

Minutes: _____ Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 February 21, 2007 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The February board meeting was opened at 10:00 a.m. CST, February 21, 2007 in the Hoxie Elks Lodge, Hoxie, KS by President Scott Maurath.

Board members present for some or all of the meeting were: Jeff Deeds, Roger Zweygardt, Doug David, Dave Mann, Dave Rietcheck, Scott Maurath, Monty Biggs, Bill Nondorf, Mitch Baalman and Jon Friesen.

Board Members absent were: Lon Frahm.

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Wayne Bossert, Ray Luhman, Dan Simmering and Rita Wade – GMD 4 staff; Jeff Mason – GMD 4 attorney; Scott Ross, Scott Voss and Jessica Ahlquist – DWR; and Shane Mann – Gove County Board candidate.

There were no changes to the agenda.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Mitch Baalman moved for approval of the consent agenda including: 1) the January 11, 2007 minutes; and 2) the January financial report including the January, 2007 expenditures totaling \$39,291.18. Jeff Deeds seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

3. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager covered the items within the board packet – several of which needed discussion. In regard to the Paul Babcock letter (raising the issue of a regulation on irrigating in hot, dry, windy conditions) it was decided that the issue would be considered during the management program review process and no additional response from the board is needed at this time.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Adoption of 2008 Operating Budget for Voter Consideration: Staff presented the proposed 2008 operating budget as follows:

| | | 2008 - 1st Proposed | |
|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 110 | POSTAGE | \$7,700.00 | |
| 111 | Newsletter | | \$6,000.00 |
| 112 | General | | \$1,700.00 |
| 120 | PRINTING | \$7,900.00 | |
| 121 | Newsletter | | \$7,500.00 |
| 122 | Administrative | | \$400.00 |
| 130 | DUES | \$1,700.00 | |
| 140 | SUBSCRIPTIONS | \$2,400.00 | |
| 150 | INSURANCE | \$15,000.00 | |
| 151 | Office/Equip/Data | | \$4,750.00 |
| 152 | Public Officials' Liability | | \$4,500.00 |
| 153 | Auto | | \$550.00 |
| 154 | Workmans' Comp. | | \$4,300.00 |

| | | |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 155 | Computer | \$700.00 |
| 156 | Unemployment | \$200.00 |
| 160 | TELEPHONE | \$4,500.00 |
| 170 | SALARIES AND BENEFITS | \$246,340.00 |
| 171 | Gross Sal, Kpers, SS, Etc. | \$229,640.00 |
| 172 | Health Insurance | \$16,700.00 |
| 180 | TRAVEL | \$8,000.00 |
| 181 | Board | \$5,500.00 |
| 182 | Staff | \$2,500.00 |
| 190 | VEHICLES | \$5,950.00 |
| 191 | Repairs/Maintenance | \$1,800.00 |
| 192 | Operation | \$4,000.00 |
| 193 | Tags | \$150.00 |
| 194 | Purchase/Lease | \$0.00 |
| 200 | CONTRACTED SERVICES | \$32,700.00 |
| 201 | Accounting | \$2,300.00 |
| 202 | Legal | \$1,400.00 |
| 203 | Misc. Support | \$29,000.00 |
| 204 | Water Sampling | \$0.00 |
| 205 | Drilling | \$0.00 |
| 206 | Weather Modification | \$0.00 |
| 210 | PUBLICATIONS | \$550.00 |
| 211 | Legal Notices | \$550.00 |
| 220 | COOP PROGRAMS | \$403,087.70 |
| 221 | Administrative | \$401,087.70 |
| 222 | Equipment | \$0.00 |
| 223 | Contracted Studies | \$2,000.00 |
| 224 | Education Program | \$0.00 |
| 230 | ADMINISTRATIVE | \$4,200.00 |
| 231 | Office Supplies | \$1,600.00 |
| 232 | Copy Machine | \$1,000.00 |
| 233 | Computer Maint | \$750.00 |
| 234 | Postage Meter Lease | \$300.00 |
| 235 | Bank Charges | \$50.00 |
| 236 | Field Supplies | \$500.00 |
| 240 | NEW EQUIPMENT | \$5,000.00 |
| 241 | Field | \$2,000.00 |
| 242 | Office | \$3,000.00 |
| 250 | CONTINGENCY RESERVE | \$0.00 |
| 260 | FACILITY | \$10,975.00 |
| 261 | Rent | \$10,000.00 |
| 262 | Upkeep | \$975.00 |
| 263 | Remodel | \$0.00 |
| 270 | REIMBURSED EXPENSES | \$0.00 |
| 300 | FOUNDATION | \$550.00 |
| 305 | Foundation Subscriptions | \$0.00 |
| 350 | Foundation Legal | \$300.00 |
| 370 | Foundation Tech Support | \$250.00 |
| | | \$756,552.70 |

