

Having trouble remembering to record your meter readings every two weeks? There is now an app for that!!! TAAPH2O is an app that all you have to do is take a picture of your meter and it will send you a report of how much water you have pumped and what is left in not only your annual authorized quantity, but also in your 5 year LEMA quantity. The reports also provide additional data on how many inches per acre you are applying and can send you alerts when it notices your meter may be malfunctioning. It's very simple to setup and use at the cost of \$50 per meter annually.

To sign-up, there is a link to TAPPH2O on our website where you will enter your name, address, phone number, water right #'s and total # of meters you wish to sign-up. Or, you can call the office at 785-462-3915 and someone can assist you in getting signed up.

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Changes to the Board of Directors

Changes are happening on the board of directors. We welcomed Brett Oelke in February 2019 to represent Sheridan County. This year we welcome Dylan Loyd who now represents Cheyenne County. Both new members have a strong agricultural background and young families.

At the Annual Meeting on February 12th, 2020, voting members decided

to combine the Gove and Logan County positions into one and make an at-large position. As of the typing of this newsletter, that position has yet to be filled.

Officers have also changed since the last newsletter. Brett Oelke is now the President, Nathan Emig the Vice-President, Lynn Goossen is the Treasurer, and Jeff Deeds remains as Secretary.

"When the well's dry, we know the worth of water." ~Benjamin Franklin

Dan's Field Notes

For those water rights affected by the GMD 4 LEMA you will have additional metering requirements. It will be required that you have an alternate way to meter your water usage. Some of those acceptable ways are:

- TAPPH2O App
- AgSense
- Pivot hours
- Electric hours
- Dated Pictures
- Log Book
- Pressure sensors
- Additional meter

Master Irrigator Program

We are in the beginning stages of creating a Master Irrigator Program in GMD 4! Texas and Colorado currently have Master Irrigator programs that we plan to model from. The program will probably consist of a series of presentations and work sessions over the course of several days. Topics may include soil and fertility management, equipment maintenance, irrigation application uniformity, and regional economics. We are seeking funding sources and partnerships to provide water saving technology incentives. If there is a topic you would like to see presented and learn more about, please contact the office.

Meters!

We can't stress the importance enough of checking your meters at least every two weeks during irrigation season. Repairs are becoming very costly and determining the amount of water pumped can be a hassle as well as costly. Things to look for when checking your meters are to make sure the security seal is still intact, and the rolling digits are aligned and totalizing properly. It is always a good idea to time your meter for a few minutes to determine the gallons per minute it is registering. When meters begin to fail they usually run faster, not slower.

Summer Interns

This summer you may see a couple of college students at your well(s). We have plans to hire two interns. One through FHSU and the other through NWTC. They will be installing our robust GMD 4 green cable seals to assure your meter is in compliance if the flimsy McCrometer seal falls off. The interns will be in GMD 4 marked vehicles. For their safety, they will be instructed to only install the robust seals on meters that are easily accessible. Our hope is to get as many of the seals on as possible without compromising safety. If you have a meter that is not easily accessible for installation of one of these seals and you would like one put on, please contact our office.



Pumping the Tailwater Shannon Kenyon

Having a water right is not only a property right, but it is also a privilege. With privilege comes responsibility. Staying up-to-date on changes to your water right is your responsibility. Me and the staff here at GMD 4 do our best to notify you of these changes through newsletters, postcards, website, letters, and sometimes phone calls, but it is ultimately the responsibility of the water right owner to make sure you are in compliance.



NW KS GMD 4

1290 W 4th PO Box 905 Colby, KS 67701 785-462-3915 Fax: 785-462-2693

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Find us on the Web: www.gmd4.org



Important Dates

Monthly Board Meetings – First Wednesday of every month @ 10 am. (Except February & December)

APRIL BOARD MEETING – April 8, 2020 (teleconference)
MAY BOARD MEETING – May 6, 2020
JUNE BOARD MEETING – June 3, 2020

Meetings are subject to change depending on weather, planting, & harvest!

Staff and Board of Directors

Shannon Kenyon – Manager skenyon@gmd4.org Dan Simmering – Field Technician dee@gmd4.org Jody McCain – Administrative Assistant <u>imccain@gmd4.org</u> Brett Oelke – President Karen Flanagin Dylan Loyd Nathan Emig – Vice President Ted Nighswonger **Monty Biggs** Jeff Deeds – Secretary Shane Mann Vacant – At-Large Lynn Goossen – Treasurer **Brent Rogers**

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1290 W 4th

PO Box 905

Colby, KS 67701

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