

Minutes: _____ Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 November 8, 2007 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The November board meeting was opened at 10:00 a.m. CST, November 8, 2007 in the district offices, Colby, KS by President Scott Maurath.

Board members present for some or all of the meeting were: Mitch Baalman, Shane Mann, Dave Rietcheck, Scott Maurath, Jeff Deeds and Roger Zwegardt.

Board Members absent were: Doug David, Monty Biggs, Bill Nondorf, Lon Frahm and Jon Friesen.

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Wayne Bossert, Ray Luhman and Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; and Scott Voss and Scott Ross – DWR.

There were no additions to the agenda.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Dave Rietcheck moved for approval of the consent agenda including: 1) the September 13, 2007 minutes; 2) the September financial report including the September, 2007 expenditures totaling \$27,733.80; and 3) the October financial report including the October, 2007 expenditures totaling \$26,379.91. Shane Mann seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

3. MANAGER'S REPORT

In addition to the items presented in the board packet, it was reported that a meter reading calculator has been placed on the website. This spreadsheet will calculate total gallons or acrefeet pumped based on inputted beginning and ending values. The spreadsheet adjusts for meter rollovers.

Manager's Report item c. (October 22, 2007 Interim Legislative Session on IGUCAs) and d. (October 31, 2007 WTAP Meeting) and e. (October 31 IGUCA Conference with David Barfield) were discussed in more detail. Staff wanted to make sure the board was comfortable with the messages being provided. There was no board opposition expressed.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Re-adoption of the March 9, 2006 Management Program: Staff proposed that the current Management Program be re-adopted for another year as we continue to consider future management alternatives. Following discussion, *Jeff Deeds moved to re-adopt the March 6, 2006 Revised Management Program for another year. Shane Mann seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

Discussion turned next to future discussions. Staff suggested either a sub-committee process to at least weed out the alternatives the board was not interested in and identify the issues they were interested in, or, a special board session to focus on these ideas alone. Following discussion, the board consensus was to deal with the issues in full board session. It was

suggested that the December board meeting start at 10:00 A.M. which would allow additional time to at least start the decision-making process. This was generally agreed upon. Dave Rietcheck asked that the list be emailed to the board as early as practical for extra review time.

b. Staff and Attorney Contracts: Attorney contract proposal for 2008 was considered first. It was noted that only change was an increase of the hourly rate by \$10 per hour. *Dave Rietcheck moved that the 2008 Attorney contract be approved as presented. Mitch Baalman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

Staff contracts were discussed next. *Shane Mann moved to table the staff contract discussion until the December board meeting when staff can present specific proposals and more board members are present. Dave Rietcheck seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

c. Annual Meeting Discussion: Some general discussion was had on the way we have been conducting past annual meetings recognizing that our attendance has dropped off significantly. The consensus opinion for the lack of attendance was the lack of a “hot-button” issue. Suggestions were made for interesting speaker topics and speakers. One suggestion was the groundwater regulation situation in the plains of NE Colorado, with Tom Cech as the most knowledgeable speaker. *Dave Rietcheck moved that staff approach Tom Cech about addressing our annual meeting on this issue and promoting the topic appropriately. Shane Mann seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

6. DWR REPORT

Scott Ross reported that DWR has agreed to a change in the meter inspection program such that DWR will pick up an additional number of inspections. He also covered the recent Republican River Compact Annual Meeting held in Junction City, KS a few weeks ago. He reported that both Colorado and Nebraska were over their allocations and these states were continuing to discuss ways to provide allocated water to Kansas. In the case of Colorado, they are currently discussing piping 15,000 AF/yr of water to the gaging station recognized by the compact. No decisions have been made yet.

7. OPEN SESSION - PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

No discussion.

8. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND CONSIDER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

January meeting was set for January 10, 2008. December 13 was announced for the December meeting, and that Lon Frahm has once again agreed to host the Christmas Dinner.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Scott Maurath declared the meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M., November 8, 2007.

Respectfully submitted:

Bill Nondorf, Secretary