

**Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
September 11th, 2013**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The September Board of Directors meeting of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District was called to order by President Dunn at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the GMD3 Board Room, 2009 E. Spruce St. Garden City, KS.

**Directors Present**

Nathan Kells, Vice President, Haskell County Representative  
Mike O'Brate, Treasurer, Gray County Representative  
Kirk Heger, Stevens County Representative  
Mike McNiece, Industrial Representative  
Clay Scott, Grant County Representative  
Hal Scheuerman, Kearny County Representative  
Alan Schweitzer, Municipal Representative  
Randy Hayzlett, Secretary, Surface Water Representative  
Wayne Breeding, Morton County Representative  
Kent Dunn, President, Seward County Representative

**Directors Absent with Notice**

Douglass Fox, Meade County Representative  
Steve Stone, Finney County Representative  
Meghan Houtsma, Hamilton County Representative  
Seth Nelson, Stanton County Representative  
Vacant, Ford County Representative

**District Staff Present**

Mark Rude, Executive Director  
Jason Norquest, Assistant Manager  
Patty Stapleton, Office Administrator  
Chris Law, Director, Field Services  
Trevor Ahring, EIT/GIS  
Brand Sneath, Office Assistant

**Others in Attendance**

Mike Meyer, Water Commissioner, Division of Water Resources, Garden City, KS  
Jonathan Aquilar, KSU Irrigation Extension Engineer  
Theran Walker, Agriculture Producer  
Brian Unruh, Crop Production Services, Inc. (CPS)  
Dr. David Steward, By Computer, KSU Engineering Professor  
Gary Baker, Water Rights consultant  
Al Knoll, President, Garden City Ditch Company  
Steve Hines, Frontier Ditch Company

**APPROVE AGENDA**

President Dunn asked for consideration of the meeting Agenda. After some discussion, Randy Hayzlett made a motion to approve with the revision of striking item D (Board Review, Theron Walker) under Presidents Report. Mike O'Brate 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 August 14th, 2013 draft minutes. Mike McNiece made a motion to approve the August 14th, 2013 Board Meeting minutes. Hal Scheuerman seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all in favor.

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President Dunn next drew the attention of the Board to review the August 2013 financial report documents. Mike McNiece made a motion as follows: Approve the financial reports and payments for the month of August, as presented at this meeting, and to submit them for the annual audit. Clay Scott seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all in favor.

President Dunn signed and submitted the financial documents for audit.

**President's Report, President Kent Dunn**

**Water Commissioner's Report, Commissioner Mike Meyer**

Commissioner Mike Meyer announced that a special Arkansas River Compact meeting will be held September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in Holly Colorado.

Mr. Meyer reported three headquarters staff will be leaving the agency. Turnover in staff is due to the Headquarters move from Topeka to Manhattan.

The water commissioner in Stafford Kansas informed Mike Meyer that they had found the first ever MYFA (multiyear flex account) flowmeter to be found to be installed backwards.

**Governor's Economic Advisory Council, Desired Future Groundwater Condition, 2050**

Mark Rude announced that the Governor's Economic Advisory Council advisors met at the Dodge City Community College on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The focus was "Water in Kansas and its Impact on Agriculture, Industry and Municipalities". Mark reviewed power point slides that were presented. Some topics of discussion were: Economic Overview and Water Resources in Kansas overview. A key number provided was the annual loss of value to Kansas economy for each irrigated acre converted to dry land is of over \$3900. Breakout sessions were also held with one group discussing Groundwater and the other discussing Surface Water.

