Minutes: Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4
June 7th, 2018 Board Meeting

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The June 7th board meeting was opened at the GMD 4 office in Colby, Kansas by President, Brent Rogers

Board members present for some or all of the meeting were:

Brent Rogers, Jeff Deeds, Scott Maurath, Mitchell Baalman, Karen Flanagan, Nate Emig, Roger Zweygardt, Shane Mann, and Ted Nighswonger

Board members absent: Lynn Goossen Monty Biggs

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Ray Luhman, Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain and Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; Adam Dees – GMD 4 attorney; Kelly Stewart and Steven Walters – DWR

Adjustments to the agenda were to remove “Appeals” under New Business as the only appeal to be heard could not attend the meeting.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Brent Rogers asked if there were any concerns over the consent agenda, consisting of the May 3rd, 2018 Minutes and Expenditures for the month of May. Receipt of the May financial report was distributed showing monthly expenditures totaling $37,673.06 in May were approved.

Scott Maurath moved the minutes and expenditures for the month of May be accepted. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

3. OPEN FORUM

No comments from the public were received.

4. MANAGER’S REPORT

Shannon Kenyon informed the board she had a meeting with the other GMD managers and field technicians about the issues with GIS Workshops. GMD 4 is having success with the program but other GMD’s are having difficulty. Notes were taken at the meeting regarding all of the problems encountered and Mark Rude will draft a letter to GIS, addressing the issues. He would like all managers sign the letter.
While at this meeting, Jeff Lanterman and Mark Myers, DWR Water Commissioners, met with the group in the afternoon to discuss flowmeters. DWR is proposing to tighten down on a few of the meter issues they are seeing.

Ray Luhman reported on the Index Well Conference Call where KGS presented. He informed the board that the Thomas County index well showed recharge and recovery data and that the GMD 4 index wells appear to react differently than other areas probably due to non-confinement. KGS wants to get another index well north of Goodland and in other GMD’s.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

   a. District LEMA
   Concerning the appeal made by Wayne Carpenter, his attorney submitted a request for review by the Secretary of Agriculture, which she denied. Wayne Carpenter has requested the GMD 4 Board of Directors reconsider their decision. Karen Flanagin asked Ray to provide another summary of the appeal. After discussion of the appeal Adam Dees discussed timelines for filing in district court.

   Mitchell Baalman moved to deny Wayne Carpenter’s request for the GMD 4 Board of Directors to reconsider their decision on the appeal. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

   Next, a list of potential advisory committee members was distributed. Discussion was had about each potential member. Several contacts still need to be made for vacant positions so the decision to appoint was postponed pending more interest.

   b. Model Discussion
   Ray gave a review of updating our model through KGS. KWO has agreed to pay for $70,000 of the $140,000 project. GMD 4 would be responsible for the other $70,000. Shannon has started the grant process to secure those funds from outside sources if possible.

   Roger Zweygardt moved to pay up to $70,000 to update the model. The motion was seconded by Mitchell Baalman and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

   c. Observation wells
   Shannon distributed a map of the current observation wells and index wells. Several have been located within the district that could possibly be supplied with telemetry or be included in the annual well measurements. She has been in contact with Brownie Wilson of KGS. Several of those wells he did not think were advantageous to add to the network, except two located in Sherman County. He would add those to the network if GMD 4 would like. He also suggested an area north of Goodland for an index well. Looking at
well logs, a well may have to be drilled. Shannon will look into it and possibly cost-share with KGS if a well needs to be drilled.

6. NEW BUSINESS

   a. Staff Contracts

   Shane Mann moved to go into executive session at 11:00 am for 30 minutes for discussion of personnel issues with board, attorney, and staff as requested. The motion was seconded by Ted Nighswonger and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

   During this time, Ray Luhman went in at 11:00 and left at 11:10. Shannon Kenyon went in at 11:10 and left at 11:30.

   Karen Flanagan moved to go back into executive session at 11:30 for 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Jeff Deeds and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

   Dan Simmering was present at 11:30.

   Jeff Deeds moved to go back into executive session at 11:45 for 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ted Nighswonger and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

   Dan Simmering was still present in executive session.

   Karen Flanagan moved to go back into executive session at 12:00 for 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

   Jody McCain was present from 12:00 pm – 12:13 pm.

   Jeff Deeds moved to go back into executive session at 12:15 for 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Nate Emig and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

   Staff was not present until 12:25 when Ray Luhman entered by request of the board.

   Karen Flanagan moved to offer staff contracts as discussed in executive session. The motion was seconded by Roger Zweygardt and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

7. Agency Reports
Kelly Stewart reported there was not much going on at DWR. In regards to the RRCA, Colorado is to pay $4 million to Nebraska for penalties. Discussion on the recent flood and rain events was also discussed in relation to reservoir status.

8. OPEN SESSION-Public Questions/Comments:

No comments received.

9. Scheduling Future Meetings:

A board meeting was scheduled for July 5th with a tentative date of July 12th pending harvest.

10. ADJOURNMENT

*With no other business and no objections, Karen Flanagan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ted Nighswonger and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).*

Respectfully submitted:

Jeb Deeds, Secretary