



WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday June 29th, 2022

8:00 a.m. CST

The meeting will be made available in person at 906 W. 5th St. Scott City, KS or by posted zoom meeting link

I. Call Meeting to Order		Action
a. Review & Approve Agenda	Pg. 1	Action
b. Review & Approve Minutes of the June 15 th Board Meeting	Pg. 2-4	Action
II. Correspondence		
a. Staff may report on correspondence received since the previous Board Meeting on June 15 th .		
III. Old Business		
a. July 29 th Budget Hearing & Noticing		
IV. New Business		
a. Proposed Draft LEMA Proposal & Discussion – A draft LEMA proposal has been provided to the Board for discussion and possible action, to be submitted to the Chief Engineer’s office. – Suggested/proposed edits to the draft LEMA proposal and associated attachments. – Timeline and next steps.		Action
V. Executive Session – Six-month employee review		
		Action
VI. Legislative Update		
VII. DWR Report		
VIII. KWO Report		
IX. Public Comment		
X. Meeting Adjourn		
		Action

Mark Callender Pres.
6/29/2022

WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO.1
June 15, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Callender – President, Lane County
Travis Weaver – Vice President, Greeley County
Steve Compton – Secretary, Scott County
Ray Smith – Wallace County Member
Brian Bauck – Wichita County Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR A PORTION OF THE MEETING

Katie Durham – District Manager Toni Palen – Administrative Assistant

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT FOR ALL OR A PORTION OF THE MEETING

Reece Hiebert*	Adrian & Pankratz Law Office	
David Barfield*	KWR Consulting	
Austin McCollough*	Division of Water Resources	*Virtual Attendees
Weston McCary	Technology Projects Coordinator	
Keadron Pearson*	Kansas Water Office	
Mike Meyers	Division of Water Resources	
Joel Jarnagin*	Cobalt Cattle	

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – President Mark Callender called to order the June 15, 2022, Board of Directors meeting of The Western Kansas Groundwater Management District No.1 at 8:07 a.m. on June 15, 2022, at the District Office in Scott City, Kansas.
- a) **Review and Approve Agenda** – Travis Weaver made a motion to approve the June 15, 2022, Agenda. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- b) **Review & Approve Minutes** – May 11, 2022, and May 16, 2022, minutes were reviewed by the board. Ray Smith suggested a spelling correction under section III, c) to change spelling from weather to whether on the May 11, 2022 minutes. Mark Callender made notice of correction on May 16, 2022 minutes under Board Members Present, Steve Compton was at the meeting, not under virtual attendees. Steve Compton made a motion to approve the May 11, 2022, and May 16, 2022 minutes contingent upon the correction of the above-mentioned oversights. Brian Bauck seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- c) **May 2022 Financial and Treasure Report**- Katie Durham and Steve Compton agreed to work on the budget for the hearing in July. Also, Katie mentioned the AT & T bill appears high and shared with the board what the district is being charged for. Mark Callender questioned if the district was paying for Katie's cell phone stating the board had previously discussed doing so. Katie mentioned no, and that she needed to help Pat Ryan buy a new cell phone as well. Katie offered to check into carriers and prices and follow up with the board. Steve Compton made a motion to approve the district's three bank accounts of financials submitted for May 2022. Brian Bauck seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.
- II. **CORRESPONDENCE**
- a) **Outreach and Communication** – Katie Durham mentioned she received an inquiry from an investor named Glenn Springer. He was interested in talking about groundwater in Western Kansas and economic future. Katie added she thinks we will start getting additional calls from investors and bankers expecting questions on the LEMA program, and our water conservation efforts. Katie shared an update from GMD3 regarding permitting, and their proposed transfer project.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- a) County Public Outreach Meetings – Katie commended the board for all their efforts in helping with the county meetings. The board expressed their appreciation to Katie Durham, Toni Palen, and Pat Ryan for their hard work, stating they thought the meetings went well. Also, Brownie Wilson was mentioned for his great presentation and the questions and feedback that was received from the landowners.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Set Public Budget Hearing – Katie Durham reminded the board that the July budget hearing is in July, and we will publish in newspaper 28 days prior to meeting in all five counties. Reece Hiebert reminded the board we only need 2-3 board members, not a quorum to approve the budget.

- b) Staff Update – Memo's & Building Update – Katie supplied a memorandum for the board as an overview of the outreach and education that has been discussed by the board and staff members recently. After discussion, the consensus from the board was to have an expo after the annual meeting. Katie shared the building updates that the district has made stating we are at \$2600.00 from the \$2500.00 that the board approved, adding we would still like to purchase new lobby chairs. The board was satisfied with the improvements saying everything looks excellent, and if we find chairs to let the board know in the future for approval. Next, Katie showed the board a draft of the district's new web page that staff and Wichita Designs has been working on.

