

Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 11th, 2014

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The June Board of Directors meeting of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District was called to order by President Dunn at 9:04 a.m. The meeting was held in the Board Room of Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District NO. 3.

Directors Present

Kent Dunn, President, Seward County Representative
Kirk Heger, Vice President, Stevens County Representative
Mike O'Brate, Treasurer, Gray County Representative
Mike McNiece, Board Secretary, Industrial Representative
Clay Scott, Grant County Representative
Hal Scheuerman, Kearny County Representative
Ross Geubelle, Hamilton County Representative
Steve Stone, Finney County Representative
Alan Schweitzer, Municipal Representative
Seth Nelson, Stanton County Representative
Bret Rooney, Haskell County Representative

Directors Absent with Notice

Randy Hayzlett, Surface Water Representative
Douglass Fox, Meade County Representative
Wayne Breeding, Morton County Representative
Jeff Reinert, 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, Engineer
Brandi Sneath, Office Assistant

Others in Attendance

Mike Meyer, Water Commissioner, Division of Water Resources, Garden City, KS
Gary Baker,
Jon Aquilar, KSU
Steve Hines,
Greg Graff, GMD1 President
Kevin Salter, DWR
Larry Sturgeon, Producer

APPROVE AGENDA

President Dunn asked for consideration of the meeting Agenda. After some discussion, Mike McNiece made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Hal Scheuerman 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 14th, 2014 draft minutes. Kirk Heger made a motion to approve the May 14th, 2014 Board Meeting minutes. Clay Scott 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 May, 2014 financial report documents. After some discussion, Executive Director, Mark Rude brought to the Boards attention an expense for Hal Scheuerman attending a Colorado Arkansas River Basin Water Forum meeting important to his Governor appointed and volunteer position on the interstate compact commission. Mark noted that Hal understood the expenses would not be covered by the state and therefore asked for reimbursement from GMD3. Mark indicated the need of the state to cover the necessary expenses of volunteers appointed to do state work, that Hal's submittal was paid by GMD3 and that a request would be made to the state to refund GMD3 for Hal's submittal.

Clay Scott made a motion as follows: Approve the financial reports and payments for the month of May as presented at this meeting, and to submit them for the annual audit. Alan Schweitzer seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all in favor.

President Dunn signed and submitted the financial documents.

President's Report, President Kent Dunn

Water Commissioner's Report, Commissioner Mike Meyer

Water Commissioner, Mike Meyer reported on the majority of KDA/DWR headquarters move from Topeka to Manhattan. Everything is on track and going good.

Mark Rude commented on the chains that have been added to some meters. He suggested that letters should be sent to producers advising them about the chain and the reason why. Mike Meyer responded that every meter that has been sealed with a chain in his field office area has had some issue of compliance in the past. General discussion centered around better lines of communication on reasons for the chains.

Winger, File 26.979

Jason advised the directors that he had spoken to Travis Winger. Travis will be proceeding with the Board of Directors suggestion from the May meeting. Melvin will be submitting letter to GMD3.

2015 Budget Hearing Notice

Mark Rude turned the board's attention to the notice of 2015 GMD3 Budget Hearing that was in the board book. The hearing will be held during next month's regular monthly board meeting in the board room.

Old Business

There was no old business to report.

New Business

There was no new business to report

Committee Reports

There was no committee meetings held, therefore nothing to report.

Executive Director Report, Mark Rude

Conference and Flyer

Mark Rude stated that he and Jason Norquest attended the GMDA Summer Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey. GMD3 staff presented on Kansas Water Visioning process and other presentations were heard. The GMDA Board moved to become a member of the National Water Resources Association (NWRA) as there are numerous national issues on federal regulatory reach into local groundwater management and policy.

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Mark reminded the board of directors that GMD3 is the host for 2015 GMDA Winter Conference. It will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona to highlight and learn about key elements of Central Arizona Project and the management of surface water imports with groundwater management activities in that state. Mark asked the board to set their calendar and to plan on attending the conference, as the activities and benefits they have great significance in the

District and state interests for transferring alternative water supplies to gain benefits and meet the purposes of the GMD3 and other water management programs in Kansas.

NWRA will be holding a conference in Flagstaff, Arizona the last week in July. Mark would like to attend as Executive Director of GMD3 and Vice President of GMDA. However the Kansas Water Congress summer conference will be held in Manhattan near the same time.

Upcoming 50 year vision activity

Kansas Water Office will start the Public Input Tour Monday, July 7th. The purpose of the tour is to deliver the content of the first draft and respond to input. The tentative locations are as follows:

Monday, July 7th: Wichita, Stafford

Tuesday, July 8th: Liberal (7 AM), Garden City (11:30 AM), Dighton (4:30PM)

Wednesday, July 9th: Colby, Stockton, Salina

Thursday, July 10th: Manhattan, Washington, Kansas City

Friday, July 11th: Fort Scott

Rule Revisions Update

Mark announced there has been no response from DWR regarding the two proposed rules submitted.

