



WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

January 19th, 2024

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. 1-1	Action
b. Review & Approve Minutes of the December 20 th Board Meeting	Pg. 2-3	Action
c. Review & Approve December 2023 Financials	Pg. 4-14	Action
II. Correspondence		
a. Staff Report: -Board Calendar -Grant Updates and Recommendation Letters -Soil Health and U Conference	Pg. 15-15a Supplement	
III. Old Business		
a. 2024 Annual Meeting Schedule b. GRASP/PLJV Position Update c. Wichita LEMA Discussion – Outreach & Annual Report d. January 24 th Annual Report Deadline and Legislative Visit -Review & Approve 2023 Legislative Report e. Rules & Regulation Discussion	Pg. 16 Supplement Supplement	 Action
IV. New Business		
a. Cost Share Reconciliation as of December 31, 2023 b. Gap Resolution c. Wichita County Combined Well Unit Application	Pg. 17-23 Supplement	Action Action Action
V. Legislative Update		
a. 9:00 am Zoom with Vijay Ramasamy		
VI. K-State Update		
VII. DWR Report		
VIII. KWO Report		
IX. Public Comment		
X. Meeting Adjourn		Action

Mark Callender Pres
1/19/2024

WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors December 20, 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

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

Tom Adrian *	Adrian & Pankratz Law Office
Mike Meyer	Division of Water Resources
David Barfield	KWR Consulting
Keadron Pearson	KWO
Vijay Ramasamy	Special Advisor of Water
Jim Minnix	Representative of the Kansas Legislator

Changes to the December 20, 2023 Agenda were noted: Katie Durham added to Old Business that David Barfield would be giving the Board an update.

Changes to the November 9, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes noted: - David Barfield mention to Toni Palen of a correction to the November 9th, 2023 minutes that under section III. d) Wichita County LEMA, that the renewal date is on January 1, 2026 not January 1, 2025. Ray Smith mentioned that the November 9, 2023 minutes should include the decision of Katie's review after the Board came out of executive session. Tom Adrian concluded. Steve Compton made a motion to add to the November 9, 2023 minutes under Employee Review-Executive Session, to increase Katie Durhams's salary to 4.762% effective on October 22, 2023. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Katie stated that although she did not request a salary increase, she was thankful for the Board's generosity.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – President, Mark Callender called the December 20, 2023 Board of Directors meeting of the Western Kansas Groundwater Management District No.1 to order at 8:05 a.m., located at the District Office in Scott City, Kansas.

- a) **Review & Approve Agenda** – The Board reviewed the December 20, 2023 Agenda. Ray Smith made a motion to approve the December 20, 2023 Agenda and the additions mentioned above. Travis Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- b) **Review & Approve Minutes of the November 9th Board Meeting** - The Board reviewed the minutes. Steve Compton made a motion to approve the November 9, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes with the changes above. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- c) **Review & Approve October 2023 Financials** – Katie Durham reported the interest from the new CD's is quite remarkable and could possibly help with the District's Cost Share. The Board discussed the October 2023 financials. Ray Smith made a motion to approve the October 2023 financials. Brian Bauck seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- d) **Review & Approve November 2023 Financials** – The Board reviewed the November 2023 financials. Ray Smith had questions regarding the financials and requested that we show a comparison at the January 2024 Board meeting of last year and of this year on the General Fund. Katie Durham agreed stating that she hopes to have all the financials that she will be submitting to the Legislator for the Board to review for the next Board meeting. Ray Smith made a motion to approve the November 2023 financials. Brian Bauck seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Lastly, the Board had a discussion on verified claims, water protection fees, and Jim Minnix gave an explanation on State water fees.

I. **CORRESPONDENCES:**

a) **Staff Report:**

-**Board Calendar** – Katie Durham discussed upcoming dates with the Board. Katie mentioned that the Soil Health U Conference has been changed to January 18, 2024.

