

**Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 13th, 2013**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The November Board of Directors meeting of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District was called to order by President Dunn at 9:00a.m. The meeting was held in the GMD3 Board Room, 2009 E. Spruce St. Garden City, KS.

Directors Present

Nathan Kells, Vice President, Haskell County Representative
Kirk Heger, Stevens County Representative
Douglass Fox, Meade County Representative
Clay Scott, Grant County Representative
Hal Scheuerman, Kearny County Representative
Steve Stone, Finney County Representative
Alan Schweitzer, Municipal Representative
Randy Hayzlett, Secretary, Surface Water Representative
Wayne Breeding, Morton County Representative
Meghan Houtsma, Hamilton County Representative
Kent Dunn, President, Seward County Representative
Seth Nelson, Stanton County Representative

Directors Absent with Notice

Vacant, Ford County Representative
Mike O'Brate, Treasurer, Gray County Representative
Mike McNiece, Industrial Representative

District Staff Present

Mark Rude, Executive Director
Jason Norquest, Assistant Manager
Patty Stapleton, Office Administrator
Chris Law, Director, Field Services
Trevor Ahring, EIT/GIS
Brand Sneath, Office Assistant

Others in Attendance

Mike Meyer, Water Commissioner, Division of Water Resources, Garden City, KS
Gary Baker, Water Consultant
Dave Brenn, Kansas Water Congress
Ross Geubelle, Syracuse Dairy
Jeff Reinert, Prospect Ford County Representative
Rusty Holland, TLW Ranch
Mike Nichols, Finney County Ag Appraiser
Maria Costia, Finney County Appraiser

APPROVE AGENDA

President Dunn asked for consideration of the meeting Agenda. After some discussion, Clay Scott made a motion to approve the agenda as revised: under President's Report add Item F: Board Review File # 17,159 and under Executive Director Report item D: correct December date of meeting from 10th to the 17th. Wayne Breeding seconded. The motion was approved with all in favor.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES & MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

President Dunn drew the attention of the Board to consider the October 9th, 2013 draft minutes. Kirk Heger made a motion to approve the October 9th, 2013 Board Meeting minutes. Wayne Breeding seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all in favor.

President Dunn next drew the attention of the Board to review the October 2013 financial report documents. Randy Hayzlett made a motion as follows: Approve the financial reports and payments for the month of October, as presented at this meeting, and to submit them for the annual audit. Alan Schweitzer seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all in favor.

President Dunn signed and submitted the financial documents.

President's Report, President Kent Dunn

Water Commissioner's Report, Commissioner Mike Meyer
Water Commissioner Mike Meyer had no report.

Governor's Water Conference & OAAC Meeting

Mark spoke to the directors regarding the Governor's Water Conference and OAAC Meeting. The Governor's Water Conference was well attended. Discussion revolved around Eastern Kansas Reservoirs and Ogallala Aquifer depletion. Mark suggested titling the GMD3 Annual Meeting in March to "Water and the Future of Southwest Kansas". This would open the meeting up for more of a Southwest water supply visioning and dovetail in with the Governor's 50 year planning visioning.

OAAC met on November 5th in Dodge City, KS. A copy of the agenda was in the board book for all to review. The main topic was water conservation initiatives.

New County/Department of Revenue irrigated land valuation, Mike Nichols with Finney County

Mike Nichols and Maria Costia were present to discuss the new Ag Use Section, Property Valuation Division of Kansas Department of Revenue. The appraised value of agricultural land is based on the productive potential directly attributed to the natural capabilities of the land. Variability where the irrigation districts meet is attributed to differences in one or more of: crop mix, ownership of the sprinkler, ratio of flood and pivot acres in the district, district average yields, landlord share of net income, county agricultural tax rates and differences between counties in the 2 acre feet region and counties in the 1 ½ acre feet region. Mr. Nichols shared a map that demonstrated the agricultural land value change from 2012 to 2013.

Board Review, File #17,159

Discussion was brought to the table regarding a board review for File # 17,159. The proposed change is to correctly locate the well back to the original location due to the applicant never drilling the new well after approved. Continued use of the proposed (original) well has occurred without known impairment. Water Use Reports have been accepted from the historic location. After some discussion, President Kent Dunn placed the board review File # 17,159 on the table for further review and research.

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Hamilton County Aquifer

Mark turned the board's attention to a photo in the board book, which pictures a drilling rig using direct push well technology. Direct Push Wells are wells that are installed by pushing or hammering the drive rods as opposed to drilling or auguring. Several advantages are noted for a direct push well:

- Access to shallow unconsolidated formations
- Relatively rapid and inexpensive
- Small units (4' width)
- Highly mobile
- Decreased contamination exposure & decreased waste production.

