



## WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

### Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

8:00 a.m. CST

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

<b>I. Call Meeting to Order</b>		Action
a. Review & Approve Agenda	Pg. 1-1a	Action
b. Review & Approve Minutes of the September 20 <sup>th</sup> Board Meeting and October 4 <sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting	Pg. 2-5	Action
c. Review & Approve September 2023 Financials	Pg. 6-17	Action
d. Reconciliation of GMD1 Consolidating & Transferring Funds/First National Bank	Supplement	Action
<b>II. Correspondence</b>		
a. Staff Report: -Board Calendar -RCPG Grant Update -2023 Governors Water Conference -Legislative Post Audit Request -Kansas Water Resources Consulting -Irrigation Dealer/DWR Reg. Workshop (January) -Coordination/Cost Share with Municipalities -Review of General Support Letters	Pg. 18        Pg. 19	
<b>III. Old Business</b>		
a. GMD1 Management Program 2023 - Approve for Submittal	Supplement	Action
b. VandWater Update		
c. GRASP/PLJV Position		
d. Wichita LEMA Discussion – Outreach & Annual Report		
<b>IV. New Business</b>		
a. Cost Share Reconciliation	Pg. 20-25	
b. Employee Review – Executive Session		
<b>V. Legislative Update</b>		
a. Sean Miller – Update on New Available Grants		
<b>VI. K-State Update</b>		
<b>VII. DWR Report</b>		
<b>VIII. KWO Report</b>		
-WISE Tour Discussion		



IX. Public Comment		
X. Meeting Adjourn		Action

*Mark Allen Pres.*  
*11/9/23*

# WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

## Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors September 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

### 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
Chase Larson *	VandWater
Sean Miller *	Lobbyist

Changes to the September 20, 2023 Agenda were noted: Katie Durham mentioned Sean Miller will join on zoom at 9:30 a.m. to give the Board a Legislative update.

Changes to the August 23, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes noted: David Barfield clarified under IX. Public Comment, David stated that he and Sean Miller are still working on updating the models for GMD3 instead of being finished with the models.

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – President, Mark Callender called the September 20, 2023 Board of Directors meeting of the Western Kansas Groundwater Management District No.1 to order at 8:10 a.m. located at the District Office in Scott City, Kansas.
  - a) Review & Approve Agenda – The Board reviewed the September 20, 2023 Agenda. Ray Smith made a motion to approve the September 20, 2023 Agenda with the above changes noted. Steve Compton seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
  - b) Review & Approve Minutes of the August 23<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting - The Board reviewed the August 23<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting Minutes. Ray Smith made a motion to approve the August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes with the changes noted above. Steve Compton seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
  - c) Review & Approve August 2023 Financials – Katie Durham reported that the Cost Share Program has paid out close to \$75,000 this year. The Board reviewed the August 2023 financials. Steve Compton made a motion to approve the August 2023 financials. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- II. CORRESPONDENCES:
  - a) Staff Report:
    - Board Calendar – Katie Durham reminded the Board that the October Board meeting is going to be difficult to have with the painting and carpet replacement. Katie recommended having a Special Board Meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. to finalize the Management Plan. The Board agreed.
    - 2023 Governors Water Conference – Katie Durham reported that the Governor's Conference is in Manhattan, KS. on November 15<sup>th</sup> through November 16<sup>th</sup> 2023. Mark stated he is going, Ray Smith stated he is interested and will let us know ahead of time. The Board discussed and agreed to have next Board Meeting on November 9, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office.
    - El Quartejejo Museum Exhibit/KGS – Katie Durham updated the Board on the exhibit at the El Quartejejo Museum.
    - NYT Dealer/DWR Reg. Workshop – Katie Durham reported that she, Steve Frost and Earl Lewis have spoken to the author of the New York Times regarding the article he wrote and the negative stance on the future of the aquifer. Katie stated that the author of the New York Times stated he would follow up with another article including what the GMD Districts are doing to sustain the Aquifer locally.
    - Irrigation Dealer/DWR Reg. Workshop – Katie Durham explained that she and Judd from Western Kansas Valley, Matt with Straight Line Irrigation, and Mike with DWR have had discussions on having a workshop for Irrigation Dealers and for anyone working on meters, so everyone has the correct and updated information. The workshop would take place in

January or early February to speak on topics such as rules and regulations, spacing requirements, when to contact DWR if you break a seal, and any other information that would help get the correct information out to Dealers. The Board agreed this would be helpful.

-Coordination/Cost Share with Municipalities – Katie Durham mentions she has had discussions with Scott Holtz, Steve Compton, Brad Pentergast, and other cities in our District, about incorporating municipalities into the District's Cost Share Program. The District would add specific municipal technologies to the District's Cost Share Application and promote education and outreach. The Board agreed that water conservation for the municipalities is important as well.