-**Grant Updates and Recommendation Letters** – Katie Durham discussed HB 2302, the available grants, and the different initiatives that are applying for those grants. Katie stated that the City of Scot City is pursuing grant funds to assist in the automated sprinkler system, and to assist in educating schools on water conservation.

-Irrigation Dealer/DWR Reg.(Workshop) - Katie Durham stated that she and Mike Meyer with DWR are planning to set up a workshop for Irrigation Dealers in January to go over rules and regulations.

-KGMDA Meeting – Katie Durham reported that she is the new Vice President of the KGMDA and Shannon Kenyon is now the new President.

-Holiday Schedule – The Board discussed the Holiday Schedule and agreed that the office will close from Christmas Day until the day after New Years Day.

III. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) **2024 Annual Meeting** – The Board discussed the Annual Meeting and changed the date to February 28, 2023. Katie Durham confirmed that the Regular Board Meeting would be at 8:00 a.m. followed by the Annual Meeting to be all held at the Child Advocacy Center. Talle Davis with Northwest Tech will pay for lunch with grant funding.
- b) **GRASP/PLJV Position** – Katie reported to the Board that she and Mark Callender participated in the interviews to fulfil the PLJV Position.
- c) **Wichita County LEMA Discussion – Outreach & Annual Report** – Katie Durham stated that the feedback she has received on the WC County LEMA is that the Four County LEMA is more flexible. David Barfield reported that the data that has been gathered for the last two years shows that if the WC LEMA was to adopt the Four County LEMA, it appears that the Four County LEMA allocation could be higher. David reminded the Board that the District is responsible for a 2023 WC LEMA annual review. Lastly, David advised the Board that the new portal, that will help producers to track their water rights, properties, and LEMA information, should be ready soon.
- d) **January 24th Annual Report Deadline** – Katie Durham stated that per HB 2279, the District is required to submit a financial report to the House Committee in January. The Board will review those financials at the January Board Meeting.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) **Cost Share Reconciliation** – Katie Durham presented the cost share report included in the Board Packet. The Board had discussion on how many wells are allowed for the VandWater or TappH2O application for one technology. After discussion, the Board agreed to allow 15 wells as one technology for VandWater and TappH2O applicants. No motion was made on the 15 wells or the reconciliation report. This was tabled for the January Board meeting along with Katie making some adjustments to the guidelines and clarifying questions that the Board had regarding the reconciliation report. A motion will be made at the January 2024 meeting.
- b) **Recommendation Letters** – Katie Durham directed the Board to the letters in the Board Packet that she has written in support of several agencies requesting Grants.

V. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

- a) **9:00 a.m. Zoom with Vijay Ramasamy** – Vijay Ramasamy attended the meeting by zoom at 8:59 a.m. Vijay shared his background and stated that his position is under Governor, Laura Kelley as a Special Advisor on water. Vijay reported he had a full day tour in our District and enjoyed learning from the places he was able to visit. Katie Durham reported he will preside as a sub-cabinet committee. Katie stated that herself, Vijay, and Connie Owens will be meeting once a month and Vijay will be on zoom to give monthly updates at our Board meetings. The Board had a discussion regarding available grant funds.

VI. **K-STATE UPDATE – NONE**

VII. **DWR REPORT** – Mike Meyer reported that there are still two positions available and hired one. Mike stated that the Water Use reports will be mailed out the first week of January and he will send staff a copy of the ID and Pin list. Lastly, Mike reported that Brownie will be out measuring wells soon.

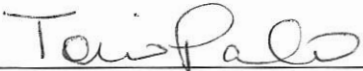
VIII. **KWO REPORT** – Keadron Pearson reported on scheduled meeting dates that are on their website and on what the Kansas Water Authority is currently working on.


IX. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Tom Adrian mentioned having a policy on open records and if we are going to charge for them or not.

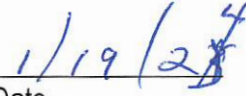
X. **MEETING ADJOURN** – Travis Weaver made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 11:24 a.m. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Next meeting is on January 19, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:


Toni Palen – Office Administrator


Mark Callender – President


Date