

# WATER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

FORMERLY KNOWN AS  
"the Pipeline"

**SOUTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (GMD3)**  
A GOVERNING BODY CONTROLLED BY LOCAL PEOPLE

Volume 3, Issue 4

[www.gmd3.org](http://www.gmd3.org)

April, 2003

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HANK HANSEN

[hhansen@gmd3.org](mailto:hhansen@gmd3.org)

## ASSISTANT MANAGER

JANET L. KING

[jking@gmd3.org](mailto:jking@gmd3.org)

## CONSERVATIONIST

KENT SHAW

[kshaw@gmd3.org](mailto:kshaw@gmd3.org)

## CONSERVATIONIST

JASON NORQUEST

[norquest@gmd3.org](mailto:norquest@gmd3.org)

## CLERK

SHARON MISHLER

[sschiffe@gmd3.org](mailto:sschiffe@gmd3.org)

## BOARD PRESIDENT

BRANT PETERSON

Stanton County

## VICE PRESIDENT

KENT DUNN

Seward County

## SECRETARY

PETER YORK

Haskell County

## TREASURER

MIKE O'BRATE

Gray County

## BOARD MEMBERS

DAVID BRENN Surface

ARLEN EATON Ford

WARREN FOX Meade

JAY HOUTSMA Hamilton

WAYNE BREEDING Morton

KIRK A. MADDUX Kearny

ALAN SCHWEITZER Municipal

CLAY SCOTT Grant

STEVE STONE Finney

THOMAS FORD Industrial

SHANNON CRAWFORD  
Stevens

PHONE (620) 275-7147

FAX (620) 275-1431

## MEETINGS:

2ND WED. EACH MONTH

9:00 A.M. - DISTRICT OFFICE

409 CAMPUS DR., SUITE 106

GARDEN CITY, KS 67846

<http://www.gmd3.org>

## KANSAS WATER CONGRESS ESTABLISHED

The newly created Kansas Water Congress (KWC) is a non-profit, fee-funded entity, which is separate and distinct from existing state agencies, association, organization, and direct political affiliation. A portion of the KWC preamble states: Members will join in dedicating themselves to the task of securing full development, protection, and management of our available water resources, grounding their actions upon the fundamental proposition that equity of access and usage must apply statewide to every resident and right-holder of our State. The mission of the KWC will be to promote the wise management and stewardship of the State's water resources and to protect, conserve, and develop Kansas water resources for the benefit of Kansas' present and future generations. The KWC will cooperate with and support similar organizations and provide a forum for the discussion of water questions. **It will also be a place where water users conflicts can be resolved through discussion of facts and proposed solutions as well as a source of information and education for its membership and the people of Kansas.**

The members of the KWC shall come from every watershed in the State of Kansas, represent every type of water user in the State, and recognize the necessity for unity of purpose and objective in supporting the formation and execution of a stable water policy for a unified Kansas. The Board of Directors shall be composed of 29 members selected by and from a broad-based foundation. They include 12 geographic divisions which are the Cimarron Water Basin, Lower Republican Water Basin, Upper Republican Water Basin, Lower Arkansas Water Basin, Upper Arkansas Water Basin, Marais des Cygnes Water Basin, Missouri Water Basin, Neosho Water Basin, Smoky Hill-Saline Water Basin, Solomon Water Basin, Verdigris Water Basin, and Walnut Water Basin; the 5 groundwater management districts, 2 agriculture representatives, one east and one west of U.S. Highway 81, 1 fulltime governmental employee, 2 directors from municipalities, one east and one west of U.S. Highway 81, 1 fulltime financial institution employee or officer, 1 State of Kansas registered professional engineer, 1 Kansas licensed attorney, 2 industrial and commercial directors, one from either side of U.S. Highway 81, one energy or mining firm representative, and a director involved in water related recreation or wildlife preservation. Officers will include a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Executive Director. Standing Committees include Management & Budget, Nominating, Resolution, State Affairs, and Federal Affairs.

