

# WATER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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

Volume 5, Issue 1

January, 2005

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## BOARD PRESIDENT

BRANT PETERSON

Stanton County

## VICE PRESIDENT

KENT DUNN

Seward County

## SECRETARY

CLAY SCOTT

Grant County

## TREASURER

MIKE O'BRATE

Gray County

## BOARD MEMBERS

DAVID BRENN Surface

TOM BOGNER Ford

WARREN FOX Meade

JAY HOUTSMA Hamilton

WAYNE BREEDING Morton

KIRK A. MADDUX Kearny

ALAN SCHWEITZER Municipal

PETE YORK Haskell

STEVE STONE Finney

MIKE MCNIECE Industrial

SHANNON CRAWFORD  
Stevens

PHONE (620) 275-7147

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## MEETINGS:

2ND WED. EACH MONTH

9:00 A.M. - DISTRICT OFFICE

409 CAMPUS DR., SUITE 108

GARDEN CITY, KS 67846

<http://www.gmd3.org>

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HIRED

GMD3 would like to welcome Mark Rude who recently was hired to be the new Executive Director. He has served as Water Commissioner in the Garden City Field Office for the Division of Water Resources (DWR) since 1992. Prior to that, Mr. Rude was the Assistant Water Commissioner in Garden City for 5 years. He is already very familiar with the District and especially since he has attended nearly every GMD3 Board meeting during his 17 years with the DWR. In his new role, Mr. Rude has expressed his desire to continue a good working relationship with the District and water users in Southwest Kansas. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology and is a licensed Geologist for the State of Kansas. Mr. Rude and his wife Melany have 3 young children and live just outside of Garden City. He is active in the community and brings a great deal of expertise and experience to the District. He will begin his duties at the District on February 7th.

## 4th ANNUAL TOPEKA LEGISLATIVE RETREAT TO BE HELD

The 4th Annual Topeka Legislative Retreat will be held on Feb. 9, 2005 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka, KS. The regular monthly business meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. and adjourn at approximately 5:00 p.m. followed by the Retreat. Invited guests include the Chief Engineer and other state dignitaries as well as area Legislators.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The 30th Annual Meeting will be held on Feb. 23, 2005 at the Civic Center, 1000 W Patterson Avenue, in Ulysses, KS. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. CST and should end by noon. Items on the Agenda include the 2004 Audit Report, adoption of Revised Bylaws, the Proposed 2006 Budget and the election of 5 members to the Board of Directors. The candidates include:

Incumbent Clay Scott - Grant County

Incumbent Jay Houtsma - Hamilton County

Incumbent Pete York - Haskell County

Incumbent Brant Peterson - Stanton County

Incumbent Alan Schweitzer - Municipal (At Large)

Eligible voters who have not registered to vote in a previous District election must submit a completed registration form to the GMD3 office by 5:00 p.m., February 18, 2005. Voter Registration forms as well as other information can be found on GMD3's web-site: <http://www.gmd3.org>. Proxy voting is not allowed.

## GMD3 CONTINUES PROGRAMS

GMD3 Staff have already begun measurements of static water levels. The goal is to secure information on approximately 100 sites. This is the third year that the majority of these sites have been measured. This program was started in response to the abnormally severe declines identified by the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) back in 2002. Most measurements will be taken in 7 separate areas of Southwest Kansas that experienced a potential depletion of 15 to 24 feet from 1998 to 2001. Once again, GMD3 will be hiring Contractors to do flow meter inspections for the upcoming irrigation season. The Contractors will be making inspections from May 15, 2005 until August 31, 2005. Last year four self-employed contract inspectors completed 2150 flow meter inspections for GMD3.

**RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED**

**NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBER TO GMDA**

GMD3's Assistant Manager Jan King was recently elected by the Kansas caucus to serve a 3 year term as a Board Member for the Groundwater Management Districts Association (GMDA). The election took place during the 2005 Winter Conference held in Savannah, Georgia on January 10th and 11th. The GMDA is composed of local groundwater management districts in several Midwestern and Southern states. Other States represented at the Conference besides Kansas included Colorado, Nebraska, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, California, Utah, and Montana. The GMDA is a non-profit organization established to provide groundwater management districts, groundwater developers, users, owners, and others the opportunity to exchange ideas and to develop or influence programs for management of groundwater. Other Board Members from Kansas are Wayne Bossert (GMD4 Manager from Colby, KS) and Sharon Falk (GMD5 Manager from Stafford, KS). The State Advisor for Kansas is Tom Huntzinger, Division of Water Resources, Topeka, Kansas.

**ANNUAL WATER USE REPORTS**

Once again it is time for those individuals who own water rights or have permits to appropriate water for beneficial use (except for domestic) to file a complete water use report on or before March 1, 2005. The report forms were mailed out by the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources in Topeka, earlier this year. They are required to be submitted to the Division of Water Resources by March 1, 2005. Any water use report that is filed between March 2 and June 1, 2005 will be assessed a fine of \$50.00 per water right. After June 1st the fine is \$250.00 per water right.

**HAVE A WATER RIGHT QUESTION?**

Have you ever doubted the fact that you actually know the authorized quantity or rate of your water right? Have you ever questioned your knowledge on water right rules and regulations? Have you ever wondered what your water right entitles you to and what changes can be made? If you answered Yes to any of these questions, you are not alone. We receive many questions throughout the year. A good place to get your questions answered is right here at your local GMD3 office. No question is too small and the Staff will be more than willing to help you. Besides giving out general information, we also provide "Re-drill Maps" that show possible areas that might be available for relocating a point of diversion, as well as flow rate tests to determine the accuracy of installed flowmeters. One of the main goals of GMD3 is to help inform all water users so they will have a better understanding of their water rights and to assist them in managing and utilizing the most precious resource that we all share - **Water!**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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|---------------------------|--|
| <b>February 9, 2005:</b>  | <b>4th Annual Topeka Legislative Retreat</b>                             |
| <b>February 18, 2005:</b> | <b>Voter Registration Deadline for Voting at the Annual GMD3 Meeting</b> |
| <b>February 23, 2005:</b> | <b>30th Annual Meeting in Ulysses, KS at the Civic Center</b>            |
| <b>March 1, 2005:</b>     | <b>2004 Irrigation Water User Report due to Div. Of Water Resources</b>  |
| <b>March 9, 2005:</b>     | <b>GMD3 Board of Directors' Meeting at GMD3 Office in Garden City</b>    |
| <b>April 1, 2005:</b>     | <b>Verified Claim Forms deadline (forms on web site)</b>                 |