

**Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
December 13th, 2017**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

9:00 a.m. President Kirk Heger called to order the December 13th, 2017 Board of Directors meeting of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District which was held in the Board Room of Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District NO. 3.

Oath of Office: Notary Public, Patty Stapleton administered the oath of office to Seth Nelson for compliance with State Law. "I do solemnly affirm that I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the state of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the board of directors of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District Number 3. So help me God."

Directors Present

Kirk Heger, President, Stevens County Representative
Bret Rooney, Vice President, Haskell County Representative
Mike McNiece, Board Secretary, Industrial Representative
Mike O'Brate, Treasurer, Gray County Representative
Randy Hayzlett, Surface Water Representative
Fred Claassen, Morton County Representative
Fred Jones, Municipal Representative
Hal Scheuerman, Kearny County Representative
Steve Stone, Finney County Representative
Seth Nelson, Stanton County Representative

Directors Absent with Notice

Clay Scott, Grant County Representative
Kent Dunn, Seward County Representative
Zachary Gale, Hamilton County Representative
Douglass Fox, Meade County Representative
Dave Casterline, 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
Abe Lollar, Biologist, Ducks Unlimited
Flavio, Researcher from Brazil

APPROVE AGENDA

President Heger asked for consideration of the meeting Agenda. **Bret Rooney made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Hal Scheuerman seconded. The motion passed.**

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES & GENERAL MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

President Heger drew the attention of the Board to consider November 6th, 2017 draft minutes. President Heger asked Patty Stapleton to double check 2nd motion in policy and legal paragraph. Steve Stone moved to approve the November 6th, 2017 minutes, as printed with the checking of person who 2nd the motion in the policy and legal paragraph. Fred Claassen seconded. Motion passed.

President Heger next drew the attention of the Board to review the November 2017 financial report documents. Mike O'Brate stated the colored scan is hard to read; keep white and continue to scan. Mark Rude explained the new financial sheet that was included, Profit and Loss Previous Year Comparison. Hal Scheuerman made a motion as follows: Approve the financial reports and payments for the month of November as presented at this meeting, and submit them for the annual audit. Randy Hayzlett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

President Heger signed and submitted the financial documents.

President's Report, President Kirk Heger

Recognition: Randy and Pam Hayzlett, KFB Farm Family of the year

Kansas Farm Bureau recognized Randy and Pam Hayzlett, as the Regional 9 Kansas Farm Bureau Family of the Year. Mark noted that Randy and Pam both donate a lot of time to organizations and community events. Their dedication is appreciated throughout the community. Randy noted that many are donating significantly to agriculture and water issues, and thanked the district for this recognition.

Water Commissioner's Report, Mike Meyer

Water Commissioner Mike Meyer observed and recognized Gary Bakers recent passing and his lifelong service to Groundwater Management and agriculture producers and local government in the district.

DWR and KGS is gearing up for annual water level measurements to begin the first week of January. DWR will mail Water Use Reports shortly after the New Year. Mr. Meyer encourages GMD and DWR to push for on line submittal of water use reports.

DWR is working on an Out Reach plan for the New Year. Notification of meetings in the district / area would help DWR to get on the agenda and or set up a display. WCA's, Aquifer education, LEMA's and such would be some of the topics for discussion along with informative handouts. Notify Mike at DWR about outreach opportunities.

ARCA Commissioner Report, Randy Hayzlett and Hal Scheuerman

Randy Hayzlett and Hal Scheuerman attended the ARCA Meeting, which was held Thursday, December 7th, 2017 at Lamar Community College, Bowman Building, Lamar, Colorado.