- 1) Spacing with term permits
- 2) Closing the District

Test Hole Logs Submittal Discussion, May 22nd Meeting

On May 22nd discussion was held regarding test hole logs for water wells not required for submittal to the state, like occurs in Oklahoma and Texas. Currently in Kansas, essentially only the best test-hole information for the proposed well is required. Discussion occurring as to whether submittals should include all test-hole logs. Discussion was held regarding how comfortable the directors were on having to report all test holes and logs purchased? After some discussion, Steve Stone noted this is a state wide issue. The topic will be taken to the Research and Development Committee.

Holly Farm Concerns / Email

Attention was turned to copies of email correspondence exchanged between Executive Director Mark Rude and officials in Colorado and Kansas regarding water quality concerns associated with a GP Resources Temporary Substitute Water Supply Plan approved by the state of Colorado, related to the "Holly Farm Project" on the Stateline. The Board considered the original e-mail from Mark Rude; a reply e-mail from Mr. Steve Witte, Div. II Engineer in Pueblo, CO.; and a draft reply e-mail from Mark Rude in response. Ross Geubelle stated the copy in the board book is not a complete record of the original correspondence, and provided complete copies to the board. Mark Rude indicated an error at the copy machine occurred in getting the last page into the board books. Mr. Geubelle stressed the concern and importance of all directors having a review and/or notice of such significant GMD3 correspondence. Ross Geubelle stressed that the appropriate county representative to the board should be in the loop of discussion to avoid learning of the issues through other means.

After discussion Alan Schweitzer moved to drop the back and forth email communications at this point and not send the draft reply as the water quality concern was noted and recorded and should suffice. Ross Geubelle seconded. After some discussion, the motion passed with all in favor.

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Grant Opportunities

Trevor Ahring reviewed the status of grant requests. The telemetry grant request to the Reclamation WaterSMART Program or was not successful and a review of the reasons with Reclamation is expected in July. The new Farm Bill RCPP will be a focus for GMD3 and nationally to focus federal assistance to local natural resource concerns.

File 27,283, Sturgeon Spacing Waiver

Jason Norquest reminded the board that file 27,283 was reviewed in the May board meeting. The review was tabled to allow time to obtain additional information and Mr. Sturgeon to be in attendance. Jason stated Mr. Sturgeon was now in attendance and would like to balance out the wells annual authority; stack some water from file 27,283 from its authorized well location onto the well authorized under water right 22,954, giving that point of diversion a total authority of 322AF. File number 27,283 proposed to be reduced from 519AF to 385AF.

Mr. Sturgeon added that three years ago the well with the larger AF went down causing the other well with lower AF to be overpumped. He believes this proposed change before the board would aid his water compliance issues in the future and balance out the wells.

Clay Scott noted this waiver request is close to an impairment complaint zone to the east and expressed concern for granting a rule waiver to provide more authority to a better performing well. Much board discussion occurred. Clay Scott moved to recommend reductions necessary to meet well spacing criteria, that being reductions to 300AF per well. Steve Stone seconded. Clay Scott noted that Mr. Sturgeon may be better off as he is and has option to withdraw his application. A future flex account could help him if he gets in an allocation bind. Motion passed with no descending votes.

Warranty Easement Deed

Mark Rude turned the directors' attention to the Warranty Easement Deed in Perpetuity information in the board book and described a Meade County wetland issue that may involve a diversion from Crooked Creek not yet applied for to DWR. The review of the project was to recognize the role of surface water in GMD3 to recharge the groundwater supply and the potential need for GMD3 to have a role in the review of applications to appropriate surface water within the District boundaries. He noted the intention to close the High Plains Aquifer and questioned all those present "Do we want to see surface water being diverted on new projects?"

LEMA Activity

Discussion occurred regarding LEMA activity. Mandy Fox, LEMA Consultant, has contacted several producers to invite some work with LEMA discussion and decisions. Concern from several producers has been stated that GMD3 is being left out of the loop. Mark Rude will talk to Lane Letourneau for clarification on Mandy's role along with the other GMD's for a better understanding of what is expected and how to coordinate efforts.

GIS Workshop, KGMD's

Mark noted GIS Workshop is a graphics information system tool service company. GIS Workshop, INC. offers assistance to GMDs on moving forward with paperless field work and map based records management. DWR recently contracted with Burns and MacDonald Engineers for similar services. More information on the topic will continue to be researched and reported back to the board on coordination efforts with the other GMD's for the desired tools to operate the district records and information.

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, Alan Schweitzer moved to accept the May financial report and payments as presented and submit them for annual audit. Seth Nelson seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

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Project Approval Status

Hal Scheuerman stated some members of the Arkansas Litigation Funds Advisory Committee (Western Water Conservation Projects Fund Advisory Committee) are discouraged with the time delay of applications being submitted to the State for approval. Mark Rude indicated that problem could be solved on his part.

Board Member Report

There were no member reports announced.

Public Forum

Greg Graff re-introduced himself as the Water Authority Representative for GMDs 1, 3 and 4 (western GMD's). He is also Board President for GMD1 in Scott City.

Gary Baker noted that he continues to receive calls from realtors; however, the questions are becoming different than the past. The calls now involve wanting to know if there have been notices of non-compliance or water right sanctions issued by the state.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kent Dunn asked if there was any other business to come before the Board. Seth Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ross Geubelle seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mike McNiece
GMD3 Board Secretary