

# WATER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

FORMERLY KNOWN AS  
"the Pipeline"

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

Volume 3, Issue 2

January, 2003

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**HANK HANSEN**

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## ASSISTANT MANAGER

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## CONSERVATIONIST

**KENT SHAW**

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## CONSERVATIONIST

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## CLERK

**SHARON MISHLER**

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## BOARD PRESIDENT

**BRANT PETERSON**

Stanton County

## VICE PRESIDENT

**KENT DUNN**

Seward County

## SECRETARY

**THOMAS O. MILLER**

Gray County

## TREASURER

**MIKE O'BRATE**

Industrial

## BOARD MEMBERS

**DAVID BRENN** Surface

**ARLEN EATON** Ford

**WARREN FOX** Meade

**MARLIN HEGER** Stevens

**JAY HOUTSMA** Hamilton

**DAVID LIGHT** Morton

**KIRK A. MADDUX** Kearny

**ALAN SCHWEITZER** Municipal

**CLAY SCOTT** Grant

**STEVE STONE** Finney

**PETER YORK** Haskell

**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>

## Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3 (GMD3)

### NOTICE OF PENDING BOARD OF DIRECTORS BYLAW AMENDMENT

This public notice is provided to allow all interested parties to submit written comments to be postmarked by February 21, 2003 and sent to: Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3, 409 Campus Drive, Suite 106, Garden City, Kansas 67846, Facsimile (620) 275-1431. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity to present their views orally on the adoption of the proposed bylaw amendments during a special meeting of the Board of Directors preceding the February 26, 2003 Annual Meeting to begin at 10:00 a.m. CST, located at the Ag Building, 810 Stadium Avenue, Liberal, Kansas. The bylaws will be amended as follows:

#### **Bylaw Article 3, Board of Directors, Part B. Membership, page 2:**

1. Industrial - Representative must be an owner, or an authorized agent of an industrial water right owner within the District. Stock water users may qualify as industrial users. ~~Industrial representatives must not have direct interests in other water use classifications other than domestic.~~

2. Municipal - Representative must be an authorized agent of an incorporated municipality within the District. ~~Municipal representatives must not have direct interests in other water use classifications other than domestic.~~

**Explanation:** Omitting these sentences allows more Industrial and Municipal water users to qualify to be elected to serve as board members.

#### **Bylaw Article 3, Conduct/Disqualification/Revocation, Part B. Disqualification, Item 1, page 11:**

1) He/she ceases to maintain the conditions which qualify an individual as an eligible voter in the District, or ceases to maintain a residency ~~status within the District and~~ within the county to be represented, or ceases to qualify as a representative of the elected water-use classification, if representing a municipal, industrial, or dryland classification.

**Explanation:** This allows an eligible voter of this District to be elected as a member of the Board of Directors even if their residence is located outside of the District boundary, but inside the county they plan to represent. Four counties that are only partially located within the District boundary will be affected. They are Finney, Hamilton, Kearny, and Meade Counties. This change will allow more residents of these counties to qualify to be elected to serve on the Board of Directors.

**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**

**Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3**

**Notice of Board of Directors February, 2003 Meetings**

**February 3, 2003**

The Research and Development Committee, along with other interested members of the Board of Directors, have been invited to attend a promotional presentation February 3, 2003, being hosted by Wright Water Engineers INC., 2490 W. 26 Avenue, Suite 100A, Denver, Colorado 80211. The firm will present information on managing water resources.

**February 12, 2003**

The Board of Directors will hold their regularly scheduled monthly board meeting on February 12, 2003 starting at 2:00 P.M. CST at the following address: Hayden Office Building, 212 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Topeka, Kansas 66612 and will be open to the public.

**METER INSPECTIONS & WATER LEVEL MEASUREMENTS**

GMD3 has awarded 4 contracts to conduct flow meter inspections for the 2003 irrigation season. The inspectors will carry identification provided by GMD3 and will be wearing highly visible yellow colored vests and displaying a flashing yellow light on top of their vehicles during the inspection process. They will be performing approximately 1696 inspections again this year. Approximately 304 of those inspections involve wells that exceeded their authorized quantities during the years 2000 and 2001.

**AREAS OF SEVERE DECLINE BEING MONITORED**

GMD3 Staff will be measuring static water levels in nearly 150 wells that may be found in 7 separate areas of SW Kansas that experienced a potential depletion of 15 to 24 feet from 1998 to 2001. This initiative is in response to the abnormally severe declines identified by the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) as recent as April of 2002. The KGS provided this information as part of an ongoing program sponsored by this local district (GMD3). The report is entitled: KGS Open File Report 2001-45.

**2003 GOALS ARE APPROVED**

The Board of Directors elected to continue the present programs. The following list contains a few key programs being continued: field sampling and water quality analysis of 250 water wells, update the bedrock and surface elevation map, archive existing scientific studies, contract meter inspections, identify land irrigated without a permit, respond to waste of water complaints, revise the management program, and develop our aquifer sub-unit water management protocol. A few of the new goals for 2003 are as follows: enhance community involvement with the District and provide more notification to affected individuals as potential water quality, or water management issues become apparent.