Following discussion *Dave Mann* moved to adopt the proposed 2008 operating budget as presented for presentation to the eligible voters. *Monty Biggs* seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

b. 2006 Audit Report: With no discussion, *Jeff Deeds* moved for adoption of the 2006 Audit completed by *Adams, Brown, Bering & Ball*. *Mitch Baalman* seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

c. Election of Officers: The floor was opened for nominations for President. *Mitch Baalman moved that all current officers but for Secretary be retained for another year. Bill Nondorf seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.* The floor was opened for nominations for Secretary. Mitch Baalman nominated Bill Nondorf. Dave Rietcheck seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, Bill Nondorf was unanimously voted in as Secretary.

d. Management Program Discussion: Several options were suggested on how to proceed. After further discussion, *Jon Friesen moved that President Maurath appoint the DWR discussion group (Scott Maurath and Lon Frahm) as a sub-committee of the board to work with staff in writing the first draft for board consideration. Dave Rietcheck seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

e. Enhanced Management Protocol Discussion: This item was tabled as staff has not yet completed the intended data review.

f. 2008 EQIP Quick Response Areas: Several options were suggested and discussed. *Jon Friesen moved to eliminate the Thomas County QRA, retain the Sherman County QRA for another year, and add an appropriate Sheridan County area which staff will propose for the March Board meeting. Monty Biggs seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

g. 2007 Legislation: Staff asked for direction on the 2007 legislation which has already been addressed (HB 2070 and SB 89) and that legislation which has not yet been addressed (HB 2085; HB 2126; SB 194; and HB 2260). The board was supportive of the positions taken by staff on HB 2070 and SB 89, and asked that these positions continue to be enunciated. For HB 2085 (Recording executive sessions when a board member expresses a concern over its appropriateness) staff was directed to submit no testimony. For HB 2126 (Adding assurance districts to the Kansas Water Authority) staff was instructed to take no action. For SB 194 (Requiring training for public officials on KORA and KOMA) the board directed staff to oppose. For HB 2260 (Forbidding the use of public funds for lobbying) the board directed staff to oppose as this bill disadvantages us in working with the political system so far away.

h. Model Management Scenarios: The board supported modeling three management scenarios in the proposed model management areas only: (1) the status quo; (2) shutting off all irrigation wells; and (3) reducing 30% of the irrigation withdrawals. With these 3 scenarios, the extremes are modeled in model runs (1) and (2) giving us the outside ranges of possible effects, and a starting point of a 30% reduced water use is able to be looked at.

6. DWR REPORT

No report was provided as it was given at the annual meeting.

7. OPEN SESSION - PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Jon Friesen asked to discuss the Foundation. He suggested that the collected funds thus far be considered for use now – possibly in support of the EQIP program or some other approved project(s). He suggested that a change in the direction of the Foundation may need consideration. During discussion it was clear that significant changes to the by-laws and/or the Foundation Charter may be required to change directions. No decisions were made, but staff was directed to place the issue on the March Board agenda for further consideration.

8. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND CONSIDER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

March 8, 2007.

April 5, 2007

The NW Kansas Groundwater Conservation Foundation direction and issues should be added to the March, 2007 board meeting agenda.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Monty Biggs and a second by Shane Mann, the February 21, 2007 board meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m., February 21, 2007.

Respectfully submitted:



Bill Nondorf, Secretary