



WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Board Meeting June 22th, 2023

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. 1-1a	Action
b. Review & Approve Minutes of the May 17th Board Meeting	Pg. 2-5	Action
c. Review & Approve May Finances -Review of Revised 2023 & Proposed 2024 Budget for Budget Hearing	Pg. 6-16	Action
II. Correspondence		
a. Staff may report on correspondence received since the previous Board Meeting -Legislative Update -KGS Field Conference -Recommendations for WCA's -DOC/RCPP Grant Opportunities -CCA Proposal Master Irrigator Program -Outreach Summary & Funding Recommendations	Pg. 17 Pg.18-23	
III. Old Business		
a. Legal Correspondence – Tom Adrian and Reece Hiebert -Executive Session		
IV. New Business		
a. Cost Share Reconciliation	Pg. 24-25	Action
b. Revised Cost Share Program		Action
c. FCL Appeals		Action
V. Legislative Update		
VI. K-State Update		
a. Monthly Article		
VII. DWR Report		
VIII. KWO Report		



IX. Public Comment		
X. Meeting Adjourn		
		Action

Mark Callender Pres.
6/22/23

WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors May 17, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING

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

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING

Katie Durham – District Manager
Toni Palen – Office Administrator

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT FOR ALL OR A PORTION OF THE MEETING

*VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

David Barfield*	KWR Consulting
Tom Adrian*	Adrian & Pankratz Law Office
Mike Meyer	Division of Water Resources
Chase Larson	VandWater Sustainable Solutions
Dave Smith	Rainesphere
Scott Waring	VandWater Sustainable Solutions
Jonathan Aguilar	Agronomist, KSU
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Don Smith	

Changes to the May 17, 2023 Agenda were noted: Katie Durham requested to add Chase Larson and Scott Waring to the Agenda before correspondence and striking LEMA appeals under IV f.

Changes to the April 26, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes noted: Ray Smith stated that he was not the one who made the motion to approve Craig Ramsey's FC LEMA appeal on group 654. Toni Palen stated she would look at the video tape and advise at the next Board meeting.

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – President, Mark Callender called the May 17, 2023 Board of Directors meeting of the Western Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 1 to order at 8:06 a.m. located at the District Office in Scott City, Kansas.
 - a) **Review & Approve Agenda** – Ray Smith made a motion to approve the May 17, 2023 Agenda with the changes noted above. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - b) **Review & Approve April 26, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes** - The Board reviewed the minutes. Travis Weaver made a motion to approve the April 26, 2023 Board Meeting

Minutes with the correction noted above. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- c) **Review & Approve April 2023 Finances** – Katie Durham reported that she and Steve Compton have been looking into other local banks in Scott City, KS for higher interest rates and to consolidate funds at one or two banks instead of three separate banks. Katie stated it was confirmed after researching by staff, that KWO was funding the Weather Modification account in prior years. Katie contacted Chief Engineer, Earl Lewis who stated that he thought the contracts with KWO and GMD1 were closed, but suggested Katie contact Matt Unruh, Assistant Director at KWO to confirm. Katie feels the District is clear of any open contracts with KWO. Tom stated the statute 82A 1028 T, states that the districts are empowered to seek and received grants to the benefits of the Districts. Tom concludes that he is comfortable with the District moving the funds out of the Weather Modification account to use for other resources since the Weather Modification account has been suspended for years. Steve Compton checked with local banks and recommended either moving the funds to Security State Bank or First National Bank of Scott City, KS. based on his inquiries on interest rates. Katie suggested that when she has final approval from Matt Unruh, she and Steve would put together a proposal for the next Board Meeting on moving the funds. The Board reviewed the April 2023 financials. Ray Smith made a motion to approve the April 2023 financials. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- d) **Chase Larson** – Chase Larson reported that they spent time at Travis Weaver’s farm setting him up on the VandWater Sustainable Solutions. Chase stated they are remarkably close to launching their product, with a total of 700 wells potentially ready to sign up now, and approximately 100 just in the last couple of days. Travis Weaver stated his experience has been impressive and is very encouraged by this program. Scott Waring explained it saves time, money, water and has proved itself through testing. The Board discussed funding options potentially from KWO and the District’s cost share to help in funding this program.

II. **CORRESPONDENCES:**

- **Upper Smoky Hill RAC** - Katie Durham stated she is on the Upper Smoky Hill RAC Committee which had their last meeting at the GMD1 office.
- **Roberts Rules of Order** – Katie Durham stated she is going to put together a cheat sheet for the Board to be a reminder of the legalities of what a Board should do and not do.
- **Newsletter Update** – Katie Durham requested feedback from the Board on their preferences on how often we should do a newsletter and email blast. The Board discussed and agreed to do monthly email blast and semiannual newsletter. Don Smith suggested that the email blast go on the web page.
- **Rules and Regs** – Katie Durham stated she and David Barfield will be updating the rules, regulations, and the Districts Management Plan by the end of the year.
- **Other Updates** – Katie reported she had a meeting with 5-6 feedlot owners at the GMD1 Office stating they thought the meeting was helpful, would like to be more involved with the Board, and showed interest in coming to the GMD1 Annual Meeting. Katie informed the Board of the feedback from the municipality outreach

that was held, stating they would like to see cost share in the future for zero landscaping. Lastly, Katie mentioned having discussions with Matt Smith, of Playa Lakes Joint Ventures who has a significant amount of grant funding focused on outreach, education, and technology implementation that could be beneficial to the District. Board discussion was held on having a technician that would be available through the grant to be an advocate to producers to help promote new technologies that would help in conservation efforts.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **Legal Correspondence – Tom Adrian** – Tom Adrian stated there is an agreement with TAPP H2O but does not want to discuss it in open session. An executive session will be held once he receives the actual revisions in hand.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Dave Smith – Rainesphere** – Katie Durham introduced Dave Smith from Rainesphere. Mr. Smith gave a presentation on the methodology behind his research into how he can draw in rain with the sun and drought. More information is on his website at rainesphere.com.
- b) **Cost Share Reconciliation** – Katie Durham stated she is streamlining the cost share with staff approval unless she feels the Board needs to be involved. Steve Compton made a motion to approve the attached reconciliation payments made on cost share applicants. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- c) **NRCS Coordination Opportunities** – Katie Durham stated there are grant funds available and she will be working on a wish list of some opportunities where the District could utilize these funds.
- d) **Revised Cost Share Program** – Katie Durham presented possible revisions of the District's Cost Share Application to the Board. The Board had a discussion on adding additional technologies, changing cost share rates, regulators and perhaps purchasing a machine that the District would have available to test regulators. Katie stated Weston McCary with KWO has a master list we could use as our guidelines which appraises the District of different technologies. Jonathon Aguilar speaks on regulators stating they are usually good for 7 years. Katie will create a new Cost Share Application for the Board to review for the next Board meeting.
- e) **Water Right 18123 Waiver Request** – Mike Meyer reported HRC wants to redrill a ½ mile away and requesting to waive the spacing. Travis Weaver made a motion to approve the waiver spacing on water right 18123. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- f) **Set 2014 Budget Hearing Date** – The Board discussed and agreed to have the 2024 Budget review on June 21, 2023 Board meeting. The Budget Hearing will be on July 19, 2023, before the Board Meeting at 8:00 a.m.
- g) **Management Program and GMD Rules & Regulations** – This was discussed earlier under (II. Correspondence; rules and regulations.)
- h) **Survey Results** – Katie Durham shared the survey results from the outreach meetings in each county which were helpful and positive.

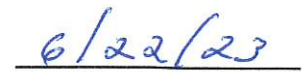
- V. **FCL Appeals** – Changes to the Agenda were noted above and the FCL Appeals have been removed from the Agenda.
- VI. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** – Katie Durham informed the Board that HB 2302 and HB 2279 have been signed by the Kansas Governor, Laura Kelly.
- VII. **K-STATE UPDATE** – Katie Durham explained Jonathon Aguilar will be doing a monthly article and the District could add to his article anything that would be beneficial to the producers.
- VIII. **DWR REPORT** – Mike Meyer reported they have the order of designation signed for the FC LEMA and letters are going out today. Mike stated they are still reviewing the over pump list which could cause suspensions on group allocated amounts for the next calendar year. There are still 2 openings at DWR. Next month there will be 2 WCA's to review. David Barfield suggested sending a letter or email blast to let people know these joint allocations need to be managed as a group.
- IX. **KWO REPORT** – Keadron Pearson reported there is a water authority meeting in Dodge City, KS that will be posted on the KWO web site, and to note that the Annual KGS meeting is taking place soon. Keadron commented on the Upper Smoky Hill RAC stating there is open enrollment for committee members, and their annual budget will be disclosed in July. Also, Keadron mentions that KWO may begin contracting out on grants in the future.
- X. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Don Smith stated prices have increased substantially and requested that the Board consider updating the prices on the cost share application particularly on the nozzle extensions and pivot control systems. The Board agreed to have new prices set for cost share at the next Board Meeting.
- XI. **MEETING AJOURN** – Steve Compton made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 12:01 p.m. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The next Board Meeting was scheduled for June 21, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:


 Toni Palen – Office Administrator


 Mark Callender – President


 Date