

NORTHWEST KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 4
February 18, 2026

1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The February 18, 2026 board meeting was opened at Freedom Hall, Goodland, Kansas by President, Brett Oelke.

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

Carl Davis, Jeff Deeds, Nate Emig, Lynn Goossen, Dylan Loyd, Shane Mann, Brett Oelke, Brent Rogers and Marsha Schilling.

Board members absent were Jerry Binning and Karen Flanagin.

Others present for some, or all the meeting were: Shannon Kenyon, Jody McCain, Trent McCain, and Jack Polifka – GMD 4 staff; and Jake Kling – GMD 4 attorney; Kelly Stewart and David Means -- DWR; Keadron Pearson – KWO; Mark Billinger - KGS; Bernadette Mills – KACD; Stacie Edgett-Minson – KCARE-KSU; Bill Miller and Baker Bugbee.

Changes to the agenda were noted:

ADD: **9. d. Audit**

Dylan Loyd moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes.)

2. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Brent Rogers moved that the minutes of January 7, 2026, board meeting be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Dylan Loyd and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

3. EXPENDITURES & FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JANUARY

Carl Davis moved that the financial reports and expenditure reports for the month of January be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Jeff Deeds and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

4. OPEN FORUM

It was noted that VandWater invoices were emailed out to producers this week, and 2025 Water Use Reports are due March 1st.

5. AGENCY REPORTS

Kelly Stewart noted that the Stockton Field Office has had heavy telephone/foot traffic with Water Use Reporting. He noted that over 40% of reports have been done so far.

Keadron Pearson reported there is a KWA meeting on the April 8th at Great Bend. She is setting up a meeting for the Upper Republican RAC in March. There is information regarding funding through HB 2302 posted on their website.

Mark Billinger from KGS reported on well measurements. They have been completed and they are currently remeasuring some for quality control.

Bernadette Mills with the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts explained her role working with different agencies in western Kansas. Her focus this year is water conservation in Sherman and Cheyenne counties.

Stacie Edgett-Minson with KCARE (Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment) – KSU is the Kanopolis Watershed Specialist, with her focus on water quality through educational resources.

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

a. Manager Updates

January was a very busy month. Shannon gave a quick rundown of the KWA meeting, the Legislative Retreat, and the Kansas Water Office Request for Proposal (RFP), and a presentation to the Servi-Tech guys in Colby.

b. Future Opportunities

Shannon is hoping that after the Annual Meeting, she will be able to schedule appointments for the last week of February, to help producers file their water use reports; as well as change application requests that she had not been able to concentrate on.

Shannon reminded board members that mileage checks will be going out after this meeting, so be sure to watch for them via USPS.

7. FIELD REPORTS

Trent has completed the winter 5-5-11 checks. The acre-certification maps have been mailed. He has also been assisting Jack with ITI onboarding paperwork and water use reports when in the office.

Jack tuned into Kansas House Water Committee activity, attended the legislative retreat, and talked briefly regarding the ITI program, in order to stay aligned with policy developments. Jack also helped in hosting and presenting at NWKS Water Day and coordinating with Kansas State on the Master Irrigators Program, with additional preparation underway for the upcoming ITI Winter Workshop. Operational work included

flowmeter testing, continued ITI cost-share and TSP invoicing, submission of the GMD 4 ITI Annual Report to the DOC and assisting with Annual Water Use Reports and general inquiries. Jack also continued expanding ArcGIS databases and projects to support district workflows and worked with Trent to train him on ITI onboarding procedures to help with completing this task in a timely fashion.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. GMD 4 LEMA

Shannon submitted the draft LEMA to DWR for review. They sent it back and she made revisions based on their input, which Shannon included in the board packet.

Lynn Goossen moved to make a formal request to renew the GMD4 LEMA as presented. The motion was seconded by Shane Mann and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

b. SD-6

Shannon submitted the draft LEMA to DWR for review. After discussion by the board, changes were noted that need to be made.

Brent Rogers moved to make a formal request to renew the SD-6 LEMA with changes as discussed. The motion was seconded by Marsha Schilling and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Annual Meeting

Shannon gave a brief rundown of the Annual Meeting, who would be presenting minutes, financials, and election information. Since Dylan Loyd was a candidate, Shannon asked Brent Rogers to be the election officer.

b. Election of Officers

This item was tabled until after the annual meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 11:15 a.m. MST until after the annual meeting.

The meeting was reconvened at 2:27 p.m. MST.

Jeff Deeds moved to cast a unanimous ballot to keep the officers the same: Brett Oelke – President, Nate Emig – Vice President, Lynn Goossen – Treasurer, and Jeff Deeds – Secretary. The motion was seconded by Brent Rogers and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

c. Management Program

It is required to review the management program annually. Shannon included a copy of the latest approved (4/2025) copy in the board packets. She noted that if changes need to be made, now is the time to make those suggestions.

Jeff Deeds moved to approve the current management program as presented. The motion was seconded by Lynn Goossen and passed unanimously by voice vote (no “nay” votes).

d. Audit

Shannon and Jody presented the 2025 Audit to the board. Copies are available at the GMD 4 office.

Shane Mann moved to approve the 2025 Audit as presented. The motion was seconded by Dylan Loyd and passed unanimously by voice vote (no abstentions or “nay” votes).

10. OPEN SESSION – Public Questions/Comments:

Nothing to report.

11. SCHEDULING FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next board meeting will be April 1, 2026, starting at 9 a.m. at the GMD 4 Office.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business and no objections, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Jeff Deeds, Secretary