c) Cost Share

- Homeland Farms WR #10771, 18116, 37093, 37095 - Homeland Farms submitted a cost share application requesting reimbursement for aerial field imagery installed on the listed water rights above. Brian Bauck made a motion to approve to pay the vendor, American Implement \$3832.50. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- Preston Smith WR #18116 – Preston Smith submitted a cost share application requesting reimbursement for a pivot control system he paid to Western Kansas Valley. Previously, the board approved to pay Mr. Smith on a previous water right number. Since then, the guidelines have been reviewed by Katie Durham and she updated the board we are to pay the vendor only. After discussion, the board decided since we had paid him on a previous one, they would approve it, but to inform the landowner and vendors of our guidelines. Brian Bauck made a motion to approve to pay Smith Land Company \$1000.00 out of cost share. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- Chris Winderlin WR SE #SC14, NE 7-18-32, NE 7-18-32 #SC14, NW 8-18-32 SC18 – Chris Winderlin submitted a cost share application requesting reimbursement for regulators installed through Western Kansas Irrigation. The board discussed if regulators are considered a conservation measure. Regulators are not listed on the cost share application, however it does say "unlisted technologies considered at board discretion. The board agreed to table this application to next board meeting to give time for consideration.
- Mark Ramsey – Cost share reimbursement checks discussion – Toni Palen explained to the board that at the time of approval on his cost share application on May 11, 2022 board meeting, the payment to the vendor had not been paid. However, after that date the landowner paid the invoices that were approved. Toni explained she had submitted checks to the vendor but explained to the board those checks were returned due to payment being made by the landowner. The board discussed this and felt that since they had honored two other checks to be paid to a previous landowner for the same situation that they would approve to have checks voided and made out to the landowner but letting him know what our guidelines are as well as the vendor. Ray Smith made a motion to approve to rewrite the checks to 8 R Farms with the amounts previously approved on May 11, 2022 board meeting. Brian Bauck seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

d) **Proposed LEMA document development**

- **Wallace County Discussion** - Ray Smith stated before the county meeting in Weskan, that several landowners shared concerns of an economic impact from the LEMA cuts and if that would qualify as an appeal. After the board's discussion about this, Katie Durham reiterated that the appeals process will be left up to the board's discretion in those situations. The board suggested that Ray call those individuals to see if they were satisfied with how the meeting went and report back at next board meeting to discuss if any further action is needed.
- **Support Letters** – Katie Durham shared she had attended the Scott City Council meeting and they were willing to write a letter of support of the LEMA proposal, along with several others who she mentioned, that are also willing to write letters of support the LEMA. She mentioned that she will continue her efforts in obtaining additional letters of support from other entities.
- **Discussion on Dual Use** – David Barfield went over the dual use permits and how DWR will manage those in the LEMA. Stock water use is not in the LEMA program however, they still will need to have meters for each separate use. He stated landowners will still have to comply with their irrigation allocations for the water right group, or their consumptive use allocation, whichever is less.
- **LEMA Draft Progress Report** -- David Barfield went through the packet that was handed out to the board members titled "Update to GMD1 Board on Additional LEMA work for the June 15, 2022 board meeting". David expanded on the K.A.R. 5-5-11 with the board and continued going through his overview in detail. After board discussion with David, Katie Durham stepped in to go over the Draft for the Four County LEMA. Katie stated they decided to use the Wichita County LEMA verbiage and added some of their own in this draft. Katie clearly stated it is not finished yet, however will continue to work on it until a final draft is done for the board to view by next week.

V. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Ray Smith made a motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes at 11:54 a.m. for the purpose of discussing with legal counsel. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Those present in executive session included Mark Callender, Travis Weaver, Brian Bauck, Ray Smith, Steve Compton, Toni Palen, Katie Durham and Reece Hiebert. Executive session was closed at 12:14 p.m. No decisions were made, and no votes were taken during the executive session.

VI. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** - NONE

VII. **DWR REPORT** – Mike Meyer informed the board that today was the first day of starting flow tests on wells in Wichita County. Also, they are working on compliance checks with meter repairs. Mike stated they have had a lot of broken meters therefore have had to send several letters out to landowners. Mike told the board there is a DWR meter list on their website for reference. Lastly, Mike mentioned there is still a job opening they are trying to fill in their office.

VIII. **KWO REPORT** – Keadron Pearson stated there will be an Authority meeting in Pittsburg on June 22, 2022 that is posted on their website with virtual access. They will be discussing the budget and RAC meeting recommendations that will be submitted to the legislature. Keadron stated she will be officially back to work on June 27, 2022 from maternity leave.

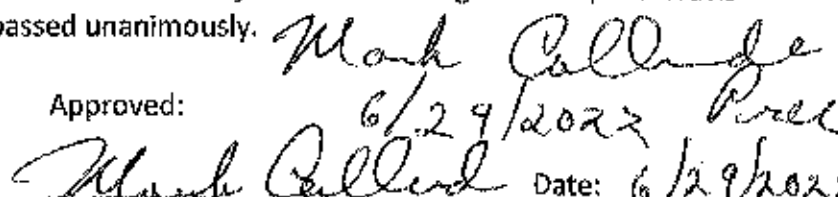
IX. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - NONE

X. **MEETING ADJOURN** – Brian Bauck made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:37 p.m. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:


Toni Palen, Administrative Assistant

Approved:


Mark Callender, President
Date: 6/29/2022