Proceeding with this process will aid in learning the water quality and water level in Hamilton County. After some discussion Clay Scott moved to proceed with direct pushing of at least four hole sites to be reimbursed by the Arkansas River Litigations Funds Advisory Committee and if possible to drill on future test site. Kirk Heger seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Committee Reports

R&D Committee

Mark stated the R&D Committee meet on Monday, November 11th at the GMD3 office. Frank McCurio from KLA Environmental Services was in attendance talking about rule waivers based on a real world feed yard example. Mark reviewed the concepts of waivers that were discussed at the R&D Committee. 1. Waiver review fee. 2. How does recent consumptive use of water increase under the proposed change? 3. Require the applicant provide a list of names and addresses of all domestic and agriculture well owners within a one mile radius. 4. Can pipelines or purchase of neighboring well meet the need without a rule waiver? Much discussion occurred on each concept. Kirk Heger moved to forward concepts to Policy and Legal and report to the board in the December meeting. Wayne Breeding seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Mark reviewed the Kansas Aqueduct Project Developments.

Draft Public Comment Letter, 2013-14 Annual Operating Plan, Missouri River Mainstream

Mark reviewed a draft letter of public comment, 2013-14 Annual Operating Plan, Missouri River Mainstream. Discussion was held in reviewing the letter and the timeliness of sending the letter. Clay Scott moved to wait until after the Kansas Aqueduct Stakeholder Committee meeting (Thursday, November 14th) subject to additional information and / or changes and then send. Alan seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Executive Director Report, Mark Rude

Aqueduct Report / Legislative Joint Interim

Mark updated the board on the Aqueduct process. Mark is hopeful that the Kansas Water Congress would support and rally in the process of progressing with the Aqueduct Project. Understanding there is healthy caution of the project from persons in the east and State Agencies. A Filing fee could be ballooned with Kansas Department of Agriculture legislation or advanced separate. The aqueduct would benefit all of Kansas, not just the southwest area and be classified as a State project not a GMD3 project.

GMDA Conference, Reservations & Travel

Mark announced that the GMDA Conference will be held in Biloxi, Mississippi January 8th, 9th, and 10th, 2014. Approval of out of state travel is needed along with a head count of director's and wives interested in attending. Hal Scheuerman moved to approve out of State travel. Clay Scott seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Reschedule of upcoming Board Meetings,

December 17th, 2013: Mark Rude announced that the December 11th meeting should be changed to December 17th. This new date will allow Chief Engineer the time to visit with the directors.

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January 7th, 2014: Due to the GMDA Conference and the SW Irrigators annual meeting conflict, the January meeting should be changed from January 8th to January 7, 2014.

The consensus of the directors was to proceed with the noted meeting date changes and publish appropriately.

SW KS Irrigation Association, January

Southwest Kansas Irrigation Association will hold their annual meeting on January 8th, 2014 in Ulysses, Kansas.

GMD Legislative Retreat & Board Meeting, February 5th & 6th, 2014

A reminder was announced that the February meeting will be held in Topeka, KS. The Kansas GMD's will host a Legislative Retreat and Board member round table on Wednesday February 5th, 2014. GMD3 will hold their regular board meeting the morning after. All activities will be held at the Ramada Inn, Topeka, Kansas.

Old Business

Ford County Director

Mark introduced Jeff Reinert as the Ford County Director prospect. If appointed on to the board he would serve a 2.5 year commitment as the Ford County Director. After some discussion, Kirk Heger moved to appoint Jeff Reinert as the Ford County Director effective immediately. Wayne Breeding seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

New Business

There was no new business up for discussion.

Monthly Western Water Conservation Projects Fund Business

Mark Rude drew the attention of the board to the financial documents of the Western Water Conservation Projects Fund and activity of the advisory committee. After some discussion of the Board, Kirk Heger moved to accept the October financial report and payments as presented and submit them for annual audit. Nathan Kells seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Board Member Report

Meghan Houtsma stated her decision to step down as the Hamilton County Director and handed out a copy of her resignation letter effective immediately. She introduced Ross Geubelle as a prospective Hamilton County Representative. President Dunn asked Ross Geubelle if he would accept the Hamilton County Representative position. Ross accepted. After some discussion, Hal Scheuerman moved to accept Meghan's resignation effective immediately and appoint Ross Geubelle as the new Hamilton County Director to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Houtsma. Seth Nelson seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Public Forum / Board Member Reports

Dave Brenn asked if the Directors were going to address the Kansas Water Congress invoice for annual support. Mark presented the invoice to the Directors; Alan Schweitzer moved to approve payment of the Kansas Water Congress annual support of \$5,000. Randy Hayzlett seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

President Kent Dunn introduced Jeff Reinert as the Ford County Prospective Representative. He lives in Ensign and has farm ground in Ford County. President Dunn asked Jeff Reinert if he would accept the Ford County Representative position. Jeff accepted.

Executive Session:

No Executive Session was called.

ADJOURNMENT

Doug Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seth Nelson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Randy Hayzlett