– Katie Durham added that a reminder post card mailer was sent out and an email blast to all producers, reminding them to not pump over their base quantity unless they have a MYFA. The reminder was also in the newspaper for four of the counties, except for Sharon Springs, Kansas, as we haven't been able to contact anyone. Ray Smith offered to find us a phone number or a contact person. The Board had a discussion on the MYFA'S, LEMA'S and the Base allocation amounts. Mike Meyer explained the differences between the MYFA, LEMA and Base Amount Allocations to the Board. Lastly, Katie mentions that the District has had 3 producers who have over pumped their wells so far this year.

### III. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) VanWater Update - Katie Durham gave a brief update on VanWater stating that Chase has two feedyards set up on VanWater. Travis Weaver stated there were some updates that Chase had to make on his wells, but it is working great. Travis reported that the report shows how much water is left from this year to use in the future years. Chase Larson mentions they are making updates on VanWater now and there are no user fees, just \$100 per year per well.
- b) GMD1 Management Program 2023 Update – Katie Durham reported that she and David Barfield are still working on the management plan. The final draft will be sent out to Board Members before the Special Board Meeting on October 4, 2023 to adopt the 2023 updated Management Plan.
- c) GMD1 Consolidating & Transferring Funds/First National Bank – Katie Durham referred the Board to a supplemental excel spreadsheet that Toni Palen prepared showing where the District funds would be transferred from and into each of the three new CD's that were opened at First National Bank of Scott City, KS. Steve Compton made a motion to approve moving \$109,452.19 out of the current 6-month CD, \$140,214.61 out of the current Money Market account, and \$312,890.69 from the Weather Modification account. Then, transferring \$50,000 into the Cost Share Account, \$150,000.00 in a new 3-month CD, \$175,000.00 into a new 6-month CD, and the remaining balance of \$187,395.18 from the Weather Modification account into a new 12-month CD. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- d) Audit Proposals – Executive Session on Contracted Services - No executive session was had. Katie Durham went over the Audit proposals from Lewis, Hooper & Dick and Dirks, Anthony & Duncan. The Board discussed the two proposals that were submitted. Steve Compton made a motion to hire Dirk, Anthony & Duncan LLC., if they would be willing to do a five-year contract with a first year opt out agreement. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- e) Field Work – 4-Wheeler – Katie Durham reported that Pat Ryan will have a couple of proposals on 4-Wheelers for the Board to review by the next Board Meeting.
- f) Wichita LEMA discussion – Katie Durham stated that the Wichita County LEMA is getting closer to their renewal date. Katie recommends having several outreach meetings this fall and mailings, showing the data that has been collected for Wichita County. David Barfield added that he thought the 4 County LEMA is more restrictive than the Wichita County LEMA based on the historical years used. David stated he will have more information regarding the differences between both LEMA'S for the next Board meeting for review.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Cost Share Reconciliation – None reported.
- b) 2024 Irrigation Technology Initiative - Katie Durham referred the Board to the Memorandum on page 20 of the Board Packet from the Executive Director, Andy Lyon. Katie reported that they have funds available in the form of cost-share assistance and incentive payments to assist landowners with irrigation efficiency technology.
- c) GRASPI/PLJV Position & Background – Katie Durham referred the Board to pages 22-26 of the Board Packet from Playa Lakes Joint Venture. Katie explains that PLJV is hiring a Conservation Outreach Specialist that would work closely with GMD1 on conservation efforts. The Board discussed the position and how it could benefit the District. Katie stated that if the Board would support this position, she would be able to assist in hiring for the position. Steve Compton made a motion to support PLJV with Katie Durham assisting in hiring for the position. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – None

- a) Sean Miller – Update on Quivira & Special House Committee on Water - Sean Miller reported to the Board on the House Water Committee, discussed what was passed this year, and what is on the table for January 2024. He spoke on reporting to the Legislators on financials, municipal water use, Quivira, LEMA'S, domestic wells, stock yards, technologies for producers, voting criteria and on the economic impact that it could have for the GMD'S.


### VI. K-STATE UPDATE

- a) **Monthly Article Discussion** – Katie Durham reported that she and Jonathon Aguilar are working on an article together and that the articles will change to quarterly.
- b) **DWR Report** – Mike Meyer reported that their office has 2 positions available. Letters were sent out to producers who are in a WCA to remind them that if they want out of the program, they must call DWR by October 1, 2023. Mike stated penalties have been mailed out. Mike also reported that there was an individual that falsified their meter readings and was shut off for 5 years.
- c) **KWO Report** – Keadron Pearson reported that the next Water Authority meeting is on October 18<sup>th</sup>. A breakdown of funds will be available at that meeting. The next RAC meeting is October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Ellsworth and Great Bend, Kansas. Keadron stated there are still positions available on the RAC committee.
- d) **Public Comment** - None
- e) **Meeting Adjourn** - Steve Compton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:39 a.m. Ray Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

  
Toni Palen – Office Administrator

  
Mark Callender – President

11/9/23  
Date