Randy Hayzlett stated since water is flowing past Garden City in the Ark river, Colorado has been thinking and now proposed to put water in a pit east of Lamar to capture water and orchestrate exchanges back up stream. Anytime Colorado sees water past Garden City, they believe Kansas is receiving water in excess of their obligations to supply water under the compact. A special engineering committee was assigned and will review Article 5H of the Compact to see if it can pass. Article 5H of the compact reads:

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"H. If the usable quantity and available for use of the waters of the Arkansas River to water users in Colorado Water District 67 and Kansas will be thereby materially depleted or adversely affected, (1)priority rights now decreed to the ditches of Colorado Water District 67 shall not hereafter be transferred to other water districts in Colorado or to points of diversion or places of use upstream from John Martin Dam; and (2) the ditch diversion rights from the Arkansas River in Colorado Water District 67, and of Kansas ditches between the Stateline and Garden City shall not hereafter be increased beyond the total present rights of said ditches, without the Administration, in either case (1) or (2), making findings of fact that no such depletion or adverse effect will result from such proposed transfer or increase. Notice of legal proceedings for any such proposed transfer or increase shall be given to the Administration in the manner and within the time provided by the laws of Colorado or Kansas in such cases.

The Compact meeting will be in Garden City next year, looking for good attendance from Kansas stakeholders.

Hal reported they decided to kick Fountain Creek dam to the curb and use an off sight storage.

New KDA over-pump rule, Sanction orders issued during land sale

Mark turned the boards' attention to page 29 of the board book to review K.A.R. 5-14-12 civil penalties for exceeding the authorized quantity of water. Penalty categories range from 1 to 4 with severity level ranging from A to C. A settlement conference can occur before a settlement hearing is set. A consent agreement can be set between the parties after the settlement conference is complete.

LEMA tool update.

Local Steering Committee Survey of water right owners and users for the Northern Kearny and Finney County proposed Local Enhanced Management Area approved a survey to be completed. The survey was mailed to all owners and water users in the LEMA. December 15th, 2017 is the noted due date, but of course will accept them if later. As of this meeting, about 32 had been received out of 412 mailed. A review of the returned surveys demonstrates a majority are favoring on the side of a LEMA of some form. A handful of survey responders noted that additional information is not necessary with a good split of them agreeing with the current boundary set. Comments on some surveys suggested shutting the ditch system down while others had "all or none" thoughts for who has limits imposed. A more detailed review will be provided once the returns have been analyzed.

GMD4 -Wide LEMA

Jason displayed a power point slide that demonstrated the proposed district wide LEMA by Zones 1 through 8. The zone map will aid to determine amounts allocated.

<0 = no action

0 – 0.5 = no action

0.5 – 1 = 18 inch maximum

1 – 2 = use the 80% chance value from the zone map

>2 = use the 50% chance value from the zone map

Total allocation will be 5 times the annual amounts determined above.

GMD4 extended the deadline for comments on the district wide LEMA until December 22. Three Formal parties are participating in the hearings process: KDA, GMD4, and a group of irrigators referred to as the interveners. A review of the LEMA hearing transcripts is on our website www.gmd3.org under the helpful links tab and LEMA and all documents relative to the hearing process for the GMD4 request is posted on the KDA site.

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Committee Reports

Policy and Legal, Research and Development, Renewable Supplies and the Annual Meeting Committee will meet in January 2018.

Old Business

Pending Policy Committee Recommendations

Pending Policy Committee Recommendations tabled until Policy and Legal Committee can meet in January.

New Business

There was no new business to put on the table.

Executive Director Report, Mark Rude

Kansas Water Office / Kansas Water Authority Update

Kansas Water Authority held a meeting yesterday, December 12, 2017 at Kansas Municipal Utilities facility, 2090 E. A Ave, McPherson, KS. From 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Randy provided some comments on the proceedings. A key take from the meeting relates to three study groups formed to coordinate state study implementing the state water Vision document. Dan Devlin is requesting comments on their initial draft study priorities, and GMD3 will want to provide him assistance in that manor.

Winter Water Technology Expo

January 11, 2018 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Winter Water Technology Expo will be at the Clarion Inn, Garden City, Ks. Multiple vendors and companies will be on-site and door prizes awarded throughout the evening. Irrigation technology, soil moisture monitoring, crop selection and seed rate along with other technologies and management tools in maximizing water use efficiency will be a few topics / demonstrations throughout the evening.

GMDs Legislative Retreat February 6th and 7th

Mark reviewed the Legislative Retreat schedule and advised everyone that the venue is different along with the scheduling of events. As of today, this is the tentative schedule:

Monday, February 5th –

GMD3 staff (and others) deliver water bottles and reception invitations (bottle hangers) to each legislator office.

Afternoon/evening - board members check into hotel rooms. Patty has reserved a block of rooms at the Capitol Plaza Hotel please let her know what nights you will need.

Tuesday, February 6th. @ DILLON HOUSE, 404 SW 9TH ST. (PHONE 785.290.0073)

7:30 to 9 AM –

Rotunda / Statehouse Breakfast.

[To educate and capture legislator contacts in the capitol]

9:30 to 1:00 –

Kansas Water Congress meeting:

Dillon House Library Room (Dillon House is just west of statehouse). [Consider participating for statewide policy issues and panel discussions with legislators over for lunch]

1 to 4 PM –

GMD Boards' Round Table meeting.

Dillon House West Wing Room: [GMD board collaborations, preparation for legislator reception and for tomorrow's roundtable with state agencies]

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4:30 to 6:30 –

GMDs Legislative Reception at Dillon House Capitol View and Library rooms.

Rest of evening free to pursue a Topeka steakhouse or KU vs TCU basketball game in Lawrence

Wednesday, February 7th · Landon Bldg. Room 560 (9:30 a.m. to Noon)

8 to 9 AM – GMD3 Board meeting, location TBA

9:30 to before noon –

State Water Agencies and GMD boards' round table

Lunch and travel home on your own.

Review Recommendations submitted to SW Kansas RACs

Mark reported on some submitted review of staff recommendations to SW Kansas RAC's had been emailed to the directors. More on this after the Renewable Supplies Committee works on some recommendations to the full board.

Revised Management Program Review by Chief Engineer

Mark announced that Chief Engineer Barfield would like to provide a response in person, regarding the revised management plan, early January. Meetings with the Chief Engineer and Executive Committee and staff will be set before any public meetings are held.

R&D, WTOEF, RCPP, Ogallala Master Irrigator

Mark noted a conversation with Duane Roth regarding ideas on how to pursue / move producers into the technology implementation in the field concepts. Discussion occurred.

Travel request, 4 States Irrigation, Ft. Collins, CO., January 10-12, 2018

January 10-12, 2018 is the Four States Irrigation Conference in Fort Collins, Colorado. Trevor Ahring has registered to attend and needs approval for out of state travel. Bret Rooney moved to approve travel for Trevor Ahring to attend the Four States Irrigation Conference in Fort Collins, Co. Randy Hayzlett seconded. Motion passed.

Mark suggested reading *Ogallala Aquifer, Move to Improve Use of Water* article that was in the Colorado Water magazine.

Ogallala Water Summit will be in Garden City, KS, probably at the Clarion Ball Room, held a couple of days before the April board meeting. The Water Summit is by invitation only.

NWRA Leadership Forum will be January 4-5, 2018, at New York New York in Las Vegas, Nevada.

GMDA conference is in Baton Rouge Louisiana, January 17-19, 2018

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Monthly Western Water Conservation Projects Fund Business

Mark Rude drew the attention of the board to the November financial documents of the Western Water Conservation Projects Fund and activity of the advisory committee. After some discussion of the Board, Mike O'Brate moved to accept the November financial report and payments as presented and submit them for annual audit. Seth Nelson seconded. Motion passed.

Farmers Ditch Committee update: Mike Stanley is currently the chairperson for the committee.

Board Member Report

Randy Hayzlett announced that Kansas Water Authority will be on January 23rd & 24th, 2018 at the Ramada Topeka Downtown Hotel and Convention Center.

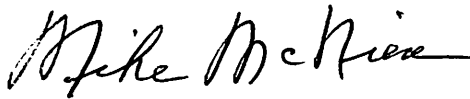
Public Forum

Abe Lollar, with Ducks Unlimited does have some questions but will email Mark directly. Mr. Lollar announced a workshop dealing with Playa Lakes, how to conserve, and technology of Reinke Irrigation will be held in Colby, KS.

ADJOURNMENT

Fred Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Fred Claassen seconded.
The meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mike McNiece
GMD3 Board Secretary