**Ogallala Aquifer Study Briefing, KSU Engineering Professor, Dr. David Steward**

Through computer video technology, Dr. David Steward spoke regarding the recently released research paper he wrote on "Tapping unsustainable groundwater stores for agricultural production in the High Plains Aquifer of Kansas, projections to 2110." He outlined some new methods used in the study to project trends in groundwater pumping and irrigated corn and cattle production. The study recognized that production declines are inevitable, and offered scenario analysis to substantiate the impacts of increasing near-term water savings, which would extend the usable lifetime of the aquifer, increase net production, and generate a less dramatic production decline. Dr. Steward provided graphs demonstrating the saturated thickness of the High Plains Aquifer in Kansas from early development of 1960 through recent and on to future projections of the data to 2110. He reported that water is a precious, unique resource that is important for life with no substitute existing. There is a need to educate society on preparedness of groundwater reduction in the near future can extend the life of the supply and the current valued uses. Providing County Commissioners a county by county breakdown of the projections in the GMD3 area would be a way of furthering the education and appropriate responses.

**Executive Director Report, Mark Rude**

**Water in Court Report**

Executive Director, Mark Rude provided a report on the notable water cases in Kansas courts.

1. A case in Ford County where there is alleged interference with a domestic supply and cash sought for damages.
2. A case in Haskell County, Garretson Case, where an alleged impairment of a vested water right and injunction against operation of neighboring wells is being heard.

**Ark River Compact Administration Special Meeting**

Randy Hayzlett, Vice Chairman of the Arkansas River Compact Administration announced a special meeting will be held on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 in Holly Colorado at Holly United Methodist Church. This is an informational meeting regarding GP Resources, LLC development near Holly; therefore, no official actions will take place.

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Mark stated that an Ark River Advisory Committee meeting was being held later today. Randy added that discussion to have monitoring wells in place to gauge hydrologic effects of the project at the Stateline would be beneficial. Mark requested that the board consider upfront funding of two internet connected groundwater Stateline gage wells at the Kansas / Colorado state line. One is for the paleo-river channel aquifer and one for the river alluvial aquifer. USGS has agreed to install the equipment immediately with a cost share of 38%. The local partner cost per site for equipping and one year maintenance is approximately \$9,000.00. After discussion, Clay Scott moved to provide up to \$17,000 for funding two monitoring wells at the Kansas / Colorado state line. Alan Schweitzer seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

**K-State Field Day**

Mark Rude stated that he and Chris Law attended the K-State Field Day with displays from the GMD3. There was significant conversation with agriculture suppliers and producers ranging from compliance and enforcement issues to the Kansas Aqueduct project initiative.

**Committee Reports**

There were no committee reports to be announced.

**Old Business**

**Ford County Director**

Mark announced that there are approximately eight names that have been suggested. Letters of interest will be solicited

**Board Review, File No. 48,414, ADM**

Mark introduced Brian Unruh with Crop Production Services. Mr. Unruh was in attendance to discuss File No. 48,414 ADM Board Review. Mr. Unruh stated that he has spoken with Mark regarding the options available. Basically there are two options

1: Completing a petition within two mile radius, with domestic or irrigation wells. The concept would be to get approval of an extra 9 acre foot in a high valued area.

2: Irrigation water well just north of ADM, CPS is currently watering ½ a circle. It currently pumps 100GPM, reporting a significant drop in the last three years. More details need to be worked out.

After much discussion with the directors and Mr. Unruh; Clay Scott moved to table board review, File No. 48,414 to allow Mr. Unruh the time to precede gathering information with different options being sought. Wayne Breeding seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

**New Business**

There was no new business to bring to the table.

**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, Hal Scheuerman moved to accept the August financial report and payments as presented and submit them for annual audit. Kirk Heger seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Board Member Report**

There were no board member reports announced.

**Public Forum**

Jonathan Aquilar, Extension Irrigation Engineer, thanked the board and staff for having displays and supporting the station field day.

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**Executive Session:**

At 11:15 Mike O'Brate moved for a 45 minute executive session, including Jason Norquest, Mark Rude and Al Knoll. Clay Scott seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon coming out of executive session, Randy Hayzlett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Clay Scott seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Randy Hayzlett, Board Secretary