

Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 14th, 2022

DRAFT

Vice President Jones noted that the meeting would not be called to order due to no quorum.

Wes McCary introduced Chase Larson of Bestifor Farms. Chase provided a presentation of a water tracking tool that allowed for error-proof data to the central system. Chase created this tool to aid in tracking the efficient use of water, better time management, and more accessible reporting capabilities.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice President Jones called to order the September 14, 2022, Board of Directors meeting of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District at 10:28 a.m. The meeting was at the GMD3 Board Room.

Directors Present in Person

Mike O'Brate, Treasurer, Finney County Representative
Fred Jones, Vice President, Municipal Representative
Matt Johnson, Stevens County Representative
Randy Hayzlett, Surface Water Representative
Kyle Maddux, Kearny County Representative
Kent Dunn, Seward County Representative

Directors Present by Phone or Zoom

Garrett Love, Secretary, Gray County Representative
Clay Scott, Grant County Representative
Chad McCormick, Industrial Representative
Ben Amerin, Meade County Representative
Zachary Gale, Hamilton County Representative

Directors Absent with Notice

Bret Rooney, President, Haskell County Representative
Harrison Krey, Morton County Representative
Dave Casterline, Ford 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
Brandi Sneath, Office Assistant

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Others in Attendance

Mike Meyer, Water Commissioner, Division of Water Resources, Garden City, KS
Dave Brenn, Kansas Water Congress
Chris Beightel, Division of Water Resources
Chase Larson, Bestifor Farms
Wes McCrary, Kansas Water Office, Technology Projects Coordinator
Keadron Pearson, Kansas Water Office, Regional Planning and Outreach Coordinator
Gary Bolt, Cimarron RAC

APPROVE AGENDA

Vice President Jones asked to consider the September 14, 2022, meeting agenda. Mark suggested striking IX A, Funding the approved Interstate Water Transfer POC Project, from the agenda as the Board voted on it a couple of years ago. **As revised, Randy Hayzlett made a motion to approve the agenda. Kent Dunn seconded. The motion passed.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & GENERAL MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Vice President Jones drew the attention of the Board to consider the August 11, 2022, draft minutes. **As presented, Garret Love moved to approve the August 11, 2022, minutes. Mike O'Brate seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

Vice President Jones next drew the attention of the Board to review the August 2022 financial report documents. **Randy Hayzlett motioned: Approve the financial reports and payments for August 2022 as presented at this meeting and submit them for the annual audit. Kyle Maddux seconded the motion. Motion passed**

Vice President Jones signed and submitted the financial documents.

Correspondence/recognition/public comments

There was no correspondence, public comments, or recognitions stated.

Management Program: Reports and Recommendations

Water Commissioners Report, Mike Meyer, DWR

Water Commissioner Meyer announced there are still some employment positions to be filled in their office. As of today's date, DWR has approved approximately 50 MYFAs. Mr. Meyer stressed the importance of filing for an MYFA before you over-pump. The deadline to file is December 31, 2022.

Board Review, Standby Well Spacing, 16,882 STK, Satanta Farms LLC.

Jason Norquest presented the board review for Satanta Farms LLC.

- 2021 application moved primary well to section 4
- Early 2022 change application to make 16882 to dual-use IRR /STK: 412af to 349.7
- Current application to make original well location standby for stock
- Does not meet minimum spacing to neighboring well 22528 (570af=2300')
- The neighbor stated he had no issue with the change.
- Standby well needs to be metered.

Kent Dunn moved to recommend a waiver on standby well spacing for 16,882. Mike O'Brate seconded. Motion passed.

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Committee Reports

Policy and Legal

Policy and Legal met Monday, September 12 at 9:30 a.m. in the GMD3 Board Room and by zoom.

- ✓ The committee reviewed the 16,882 Stock standby waiver for Satanta Farms LLC.
- ✓ Work over the by-laws: Jason and Mark have been reviewing.
- ✓ Legislative Post Audit: process has begun. The audit process is confidential until completed. Mark will keep the directors generally updated. Some directors stated concern about this being a confidential audit. Fred Jones would like to discuss this further with the Executive Committee.
- ✓ GMD2 vs. CE, Harvey County
- ✓ Maximum Pumping vs. Type II Verified Annual Groundwater Conservation
- ✓ Reclamation study meeting on Wednesday, November 2, in Santa Barbara, Ca.
With the approval of travel and registration Bureau of Reclamation is offering 15 minutes meetings to sit down with the commissioner and visit.
- ✓ 2022 CRWUA Conference, December 14-16, 2022, Las Vegas, NV.
- ✓ GMD POC Interstate Transfer Project. This project is ready to be executed. The main restriction currently is the river flow.
- ✓ Legislation
State Interim Joint Water Committee
Possible State tax incentive for donated groundwater rights (like Colorado and New Mexico)
Active Federal (Give project – Board Goal #3)

Old Business

There was no old business to take from the table.

New Business

Funding the approved Interstate Water Transfer POC Project

Vice President Jones noted his concern about the action supporting the Water Transfer POC Project still being viable after two years. **Garrett Love moved to approve the Water Transfer POC Project expenditure up to \$7,000. Clay Scott seconded. Motion passed.**

Executive Director Report, Mark Rude

Grant Activity

- Watershed Group

Upper Arkansas Watershed Group is holding monthly meetings.

- I-Care

I-Care mailing is still in the works. It could be this week still.

- Education / USDA Climate Hubs

Susan Metzger and a team are working on a grant that doesn't take a one-for-one cost share. And will aid in the Master Irrigator Program.

Governors Water Conference Registrations November 16-17.

Mark advised to let the staff know if you are interested in attending.

Monthly Western Water Conservation Projects Fund Business

Mark Rude drew the Board's attention to the August 2022 Financial documents of the Western Water Conservation Projects Fund and the activity of the advisory committee. **After some discussion of the Board, Randy Hayzlett moved to accept the August 2022 Financial Report and payments as presented and submit them for annual audit. Garrett Love seconded. Motion passed.**

Agency Reports

Keadron Pearson KWO.

Keadron announced Upper Ark RAC met last month, and at that meeting, they reviewed the recommendations for the fiscal year 2024 budget and submitted them to the Water Authority. The Water Authority was supportive of the recommendations. Upper Ark will be meeting in Syracuse on September 26 and will be an in-person meeting only. Cimarron RAC met yesterday. Gary Bolt and Jason Norquest attended. Jason stated five were in attendance, and it was great to meet in person again. The main conversation was on how to promote water conservation more. Water Authority approved the State Water Plan and is now in the implantation phase. The next Water Authority meeting is on October 19 in Wichita.

Board Member Reports

Randy Hayzlett stated the Water Authority did approve the State Water Plan Fund Budget. Keadron noted there were two items on the budget she wanted to highlight. 1) The line item formally known as the Milford RCPP has been changed to Water Quality Partnership. 2) Water Technology Farms line item was changed to High Plains Aquifer Partnership. Both these items are suitable for our area.

Public Forum

Wes McCary

Wes has received proposals from Western KS Irrigation for projects in our area: Syracuse Dairy, Ulysses Golf Course, Cobalt Feeders, and Heritage.

ADJOURNMENT

Matt Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike O'Brate seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Garrett Love
GMD3 Board Secretary