

NORTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 4
June 4, 2025

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The June 4, 2025, 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, Carl Davis, Jeff Deeds, Karen Flanagan, Lynn Goossen, Dylan Loyd, Shane Mann, Ted Nighswonger, Brett Oelke, Brent Rogers, and Marsha Shilling.

Board members absent were: Nate Emig.

Others present for some, or all of the meeting were: Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain, Jack Polifka, and Colter Stoll – GMD 4 staff; and Jake Kling – GMD 4 attorney; Keadron Pearson – KWO.

Changes to the agenda were noted:

Add: **8. c. Lawn Sprinklers**

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Dylan Loyd 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.)

Carl Davis moved that the minutes of April 2, 2025, board meeting be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Jerry Binning and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

Shannon distributed copies of the May financial statements.

Shane Mann moved that the financial reports and expenditures for the months of April and May be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Marsha Schilling and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

Shannon introduced Jack Polifka, who started as the GMD 4 Irrigation Specialist.

4. AGENCY REPORTS

Keadron Pearson reported that the next Water Authority meeting is scheduled for June 16th and 17th in Hutchinson. There is a W.I.S.E. Field Tour at Ryan Brady's, hosted by the KWO on June 12th.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT

a. April & May Update

Most of April was spent wrapping up the legislative session and playing catch-up with meetings, GMD updates, and the usual traffic that comes and goes from the office. Very productive work has been done on the Division of Conservation cost-share grants.

House Bill 2172 had a substitute that came from the Senate. That bill created a task force to examine the long-term structure of water policy in Kansas. There are only 13 voting members on the task force. Seven are members of the legislature and the other six are Kansas residents. Shannon was nominated to the task force to represent GMDs and western Kansas. Meetings will initially be virtually and can be viewed by the public and there will be a few in-person meetings.

Shannon emailed a GMD 4 update on the first of May. This included requests for feedback on a 15% reduction in LEMA. Our office received two online responses and a few that have either come into the office to discuss or called Shannon.

There was a KGMDA meeting on May 13th. Shannon is waiting for DWR to move forward on their rules and regulations before she continues working on our proposed language. DWR's regulations are stalled in the Attorney General's Office. The group discussed having a Meter Summit in July, which is always beneficial for field folks. They are also collaborating on some possible ArcGIS training.

Tis the season to begin assessments and Shannon has gotten data back from the counties to begin work on them.

b. Future Opportunities

There is a KWA meeting in Hutchinson June 16th and 17th.

There is a Ryan Brady Field Tour hosted by the KWO on June 12th.

6. FIELD REPORTS

Since the last meeting, Colter has been out in the field and checked 136 wells, which consisted of possible over pumps, problem meters, and the 5-year list. He performed 6 rate tests. He will continue training with Lee Wheeler. Colter noted that there has been an issue found in the Seametrics AG90 and AG3000 meters. They are super sensitive to air in the system and may record zero usage.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. GMD 4 LEMA

So far Shannon has received one on-line response in favor of the 15% reduction, and several in person responses that feel it should be greater than 15%. She would like to schedule the Advisory Committee Meeting around August 1st.

b. SD-6

Shannon has not heard from the producers. She is also hoping to schedule the Advisory Committee Meeting around August 1st.

c. Other LEMA Developments

Nothing to report.

d. GMD 4 Regulation Change

After the last meeting Shannon believed that we have a good framework to work for future regulations. DWR has similar regulations in limbo, so we have agreed to see those moving forward before we tweak ours. If another moratorium needs to be implemented, DWR said they would grant it.

e. RCPP

The RCPP is still on hold, but the DOC is going to implement a cost share program. This program will provide up to \$275,000 per GMD for cost-share. Of that \$275,000, we can use \$75,000 for technical assistance (Irrigation Specialist) and another \$27,500 for administrative costs. Shannon had consulted with Jake on the language of the contract, for the "ITI 2".

Jeff Deeds moved to approve the contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Jerry Binning and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or "nay" votes).

Shannon then requested that Jack discuss the information needed from the board. First, what are we going to cost-share for? The DOC has a list of what they will allow but we don't have to cost-share on all of those if we don't want to. Secondly, how much are we going to cost-share for? What percent comes from the DOC and what percent does the producer pay? Do you want to put a cap on

how much each producer, landowner, or operator can cost-share on? Lastly, what is the ranking priority?

Brent Rogers moved to approve a cost share of \$3,000 per systems evaluated, with a limit of 2 pivots per operator/producer per year. (Total of \$6,000) The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

Discretion was given to staff on what technologies would be funded in accordance with KDA DOC ITI II Contract as well as limitations on systems per operator/producer.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Guidelines for Board with Jake
Jake went over the Kansas Open Meeting Act (KOMA). He discussed what a meeting could look like and gave examples of scenarios.
- b. Executive Session – Staff Contracts

At 11:02 a.m. Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes with the board, attorney, and staff as requested for contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Carl Davis and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

At 11:17 a.m. Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 15 minutes with the board, attorney, and staff as requested for contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Carl Davis and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

At 11:32 a.m. Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 10 minutes with the board, attorney, and staff as requested for contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Carl Davis and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

At 11:42 a.m. Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 10 minutes with the board, attorney, and staff as requested for contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Carl Davis and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

At 11:53 a.m. Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 5 minutes with the board, attorney, and staff as requested for contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Carl Davis and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

At 11:59 a.m. Lynn Goossen moved to go into executive session for an additional 5 minutes with the board, attorney, and staff as requested for contract

negotiations. The motion was seconded by Carl Davis and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

Lynn Goossen moved to issue staff contracts as discussed in executive session. The motion was seconded by Carl Davis and passed unanimously by voice vote (no "nay" votes).

c. Lawn Sprinklers

This item was tabled until more information is available.

9. OPEN SESSION – Public Questions/Comments:

Brent Rogers gave a brief update on his father.

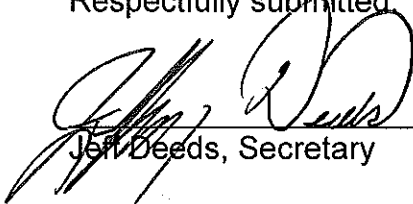
10. SCHEDULING FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next board meeting is scheduled for July 2, 2025, at 9 a.m CDT.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary

