Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors June 13th, 2012

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The June Board of Directors meeting of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District was called to order by President Kent Dunn at 9:08 a.m. The meeting was held in the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3 Board Room.

Directors Present

Kent Dunn, President, Seward County Representative
Nathan Kells, Vice President, Haskell County Representative
Kirk Heger, Stevens County Representative
Hal Scheuerman, Kearny County Representative
Steve Stone, Finney County Representative
Dave Brenn, Surface Water Representative
Douglass Fox, Meade County Representative
Mike McNiece, Industrial Representative
Alan Schweitzer, Municipal Representative
Tom Bogner, Ford County Representative

Directors Absent with Notice

Mike O'Brate, Treasurer, Gray County Representative Clay Scott, Grant County Representative Wayne Breeding, Morton County Representative Seth Nelson, Stanton County Representative Meghan Houtsma, Secretary, Hamilton County Representative

District Staff Present

Mark Rude, Executive Director Jason Norquest, Assistant Manager Patty Stapleton, Office Administrator Chris Law, Resource Technician Trevor Ahring, EIT / GIS Brandi Sneath, Office Assistant

Others in Attendance

Mike Meyer, Water Commissioner, Division of Water Resources, Garden City, Ks Ryan Reed, Producer John Lightner, Producer Frank McClurey, KLA Environmental Services, Inc.

APPROVE AGENDA

President Dunn asked for consideration of the meeting Agenda. After some discussion, Alan Schweitzer made a motion to approve the agenda as drafted. Kirk Heger seconded. The motion was approved with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

President Dunn drew the attention of the Board to consider the May 9th, 2012 draft minutes. Alan Schweitzer made a motion to approve the May 9th, 2012 Board Meeting minutes. Kirk Heger seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all in favor.

President Dunn next drew the attention of the Board to review the May, 2012 financial report documents. Hal Scheuerman made a motion as follows: Approve the financial reports and payments for the month of May, 2012, as presented at this meeting, and to submit them for the annual audit. Nathan Kells seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all in favor.

President Dunn signed and submitted the financial documents.



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President's Report, President Kent Dunn

Water Commissioner's Report, Commissioner Mike Meyer

Mr. Meyer announced that the river is flowing at 30CFS across the state line. He stated this year resembles 1979, which was one of the driest years.

There are a couple of positions in the DWR Garden City field office that need to be filled. The first one is an enhanced water management position funded by the state Water Plan. This position will be filled soon. A second position funded by the state General Fund is an application processing position to be placed in the Garden City office, but filling of this position has been suspended until further notice for agency budget reasons.

Processing of Drought Term Permits is still in the works but nearing completion. DWR staff is out reading meters on Drought Term Permits. Several producers are exceeding the 2 year total already. Mike reported that the penalty for exceeding a 5 year Flex account total will be \$500.00 per day and two times the water overage suspended from authorized amount.

Executive Director Report, Mark Rude

One mile well owner courtesy notices

Mark recapped the last month's meeting when discussion was held on notifying well owners of applications filed to change area water rights. Currently DWR notifies well owners within half mile for 300 foot moves. GMD3 is proposing a one mile well owner courtesy notice. This would include all known well owners, including domestic. Mark will draft a courtesy letter and will provide it at the July Board meeting for review. He added that coordination with DWR is needed since owners should receive one letter and avoid two notices.

Hearings for Rule Waivers, Update

Mark updated the Directors on hearing process for rule waivers. Hearings go hand in hand with the courtesy notice of well moves to owners whose well is within one mile. The hearing process will allow the development of a record of facts and testimony to Directors, providing detailed information with recommendation of a hearing officer or examiner regarding the change. Due to more well owners being notified, the process would allow well owners to have increased knowledge and input on groundwater decline concerns. However, holding hearings is more work and money for the district. If a court reporter is requested that will be a cost to the applicant with a copy of the statement provided to GMD3.

Flex Account Implementation, Update

An announcement was made by Mark Rude that a Flex Account implementation coordination meeting will be held on June 15th, in Great Bend Kansas for GMD managers, Kansas Water Office director, Secretary of Agriculture, Chief Engineer, Kansas Water Authority chair, and several others. Producer friendly application process is one goal of the coordination meeting.

Governor's August Groundwater meeting with GMD3 & SW KS

Mark turned the boards' attention to a handout that discussed the Governor's possible meeting in August. This meeting would take place the week of August 20th, 2012. It will be a collaborative meeting with the Governor and GMD. Marks primary question to the Director's was are they still in agreement to proceed with the meeting. Kirk Heger advised that an agenda needs to be completed for the meeting. Mike McNiece stated that a letter validating the continued and supportive role of GMD3 is recommended.

Rapid Decline Areas in GMD3

Mark stated that a map demonstrating the rapid decline of groundwater should be available in the next couple of weeks from the KGS.

Board Review, 12,818 Reed

Jason Norquest updated the Director's on the board review for water right 12,818, Ryan Reed. This is a proposal to reallocate the authorized quantity between the two wells under water right 12,818. The reallocation will allow the operator to utilize his authorized Acre Foot with the better well and prevent over pumping on one well under the water right. He is requesting 124 acre feet transfer; however, the move is 11 feet over the ½ mile limit. Discussion occurred on whether a legal survey should be completed. Ryan stated that he doesn't feel a survey would be beneficial for what one cost. After much discussion, Mike McNiece moved to recommend approval of waiver subject to a reduction in acre feet under board guidance. Doug Fox seconded. Motion passed with Steve Stone opposing.

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Board Review, 12,902 Lightner

Jason outlined the board review for water right 12,902. This is a proposed change that will take the water right from three points of diversions down to 2 point of diversions. The spacing is good to other wells; however it is over the one half mile move limit. After some board discussion, Alan Schweitzer moved to recommend approval of waiver with reduction, based on the calculated reduction percentage from the percentage of overlapping 2 mile circles. Nathan seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Western Upper Arkansas public Water Supply Options

No discussion was held.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports to discuss.

Old Business

There was no old business to take action on.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Western Water Conservation Projects Fund Business

Monthly Western Water Conservation Projects Fund Business

Mark Rude drew the attention of the board to the financial documents of the Western Water Conservation Projects Fund and activity of the advisory committee. After some discussion of the Board, Nathan Kells moved to accept the financial report and payments and submit them for annual audit. Alan Schweitzer seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Up to \$2,500 approved to Complete Frontier Flume Project

Mark brought to the board's attention that action is needed for approval of additional dollars to complete Frontier Flume. The project committee recommended approval for an additional \$2,500. He advised this should be enough to complete the ½ million dollar project. Alan Schweitzer moved to approve additional funds up to \$2,500.00 for the Frontier Flume Project. Hal Scheuerman seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

2012 DWR Draft River Operations Plan

More information will be announced at a later date.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Dave Brenn announced that August 2nd and 3rd will be the Kansas Water Conference Summer meeting in Greensburg, Ks. More information is forthcoming.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no discussion.

Executive Session

Executive Session was not called.

ADIOURNMENT

Doug Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alan Schweitzer seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

MegHan Houtsma