Directors at this time include: **Executive Director, David Brenn, Garden City**; Ken Frahm, Colby; Robin Jennison, Topeka; Senator Janis Lee, Kensington; Representative Ward Loyd, Garden City; Harland Priddle, Burton; Richard Reinhardt, Erie; Paul Tobia, Wichita; Chris Wilson, Wamego; and Hannes Zacharias, Olathe. For more information call (620) 287-4541.

## SOUTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 3

409 Campus Drive, Suite 106,  
Garden City KS 67846

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GARDEN CITY, KS  
PERMIT NO. 56

### RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

#### VIOLETIONS RESOLVED SUCCESSFULLY

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Board of Directors adopted a resolution on November 13, 2002 to curtail over-pumping using current rules. Following that directive, the district's staff reviewed water use information supplied by the Kansas Department of Agriculture and determined that over 300 wells were allegedly over-pumped during 2000 and 2001. The district began to monitor alleged over-pumped wells during January and February of 2003. If we find a violation has existed, or presently exists, then a state regulation that was adopted in 1981, requires us to "issue a written directive to the violator stating the nature of the violation and directing the violator to come into compliance". The regulation provides further steps that can be taken until the violator complies. In resolving other types of violations, at least 99 percent of violator's came into compliance shortly after receiving a notice of non-compliance from the District. Many came into compliance as soon as they noticed that one of our orange tags had been left at their well. We know this because they occasionally call us before the inspector has had a chance to notify the office of the violation.

#### ELECTION OF GMD3 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The Board of Directors chose new officers during their recent Board meeting. **Brant Peterson**, Stanton County Representative, was re-elected as President; **Kent Dunn**, Seward County Representative, was re-elected as Vice President; **Mike O'Brate**, Gray County Representative, was re-elected as Treasurer; and **Peter York**, Haskell County Representative, was elected as Secretary. The past Secretary, Tom Miller, had resigned from the Board on February 13, 2003. President Peterson made the following Committee assignments for 2003 – 2004: **Executive**: Chairman Brant Peterson, Kent Dunn, Mike O'Brate, and Pete York; **Policy**: Chairman Kent Dunn, Clay Scott, Shannon Crawford, and Wayne Breeding; **Finance**: Chairman Mike O'Brate, Jay Houtsma, Steve Stone, and Alan Schweitzer; **Annual Meeting**: Chairman Peter York, Arlen Eaton, and Kirk Maddux; **Research & Development**: Chairman Warren Fox, David Brenn, Peter York, and Tom Ford.

#### WATER QUALITY SAMPLES

GMD3 has contracted the services of Servi-Tech Laboratories out of Dodge City, Kansas to retrieve 250 water quality samples this year. Last year they gathered 233 water quality samples that were taken from 147 irrigation wells, 58 domestic wells, 22 stock water wells, and 6 industrial wells. Of the 58 domestic wells, 6 were found to slightly exceed recommended maximum levels for drinking water limits of Nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub>). Owners of those 6 wells have been notified. More information will soon be available on the GMD3 web site.

#### NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OAI

Dana Woodbury has resigned from being the start-up Coordinator for the recently organized Ogallala Aquifer Institute (OAI) to work for the Dodge City Steak Company of Dodge City, Kansas. Dana has done a good job organizing the OAI Board of Directors as well as meeting their initial goals. During the Water and Future of Kansas Conference, held March 11, 2003 in Manhattan, Kansas, she expressed that it is very apparent that Kansas is far ahead of the other 8 states in having a well structured system of water management. Steve Frost has been hired to become the first Executive Director for the OAI. Mr. Frost was the Executive Director of GMD3 from 1992 until June of 2001. The Kansas Water Office, whose principle responsibility is planning, has financially supported the OAI for the last 2 years. The mission of the OAI is to eventually be funded by the 8 mid-USA states having interests overlaying the Ogallala Aquifer.