Management Program

Shannon has sent the program off for approval from DWR and has not heard any response at this time.

e. Building Maintenance

Upon arrival, most board members noticed that the concrete had been poured out front. They all agreed it looks good.

f. GMD 4 Regulation Change

We have received the moratorium letter from Earl Lewis. Shannon has reviewed the current regulations, and more questions have been raised. She would like to take more time to formulate the language and consult DWR on the language before bringing much more to the board for review.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Kansas Dashboard

Will Duncan with KU Institute for Policy & Social Research presented information on a project to provide accessible information on water quality and quantity through enhanced data. The project is a collaborative effort between the University of Kansas,

Viannix. Inc., and local communities in Western Kansas, and is funded through the National Science Foundation's Convergence Accelerator program.

Jeff Deeds moved to have Shannon draft a letter of support for the project. The motion was seconded by Brent Rogers and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

9. OPEN SESSION – Public Questions/Comments:

Nothing was presented.

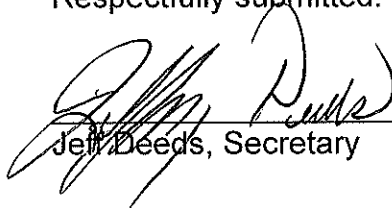
10. SCHEDULING FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next board meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2024, at 9 a.m. C.S.T. at the GMD 4 office.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary