

Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 9th, 2022

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

President Rooney called to order the March 9, 2022, Board of Directors meeting of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District at 1:06 p.m. The meeting was at the Gray County Recreation Center, Cimarron, KS.

Directors Present in Person

Bret Rooney, President, Haskell County Representative
Mike O'Brate, Treasurer, Finney County Representative
Fred Jones, Vice President, Municipal Representative
Garrett Love, Secretary, Gray County Representative
Clay Scott, Grant County Representative
Harrison Krey, Morton County Representative
Matt Johnson, Stevens County Representative
Randy Hayzlett, Surface Water Representative
Chad McCormick, Industrial Representative
Kyle Maddux, Kearny County Representative
Zachary Gale, Hamilton County Representative

Directors Absent with Notice

Kent Dunn, Seward County Representative
Dave Casterline, Ford County Representative
Ben Amerin, Meade County Representative
Seth Nelson, Stanton County Representative

District Staff Present

Mark Rude, Executive Director
Jason Norquest, Assistant Manager
Patty Stapleton, Office Administrator
Chris Law, Director, Field Services
Trevor Ahring, Civil Engineer

Others in Attendance

Mike Meyer, Water Commissioner, Division of Water Resources, Garden City, KS
Fred Bloom, Producer

APPROVE AGENDA

President Rooney asked for consideration of the March 9, 2022, meeting agenda. Add to agenda, Oath of Office after the Financial Report. **Garrett Love made a motion to approve the agenda as revised. Fred Jones seconded. The motion passed.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & GENERAL MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

President Rooney drew the attention of the Board to consider February 9, 2022, draft minutes. **As presented, Clay Scott moved to approve February 9, 2022, minutes. Chad McCormick seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

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President Rooney next drew the attention of the Board to review the February 2022 financial report documents. **Fred Jones made a motion: Approve the financial reports and payments for February 2022 as presented at this meeting and submit them for the annual audit. Garret Love seconded the motion. Motion passed**

President Rooney signed and submitted the financial documents.

Board Officer Elections: President Rooney

Clay Scott moved to nominate Bret Rooney as Board President. Fred Jones moved to cease and cast a unanimous vote.

Mike O'Brate moved to nominate Fred Jones as Board Vice President. Clay Scott seconded. Garret Love moved to cease and cast unanimously.

Randy Hayzlett moved to nominate Garret Love as Secretary; Clay Scott moved to cease and cast a unanimous vote.

Clay Scott moved to nominate Mike O'Brate as Treasurer; Chad McCormick moved to cease and cast a unanimous vote.

Committees

Policy and Legal

Policy and Legal Chairman Fred Jones reviewed the discussion from the Policy and Legal Committee meeting on March 3, 2022, at the GMD3 board room. The committee examined the By-Laws regarding the GMD3 voting procedures. Mark Rude added that GMD3 is one of the few districts with voting procedures in By-Laws. Mike Meyer suggested reviewing GMD1 and GMD5 By-Laws and voting procedures. The consensus of the directors was staff needed to work on procedures and present them to the committee for further review.

Chairman Jones reminded everyone that the Management Program hearing would be next month.

New Assignments

President Rooney will announce new committee assignments next month.

Management Program: Reports and Recommendations

Water Commissioners Report:

Water Commissioner Mike Meyer announced that 89% of the water use reports were completed and submitted online. There is still an ongoing issue of receiving information on ownership changes. DWR is working locally to make sure data is appropriately sent/received. DWR is reviewing late water use reporting along with over-pumping issues.

Board 2022 Goals

Mark turned the boards' attention to page 12 of the board book, a snapshot of the GMD3 Management Program 2022 Board Priority Goals. The consensus of the Board was they were good for now. Fred Jones asked for continued progress on those goals throughout the year.

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Well Spacing Waiver. Water Right 14.715 Fred & Kathy Bloom

Jason Norquest, Assistant Manager, spoke on the well spacing waiver for Fred and Kathy Bloom on water right 14,715. Fred Bloom was in attendance for any questions or comments. The current well has had a loss of production. Currently authorized 693af at 1,075gpm and needs 2,300 feet minimum spacing. The move is just over 500 feet. Spacing is met to all wells except to water right 47,254 (owned/operated by applicant) and authorized 650af at 1,500gpm, limited to 910af per year with 14,715. Analysis shows no critical wells in the area. *Policy and Legal reviewed and, after considering three alternatives, recommended a waiver of KAR 5-23-3 and approval of the application. No critical well conditions are determined, and the only spacing issue is the applicant's well that works in combination with this system.* Clay Scott moved to recommend approval of the waiver for water right 14,715. Mike O'Brate seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business

Payment on NWRA Membership Dues

Mark stated there had been little success finding partners to help the Water Congress make the NWRA membership expense. He spoke with Ian Lyle with NWRA about paying ¼ of the membership due and continues to research other financial support. Making this ¼ payment will keep us active with the NWRA collaborative and the Kansas Water Congress in good standing. Fred Jones commented that GMD3 had assisted the Kansas Water Congress with money and staff time with conferences. Should GMD3 consider a different membership level, such as individual membership, and not go through the Kansas Water Congress. GMD3 could use the money saved to benefit other projects that directly support our members. Fred stressed his concern of only GMD3 making the payment expense. Garret Love agreed but feels GMD3 does have the most significant portion of water use, and this would represent our water users in national issues. Mark will research the following concerns: 1) Can GMD3 have a membership to NWRA? 2) at what cost? and 3) would this approach hinder other relationships in the state? Fred Jones asked for an update with Kansas Water Congress financials and legality. Clay Scott moved to approve GMD3 to pay ¼ of the membership due of \$14,205.00. Chad McCormick seconded. Chad suggested that KWC submit a bill regarding the membership to the GMD3 for possible payment. Motion passed. Fred Jones opposed.

New Business

There was no new business.

Executive Director Report, Mark Rude

Kansas Legislature

Senate Bill 548 and Senate Bill 549 will go to a hearing on March 14. Mark will rewrite the testimony and send it to the Executive Committee for approval.

Travel authorized: NWRA Federal Conference, May 9-11, Washington D.C.

Mark requests travel authorization for 2 Board of Directors and 2 GMD3 staff to attend the NWRA Federal Conference, May 9 through 11th. The cost is \$600.00 per person and allows the attendee to meet with congressional staff. Garret Love moved to approve travel to Washington Dc for the NWRA Federal Conference. Mike O'Brate seconded. Motion passed.

Monthly Western Water Conservation Projects Fund Business

Mark Rude drew the Board's attention to the February 2022 Financial documents of the Western Water Conservation Projects Fund and the activity of the advisory committee. **After some**

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discussion of the Board, Randy Hayzlett moved to accept the February 2022 Financial Report and payments and submit them for annual audit. Fred Jones seconded. Motion passed.

Agency Reports

Water Office - Weston McCarry will be helping with RAC details.

Board Member Reports

Tom Stiles would like assistance in getting testimonies from water users along the Ark corridor regarding river water quality. Mark Rude will get with the WWCP Fund advisory committee. Fred Jones recommended getting with municipality users also.

Public Forum

Fred Bloom thanked the Board for their time and efforts.

ADJOURNMENT

The next GMD3 Board meeting will be on April 13 in the GMD3 Board Room.

Kyle Maddux made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Garret Love seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Garrett Love

GMD3 Board Secretary